

lone man masters airways with kite



Rick Peterson and his Dragon Fly soar through the air (G-T Photo)

Before Orville and Wilbur Wright were even thought of, men were trying to join their feathered friends in flight.

Some tied wooden frames to their backs, others fashioned feathered wings. Neither worked.

But today, with the super sonic jets and helicopters that maneuver anywhere, it doesn't seem that man would still try to fly without some sort of propulsion.

He does and this time, it works.

Rick Peterson of Ione is one of a handful of area hang glider enthusiasts who each week, strap themselves to huge kites of durable cloth and fly through the air.

Peterson, 19, has been flying for just over a year but he's no novice to the sport.

He got interested at Blue Mountain Community College last spring term. A poster on a bulletin board caught his eye, it told of a new hang gliding shop in Pendleton.

The long time motorcyclist was interested. The first day the shop opened, Rick was at the door. He wanted lessons and the shopman asked when he'd like to start.

Rick said later that week. He went back to school. But that afternoon, his enthusiasm grew. Adrenalin pumping, he went back to the shop that afternoon and started his flying career.

Last week he placed fifth at the Clickitat Hanging Gliding

competition in a field of 46, including a man from Tri-Cities that is the 28th best kiter in the world.

Peterson is one of many. Others in the area include Peterson's flying buddy, Dan Akers, along with Tom Heimbigner, Joe Halvorsen, Mike Warren and Ron Palmateer from Ione and Jack Chidey of Heppner.

Peterson, ranked a hang 2, will try, more than likely successful for his hang 3 rating this weekend at Tri-Cities. The highest rating is a hang 5.

He flies a 32 foot Dragon Fly. A high performance kite, it is rated for a flier with a hang 4 rating but Peterson said he "cut some corners to get it."

The kite has a custom spread with probably an extra couple hundred bucks worth of options. A kite of that caliber can run to \$1,000.

This is Rick's second kite. The kite he started with was a 19 footer. Rick said a beginner could probably get a good kite to start with for around \$600 or even cheaper.

Most of the rolling hills in the area don't offer great flying access, but one big bluff, five miles from Ione, is rated as one of the top flying areas in Eastern Oregon.

Saddle Butte, owned by Ron Hagewood and Dick Sherer, (Continued on Page 3)



Finally united last week were Bonnie Graves, Rita Woolsey, and Ken Gates (G-T Photo)

Adopted sister finds family after 26 years

"Keep looking honey, you'll find her."

When Bonnie Graves was seven months old and her brother Ken Gates was just a week, they became part of their grandparents family. A few years later they were legally adopted.

When they were nine and ten years old, their grandparents, who they called mom and dad, told them of another sister. She was three years younger and had been adopted when she too was just a week old.

Since that time, 26 years ago, Bonnie and Ken have

mind.

A year ago, Bonnie and Ken's father came to visit. "Did you know you have a little sister?" he asked. They told him they knew but didn't know where or who.

He gave them a name in Athena to call. On Aug. 9, Bonnie called and finally got hold of Glen Goss, Rita's uncle. Three days later, the long lost little sister was talking to her brother.

"Hello Ken. This is your sister."

Ken went screaming from his Lexington home to Bon-

"Identical." That's the way the two girls described themselves. Bonnie said she and Rita sat and drank coffee and talked for about six hours one morning this week. They found that even their dislikes were the same.

A striking resemblance has fooled more than one.

About 12 years ago, when Rita was living in Seattle, her next door neighbor, a Mrs. Lamb, came to Heppner to visit her mother.

While she was in Heppner, shopping at a grocery store, Mrs. Lamb saw Bonnie and

Deputy Attorney General Jim Durham, candidate for the highest law office in the state, the attorney general, will be in Heppner Monday.

Steve Peck, Durham's Morrow County campaign manager, has planned a full afternoon and evening of activities with the people for Durham.

Peck will fly Durham from Pendleton around noon Monday. The first stop of the afternoon will be at the Paul Taylor ranch in the North Lexington area. From about 1:30-2 p.m., Durham will talk with local farmers on their needs. In particular, Taylor, and other area ranchers, has problems with water. Their wells have been shut down

because the state has termed them critical ground water



Jim Durham

areas but the ranchers say the state did the cut off "without

rhymn or reason."

After the ranch tour, Durham will go to Kinzua Corporation for a hand shaking, introduction type stint during a shift change. Tentatively, the time for that has been set at 3:15 p.m.

From 4-5 p.m., Durham will be on main street, meeting local businessmen and citizens of Heppner.

After a dinner, Durham will attend a reception at the Episcopal Parish Hall in Heppner. Invitations have been sent but the reception is open to the public.

For those that can't make the 7 p.m. time, Durham will hold a Town Hall public meeting at 8 p.m. at the same

Episcopal Parish.

The town hall meeting will slate a brief message by Durham, followed by a question and answer period by the attorney general candidate.

Durham will go on to Boardman and North Morrow County Tuesday. He will have a breakfast meeting at 7:30 a.m. at the Nomad Restaurant and will stay in Boardman till about 10:30 a.m.



Marty Smith's car went off Pioneer St. into the ditch Tuesday. Smith said the steering jammed.

McMillan to speak

Sam McMillan has accepted an invitation to be guest speaker at the annual meeting.

The directors of the Morrow County Historical Society held their September meeting at the C.C. Jones home, Sept. 20. Directors Delpha Jones, Rachel Harnett, Ruth McCabe, Barbara Bloodsworth, Harold Becket, Paul Hiler, Bryce Keene and Bill Weatherford were present.

The board made plans for the society's annual meeting,

the first Sunday in October at the Lexington Grange Hall. The meeting will be preceded by a potluck dinner at 1 p.m. for which the society will provide the meat and coffee.

Along with other business matters, four new directors need to be elected to replace Barbara Bloodsworth, Harold Becket, Barton Clark and Don Gilliam whose terms are expiring.

After the business meeting Dorothy Krebs will show her slides "Happy Birthday Am-

erica", and other entertainment is being planned. All persons interested in county history and its preservation are invited to attend.

At the conclusion of the September board meeting, Director Harold Becket was honored because it fell on his birthday. Two birthday cakes that were baked and decorated by Barbara Bloodsworth and Ruth McCabe were served by hostess Delpha Jones along with ice cream and coffee.

Mustangs, Viks head CBC list

Heppner's Mustangs kept their hat in the ring toward an undefeated season Thursday night, bouncing Pilot Rock on the Rocket turf, 20-6. Heppner remained in a tie for first place in the Columbia Basin league lead with powerhouse Umatilla.

Both teams boast identical 2-0 records. The Vikings, termed the pre-season favorite with Weston-McEwen and Sherman County, has impressively knocked both those schools off in their first two games. The Viks have stopped both squads scoreless and given up less than 100 yards to both.

Although Heppner's stats aren't quite as impressive, their games in the win-loss column still match their Columbia River rivals.

At 1-1 in the league, Weston-McEwen, Oregon Trail, Sherman County and Pilot Rock are all knotted. Wasco County and Riverside are both 0-1 and Condon, after a pair of games, is winless at 0-2.

COLUMBIA BASIN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct.
HEPPNER	2	0	1.000
Umatilla	2	0	1.000
Weston-McEwen	1	1	.500
Pilot Rock	1	1	.500
Oregon Trail	1	1	.500
Sherman County	1	1	.500
Wasco County	0	1	.000
Riverside	0	1	.000
Condon	0	2	.000

Planners set

meeting Monday

The Morrow County Planning Commission will meet Monday, Sept. 27 at 8 p.m. at Riverside High School, Boardman.

A public hearing concerning a presentation of preliminary plat plans of Ployhar-Lank-

ford subdivision on the north side of Dee Cox Road near Heppner will be reviewed. A second hearing will be held on a minor amendment to the preliminary plat of the Eastgaard Estates near Boardman.

'Keep looking honey, you'll find her.'

been looking . . . quizzing . . . thinking hard about a lost little sis.

Last week they found her. "As long as I was old enough to know," Rita Woolsey, their sister said, "I've been looking."

Rita lived in Seattle throughout much of her childhood and into adulthood. She is 26 now and lives in Phoenix, AZ.

For 26 years, the threesome had not met, talked or even really seen each other through photos.

What went through their minds in all those years, knowing they had a sister and brother somewhere?

"Curiosity! What do they look like? Medical history? hair color, eye color, do they chew their fingernails, smoke?" Rita said. With 26 years to think about it, many things must have crossed her

nie's in Heppner. He beat on her door and she said she knew something was wrong. "We'd had so much sadness all year."

But when she answered the door, Ken's smile was from ear to ear. He told her about the call and Bonnie too, received a call from Rita later.

Throughout their lives, the threesome has been looking.

Rita, she said, used to sneak downstairs and read her adoption papers at night. It told her who she was but she still had no idea about finding her relatives.

While Bonnie and Ken have been raised as "country kids", going to school in Bates and Ukiah, Rita was somewhat of a city girl, growing up in Seattle.

Has the two definitely different lifestyles slowed their reunion? No way.

mistaken her for Rita. Mrs. Lamb yelled at Bonnie. "Rita, what are you doing down here." Bonnie didn't know who any Rita was and shrugged the shout off.

The threesome is enjoying their first reunion, one that surely won't be their last. Along with a brother and sister, Rita now has a couple of nieces and a nephew.

"Keep looking honey, you'll find her," Bonnie's grand mother kept saying.

"God was with us," Bonnie said. The threesome hugged each other.

Bonnie is married to Dean Graves, a truck driver, and has a son, Kenneth Dean, age 9. Ken is married to Candy and they have two daughters, Melissa Lynn, 7 and Melanie, 3. He also drives truck. Rita has a son, Sean Michael, age 7.