



This picture is one of many on display at the Morrow County Museum showing the aftermath of the 1903 flood. This particular picture in the Gale Street area. The steeple of the Methodist Church is visible over the top of the standing buildings.

June 14, 1903

Death, devastation strikes in Heppner

Hurled to death without a moments warning was the way the headlines read following the devastating flood that hit Heppner on June 14, 1903.

Long-time residents say the storms occur at about 5 p.m. and some claim you can smell the floodwaters coming.

In the 72 years since the major flood, there have been 19 floods of varying degrees of intensity. Created by thunderstorms accompanied by down-pour of rain, the floods have occurred in the evening hours.

The 1903 flood hit at 3:30 p.m. on a Sunday afternoon and claimed the lives of 247 residents of Heppner. 150 buildings were wrecked and it is noted that brick and stone was used to rebuild with.

The 1903 storm was large in area as water hit the town

from Shobe Creek, Willow Creek, Hinton Creek and Balm Fork. More recent floods have been in the Shobe Creek drainage as was the last flood that occurred in 1971.

Most of the land in the drainage area of the creeks that flow through Heppner, has been terraced to catch a sudden heavy rainfall. Work is continuing on the balance of the area and a flood warning system has been installed.

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

Vol. 92, No. 17.

Heppner, OR, June 12, 1975

15c



174 contestants entered events at Jr. rodeo

Three hundred and fifty rodeo enthusiasts were present at the Morrow County Fairgrounds Saturday and Sunday to cheer on 174 contestants entered in the 5th Annual Morrow County Junior Rodeo.

Young contestants came from various parts of Oregon and Washington to compete in the events. They were divided into two groups, juniors and seniors with girls participating in many of the events.

Winners in the top categories were Rory Leonard, Baker, who won top honors in the senior boys all-around. Dee Dee Karl, Bend, won the top honors in the senior girls all-around. Dee Dee was also

presented the Jody Rugg Memorial Trophy by Monte Evans, Junior all-around top honors went to Scott Acock, Irrigon, with junior girl all-around honors going to Marne Beck, Walla Walla, WA. Each of the four winners was presented a saddle blanket by the Morrow County Rodeo Court.

Winners in the other events were presented silver buckles by the queen and members of her court.

Senior Boy Bareback Riding: Archie Asburn, Monument; Joe Ruda, Keating; Rob Easabrook, Roseburg; Rory Leonard, Baker; John McCarthy, John Day, Merlin Stills, Bend.

Senior Calf Roping: Lynn

Parson, Walla Walla; Gary Duncan, Walla Walla; Shane Nodine, Bend; Aaron McCall, Myrtle Point; David Daly, Heppner.

Senior Girl Breakaway Roping: Dee Dee Karl, Bend; Patty Hutcheon, Hereford; Kim Nogle, Grass Valley; Cindy Wyss, Pendleton.

Junior Boy Calf Riding: Virgil Morgan, Irrigon; Rocky Steagall, Irrigon; Ron Currin, Heppner; Scott Acock, Irrigon; Sam Willis, Redmond; Chris Retherford, John Day.

Junior Girl Calf Riding: Allison Sherrill, Hermiston; Maureen Healy, Heppner; Marie Yocum, Lexington; Kim Pierson, Redmond.

Senior Girl Barrel Race: **Continued on Page 8**

Queen's coronation set for June 21

The first big event of the 1975 Fair and Rodeo season will be the public coronation of Queen Mickey Hoskins at the Morrow County Fairgrounds on Saturday evening, June 21. Plans are being made for an exciting program built around the bicentennial theme. The program is slated to begin at 7:30. Harold Kerr, Morrow County Extension Agent, will be the master of ceremonies.

The public will be admitted free of charge to the grandstand ceremony. There is

plenty of nearby car parking space.

Involved in planning the public coronation program are chairwoman, Birdine Tullis and committee members Lenora Smith, Justine Weatherford and Clita Venard. The Heppner Soroptimist Club has assumed the responsibility for this annual ceremony for many years.

Following the coronation the first dance of the season will be held in the Fair Pavilion honoring Queen Mickey and her court.

Two charged with DUI

Sherri M. Anderson, Heppner, was cited by the City Police, early Sunday morning for driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor and for careless driving. She reportedly hit a parked pickup truck belonging to Bud Marshall, parked in front of his house at So. Court and August Streets. The accident occurred shortly after 2 a.m.

Earl Lee Bonner Jr., appeared in Justice Court Thursday, on charges of driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor. Justice of the Peace, Charles O'Conner, sentenced Bonner to six months in the county jail. He suspended the sentence with the following stipulations: Bonner is to refrain from drinking any intoxicating beverages in a public place for one year. He is to attend a traffic safety and rehabilitation school at The Dalles, Ore.

No fine or sentence was imposed on Bonner until he serves a one year probation to the court. If he does not comply with the stipulations set forth by the court, he could be sentenced to the county jail to serve his six months

Complete address

Effective immediately, patrons of the Heppner post office will need a complete address, including either the box or the route number, reports Hubert Wilson, Postmaster.

With the growth of the area, there are people with either the same or similar names, making it difficult to determine the correct person.

It will take time to give your complete address to your correspondents, meanwhile, we will try to deliver your mail.

There is no street delivery in Heppner, so use either the box or route number.

suspended sentence plus any fine the court may decide to impose.

Charles Lee Davidson, Heppner, appeared in Justice Court Thursday and pleaded not guilty to charges of reckless driving.

The citation stems from a citizens arrest May 30, while driving on Heppner High School property.

He will appear in Justice Court today with counsel to answer the charges. Davidson will also be tried on charges of attempting to elude the police. He has previously pleaded guilty to two counts of violation of the basic speed rule.

4-H girls to visit Japan

Three girls from Morrow County are anxiously counting the days until July 25, when they will join 4-H members from all over Oregon to depart from Seattle by plane for a month's stay in Japan.

Alice Abrams, Cathy Palmer, Heppner, and Janette Piper, Lexington, have attended orientation meetings, received letters from their Japanese host families.

A total of 36 members from Oregon, accompanied by three adult chaperones will be involved in the Oregon 4-H, Japan Labo Exchange this year. Lynn Breese, formerly with Oregon Extension Service, will accompany the group.

On July 24, 80 Labo kids from Japan will arrive in Corvallis to visit in a number of counties throughout Oregon.

The Oregon-Japan program exchange has been underway for a number of years, but this is the first time Morrow County 4-H members have traveled to Japan.

For the first time in its 13-year history Blue Mountain Community College will be going back to the voters June 17 for approval of its operating budget.

The college has no tax base, therefore must get budget approval by Umatilla-Morrow county voters before it can open its doors to students.

The new tax levy to be voted on is \$67,633 less than the one turned down last month when voters rejected most school levies in the area. BMCC had never before lost a budget election.

Total cost for the year for a person with a \$20,000 home has been reduced and would range between about \$34.80 and \$37.20, depending upon the total true cash value of the two-county district. College President Ron Daniels said he expects the low figure because of the high evaluations now being entered on the tax rolls.

"We have served some 3000 persons this year," Daniels said, "most of them in the vocational-technical fields.

When you consider the fact we have no fat or frills in this budget you can understand why it's so important that it be approved."

Total amount to be collected in taxes is \$1,397,961.

College Board Chairman Joe Green, Pendleton, described the budget as "Typically austere and tight, worthy of approval by the voters."

"The only things new in the budget are a farm management program and money to operate the new McCrae Activity Center and music building," Green said.

"When you stop to realize that the farm program will actually help our economy and the new Physical Education facility was planned 15 years ago by our original board and approved by the voters last year, you can understand the board's position in wanting to keep these in the budget," Green explained.

"We want to keep faith with the voters, the students, and the founders of the college," Green added. "We still hold to

the philosophy set when the college was formed at the grass roots of Umatilla and Morrow counties.

"To continue that philosophy, that desire to offer programs based upon community needs, we need voter support June 17th," Green said.

Polls in both Morrow and Umatilla counties will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Polling places are:

Precinct 1, Riverside High School; Boardman; Precinct 2, Lone City Hall; Precinct 3, Irrigon School Building; Precinct 4, Lexington City Hall; Precincts 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, Old City Library, Heppner.

Morrow County voters can obtain absentee voter ballots from the Morrow County Clerk, Heppner.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETS

The next regular meeting of the Morrow County School Board will be held June 16, at the Lexington District Office at 8 p.m.



Marie Healy holds on, as the cow she is riding threatens to upset her.



Monte Evans, presents Dee Dee Karl, Bend, the Jody Ruggs Memorial Trophy. She was also the winner in the senior girls all-around at the 5th annual Morrow County Junior Rodeo.