

# THE GAZETTE-TIMES

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## Heppner High School honors athletes

Jim Lankford and Dave McLachlan were honored as the top players in varsity basketball with Lankford winning two awards, Most Improved and Most Inspirational Player and McLachlan winning the Most Valuable Player award. The presentations were made Tuesday night at the Heppner High School Cafatorium honoring all of the players in the winter sports competition.

Dean Naffziger, Athletic Director made the presentations to the varsity basketball team and gave a brief narration about each of the players;

Dave McLachlan, a fine athlete who placed on the second all conference team; Clayton Wilson, did an outstanding job as a member of the squad; Rob Eckman, scored high in percentage from the free throw line; Jim Lankford, did an outstanding job, placed 15th in the league in scoring; Keven Haguewood, did a fine job, although he did not get the chance to play as often as he wanted to; Carl Christman, had bad luck during the season, when he resprained an ankle he had previously broken and was only able to play toward the end of the season; David Allstott, did an outstanding job all season,

received Honorable Mention All Conference and placed 14th in league for scoring; Dennis Peck, was brought up from the ranks of the JVs and did a fine job; Dave Campbell, performed an outstanding job as trainer and manager.

JV basketball coach Chuck Lutsch, praised his players for their performance during the season. Players mentioned by Lutsch were: Ray Cate, 5th in scoring; Jerry Cutsforth, a good ball handler; Ken Grieb, outstanding player, scored 249 points to be second in scoring; Mark Huddleston, provided the team with a lot of hustle; Don McEwen, always played his best; Sam Myers, good ability as a player, rated 4th in scoring from the field and 2nd from the free throw line; Jay Papineau doesn't get all the credit he deserves, a fine guard; Mark Piper, always does a fine job of hustling; Chris Rauch, hard worker; Mike Smith, came in 2nd in free throws and led the team in rebounds; Curtis Sweek, fine athlete; Bruce Young, fine player; Neil Maxwell, a good player.

Fresh basketball coach Dale Holland congratulated the members of his team saying, "Freshmen sports is one of the first transitions the players receive in high school as they will be playing the same players from the same schools for the next three years." The team finished their season with a 9-6 record, as we defeated most of the teams we will continue to play. They are a good solid team and played good ball.

Ellen Nussbaum praised the dance team for making all of their own uniforms and paying for them with their own money.

Jim Ackley coach of the girls freshman team commented that coaching the girls was a unique experience. "The team finished with an 8-2 record, the best in the school," said Ackley. They have a lot of desire and did a fine job all through the season losing to Pilot Rock in both encounters. "I was proud to coach the girls and they always did their best," said Ackley. He named Shelly Thompson as the player with the most hustle and Wendy Myers as the most improved player.

Girls varsity coach Kathy Wilson, said "This year we finished the season with a 9-6 record, losing to Hermiston, Dayville and Pilot Rock. I feel this season will carry a lot of memories as we finished the season in tournament play in Pendleton. It was the first time the girls played before a large crowd and fan fare atmosphere. It was an exciting experience."

During the beginning of the season two freshmen girls joined the varsity club, Maureen Healy and Jackie Mollahan. Maureen added height and quickness to the team as did Jackie and her quickness and ability to steal the ball helped the club. There are two sophomores on the team Lori Rhea and Janice Healy. Lori worked hard and did her best all season, however, she missed part of the tournament because of the flu. Janice was the leading rebounder averaging 9 per game. She has been named to the Girls District All Star Team.

This was the first year for Teresa Peck. She has a lot of ability and is quick to get the ball, but lacks the experience of playing before.

Darla Cooper was another rookie we had on the team and she played center. Although she lacked experience from the start, she progressed during the season and was the best shooter we had from the free throw line.

Vicki Edmundson was the teams leading scorer with an average of 7.5 points per game and she did a fine job rebounding for the team.

Guy Kenny suffered an ankle injury a year ago and is back on the team. She really improved defensively and learned to control her fouls.

Deb Holland played forward position and was our third leading rebounder. She played a fine game in the district playoffs as she dominated the boards and played one of her best games.

The two seniors on the team, Kimee Haguewood and Molly Pierce were the teams leading scorers. Kimee scored an average of 6 points per game and Molly scored 6.5 points per game. Both of these girls had a lot of drive and added to the success of the team.

Behind each team stands a manager, however, this year I had two, Patti Lott and Linda Bier. Patti was the handy man making sure everything was ready for the game. Linda was the scorekeeper and statistician and really learned a lot this year.

Wilson then named Deb Holland as the Most Improved Player, saying "She has the ability although she was a slow starter she finished the season with her best performance."



Heppner's top athletes, Jim Lankford and Dave McLachlan.



Heppner Fillies 2nd place trophy in Class A basketball.

## Couple relates life in Tahiti

At Chamber

If you think prices are high in Oregon, how would you like to pay \$1.50 per gallon of gasoline or \$200 for the installation of a phone with a charge of \$60 per month for the use of the phone. These are costs for luxuries in the island of Tahiti, according to Brian Maxwell and his wife Viviane. Viviane was born and raised in Tahiti and before coming to the United States to marry Brian last July, she was a school teacher in Tahiti. Viviane told the Chamber of

Commerce Monday that students in Tahiti are required to study Spanish, German and English in school, as French and Tahitian are spoken at home. Upon completion of secondary school if a student chooses to attend college he must travel to France and attend college there as there are no colleges in French Polynesia.

Tahiti, the largest island of French Polynesia lies in the Pacific Ocean, midway between Australia and Califor-

nia; approximately halfway between Tokyo and Santiago. French Polynesia covers an ocean area about the size of Europe (without Russia) but the total land area amounts to 1,544 square miles. Tahiti covers 402 square miles and has a population of 30,000 people.

The first European to discover Tahiti was the English Captain Samuel Wallis in 1767, followed in 1768 by Captain Bougainville, Captain Cook in 1769 and Captain Bligh in 1788, the controversial character of "Mutiny on the Bounty."

Tahiti became a French colony in 1880 and in 1957 French Polynesia became a French Overseas Territory. The Legislative body is the Territorial Assembly consisting of 30 members elected by popular vote; it elects the 5 councillors who compose the Government Council. French Polynesia also elects members for the French Senate, French Parliament and the French Economic and Social Parliament.

Brian Maxwell was called to serve as a missionary for a two year period for the Church of the Latter Day Saints. He attended Brigham Young University and studied French and Tahitian for two months then was sent to Tahiti in January 1973 until November of 1974.

He said, "The French government will not allow the people to speak Tahitian in school and many of the natives have forgotten how to read Tahitian. One of my primary duties was to teach the Tahitians how to speak their language. The Tahitian alphabet has only 13 letters and all of them are pronounced. Most words end with a vowel and to illustrate this Brian showed the members a Bible written in Tahitian.

The largest industry in Tahiti is the tourist trade, however, the shell industry is on the rise. Shells are used for ornamental purposes.

While there are a few new hotels on the island the French Government controls the construction of all high rises as they do not want Tahiti to become another Hawaii, so construction is limited.

Brian told of eating some of the native food and the abundance of bananas in the country. There are approximately 15 different varieties of bananas in the island and they are used for cooking, eaten raw and in various dishes. With the mention of eating raw fish most people shirk at the thought, however the fish is first marinated in lime juice and the acid in the limes tends to cook the fish.

The coconut tree is used for virtually everything in the islands. The branches are used to construct either the roof or the sides of a house. The oil is extracted from the coconut and is used for lotion and the dried coconut is used as feed for chickens. Brian commented, "if you want to eat something that is tough, eat a Tahitian chicken."

There are few dairies on the islands, so the natives have very little milk, ice cream or dairy products.

Medical attention on the islands is not up to American standards and the children are being taught dental hygiene. It is not uncommon to see a pretty 15-year-old girl with no front teeth. Teachers are currently teaching children how to brush their teeth after each meal. When the students are in school, after they finish eating the teacher will take the students and have them brush their teeth to prevent further decay.

(Continued on page 3)

### BICENTENNIAL WAGON TRAINS ROLLING

They are rekindling a pioneering spirit and reawakening a sense of history, and they are proving to be fun for everyone along their trail.

Bicentennial Wagon Trains are rolling eastward along the nation's highways and byways, recreating in reverse the westward movement of the nation in the 1800s.

Currently, four contingents of the Bicentennial Wagon Train Pilgrimage to Pennsylvania are on the road. The covered wagons are authentic replicas of the ones that carried pioneer families in an earlier time.

Each train includes a Conestoga Wagon and a chuck wagon from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, sponsor of the official Bicentennial project, Prairie Schooners representing the various states, plus a number of privately owned wagons.

The largest train on the road reached Truth or Consequences, NM February 24. It started rolling in Southern California on New Year's Day with wagons from California and Hawaii and since then has been joined by Arizona and New Mexico wagons.

A second train which got underway in Houston, TX January 4, is now moving through Oklahoma, and the Louisiana wagons have crossed the Mississippi. A Florida contingent will cross into Alabama March 6.

Other trains will leave the Great Lakes and Eastern Seaboard states in April and May, and at that point, 60 wagons from 50 states will be on trail.

The trains will all converge on Valley Forge July 3 and remain in encampment there for three months.

In most communities, local dance groups, bands and other entertainers augment the official show.

The wagons are rolling with the cooperation and support of a National Equine Advisory Council, which represents the nation's organized horsemen.

The American Revolution Bicentennial Administration (ARBA) has designated the Wagon Train Pilgrimage to Pennsylvania as a national Bicentennial event.

### MEETING

The Morrow County School Board will hold a special meeting on Monday, March 29, 8 p.m. at Riverside High School in Boardman.

Bob Smith, the district architect from the firm of Smith and Hasagawa of Ontario will be present to discuss final plans for school buildings to be constructed soon on Morrow County School sites. Included in the plans are four classrooms at Riverside High School, Boardman; eight classrooms at A.C. Houghton Elementary School, Irrigon; and shop buildings at Lone and Heppner High Schools.

### ATTORNEY GENERAL RULING AFFECTS SCHOOL

The Morrow County School District calendar for 1976-77 will have to be returned to the drawing board following a ruling from the Attorney General's office which indicates that Washington and Lincoln's birthdays are legal holidays for schools and schools must be closed on those days.

The Morrow County School Board had adopted the school calendar for the coming school year at its regular meeting in March. The calendar did not include holidays on Washington and Lincoln's birthdays as Oregon schools have not observed these dates as holidays for a number of years.

The Attorney General's ruling appeared only a few days after the board had acted to adopt the calendar.

Superintendent Matt Doherty said, "that traditionally the Morrow County School District had started schools for students after Labor Day and had not had students attending school in June. However, with two additional holidays to be inserted into the calendar, it may be necessary to have students return to school during the first week of June in order to satisfy the number of required days of attendance."

A number of schools throughout the state are currently holding school during the first two weeks of June.

## Dam (n) project downed

Last Friday night's town hall meeting with the Corps of Engineers came to an abrupt halt when Heppner's Mayor Jerry Sweeney told the audience, "I personally feel we have been led down the primrose path, the corps has used the city over and over and I will not be led down that path again."

Mayor Sweeney continued, "this is nothing more than a political football. The corps has spent \$660,000 on surveys and studies; this dam you have proposed has no irrigation facilities, in fact it is smaller than the one vetoed by President Ford in 1974."

Col. Nelson Conover, U.S. Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla, WA was introduced to the audience by Mayor Sweeney in the absence of Morrow County Judge Paul Jones.

Col. Conover told the audience, "The problem hasn't gone away, the basic problem is still here." If a flood as the one of 1903 came and the present flood warning system didn't work, it would be the same as the flood of 1903.

"The flood problem is different in Heppner as floods start at various times of the year, usually caused by thunderstorms," said Col. Conover, "and while a flood warning system has been installed, it is not the solution, a permanent solution would be the construction of a dam on Willow Creek."

Col. Conover then explained the corps has changed plans from the project vetoed by President Ford in 1974. Since then, the size of the dam has been reduced from 11,500 acre feet of storage to 8,000 acre feet. The vetoed plan had a benefit to cost ratio of 1.3 while the new proposal benefit to cost is .71.

"There has never been a flood anywhere in the United States that has taken 240 lives, however, this happened in Heppner in 1903 and there has never been a cost determined for the loss of life.

"I am not here to cram anything down your throats," he said, "I have seen the pictures of Heppner before

and after the flood of 1903, and the potential for such a flood still exists."

The proposed dam would provide protection from a sudden flood. It is estimated that 36,000 cubic feet of water came through Heppner when Balm and Willow Creeks joined. While an estimated 13,000 cubic feet came during the flood of 1904.

During the discussion, proposals were made to Col. Conover for the enlargement of a channel through the City of Heppner to carry the flood waters, to use part of the funds to combat soil erosion on watersheds of the four creeks passing through town and for the construction of a retainer dam on Balm Fork which feeds into Willow Creek.

Stephen Thompson, owner of a home and farm land which would be inundated by the pool behind the dam requested a 25 year moratorium be placed on construction of the project. He stated, "This project should be analyzed from all cost benefit ratios there have been in the various campaigns. Irrigators below Heppner have voted against the dam. One of the weakest features of the dam is that Willow Creek has never caused any damage to the City of Heppner. It is easy to condon something without a solution, however, channel improvements would help the City. He moved that a 25 year moratorium be placed on any construction of a dam saying, "I have been harassed for the past years by the Corps. I have hesitated during those years to remodel or paint my home always fearing the Corps would flood my land."

Col. Conover remarked, "If this project is not supported by the people of this community I will report the findings to my superiors and tell them of the decision of the people.

Following the statement of Mayor Sweeney, Col. Conover said, "I have come there to get the message of the people, tonight there are 38 people all opposed to the dam."



MR. AND MRS. BRIAN MAXWELL