

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

VOL. 94, NO. 10 HEPPNER, OREGON THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1977 10 PAGES 15 c

District Attorney single handedly captures prowler

District Attorney Dennis Doherty single-handedly captured a nocturnal prowler in the U.S. Post Office at Heppner last week.

Doherty said he saw the kangaroo rat making a run for it along the floor near the south wall, north of the FBI most wanted posters. After the capture, Doherty turned the wee creature over to his wife for safekeeping.

The rat was confined in a bird cage in the Doherty

vehicle, but escaped in the car shortly thereafter. In the midst of a frantic search, the rat was found back in the cage eating a piece of cheese, it was reported.

On its second escape attempt, Mrs. Doherty picked up the little bundle of fur and was promptly bitten.

She immediately released the kangaroo rat on its own recognizance.

"I thought it was cute," Doherty commented. Some

other parties to the event said they did not share the district attorney's opinion. "Ug," said one of the witnesses.

On close questioning, Doherty claimed that he caught the kangaroo rat because he thought it would make a nice pet for children.

Details of the capture and subsequent escape remained sketchy this week. The reporter, who said he wouldn't print the story, had his fingers crossed. "You rat," someone said.

MCGG honored by International Harvester

International Harvester Company (IHC) recently recognized Morrow County Grain Growers of Lexington for outstanding contributions to the success of U.S. agriculture and service to customers. The recognition carries with it the rare 'XL Award.'

William Morris, IHC regional manager, said, "The coveted 'XL Award' recognizes the outstanding contributions of key dealers to the success of U.S. agriculture and service to customers. The standards for this award are the highest, and only a select group of dealers who have totally committed themselves to the pursuit of excellence

qualify as 'XL Dealers.'" Morrow County Grain Growers is only the second Oregon IHC dealer to receive the coveted award. The other Oregon dealer is at Woodburn.

The right to display the 'XL' symbol is the highest form of recognition an IHC dealer can earn. It not only symbolizes a total commitment to excellence in customer service, but involves excellence in product knowledge, business management, merchandising and employee relations.

Morrow County Grain Growers handles the IHC agricultural equipment line, with complete sales, service, renting, leasing and financing plans available to customers.

The award presentation was made to Morrow County Grain Growers by IHC representatives during a recent dinner meeting in Heppner.

On hand for the award presentation were Paul Roquet, IHC regional retail operations manager, and Jack Bell, IHC district manager, both of Oakland, Calif., and Tim Danaher, IHC area manager, of Pendleton.

The award was accepted by Larry Mills, manager, Morrow County Grain Growers, along with Ron Haguewood, board president. Seventy-five persons including employees, directors, their wives and special guests attended the dinner award meeting at West of Willow restaurant.

Morrow County Grain Growers began as a grain cooperative in 1930 and in 1967 merged with what was then the Lexington Oil Co-op. During the same period the IHC dealership was purchased. All operations of Morrow County Grain Growers were merged in a new facility completed in 1971.

Peterson, Wolff win contests

Jan Peterson of Ione and Kathy Wolff of Heppner are among Morrow and Umatilla County winners in the United Nations Pilgrimage for Youth contest sponsored annually by Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodges, school officials said.

The two local winners will compete in a speech contest in Pendleton Sunday, Mar. 12, at 2 p.m. in the IOOF Hall to determine one delegate.

The annual contest is open

via Washington, D.C., and return home through Canada. Study will be conducted in the work of the United Nations.



JAN PETERSON

Local winners were selected on the basis of a topic essay on "Accomplishments of the United Nations in the Past Quarter Century."

Alternate to the Heppner winner is Jeff Fortenbury, a sophomore.

Kathy Wolff is the daughter of Dr. Wallace Wolf of Heppner. Jan Peterson is the daughter of Herb P. Peterson of Ione.



KATHY WOLFF

to juniors and sophomores and has been conducted since 1950. In July and August the winner will take a week in New York

St. Patrick's Church invites community to Irish stew dinner

Thursday evening, Mar. 17, the entire community is invited to come to celebrate the Day of the Irish at St. Patrick's Church's Parish Hall on North Jones St., Heppner.

The ladies of the Altar Society will offer a hearty Irish dinner from 5:30 until 7:30 with lots of visiting and with card playing, too, for those who wish.

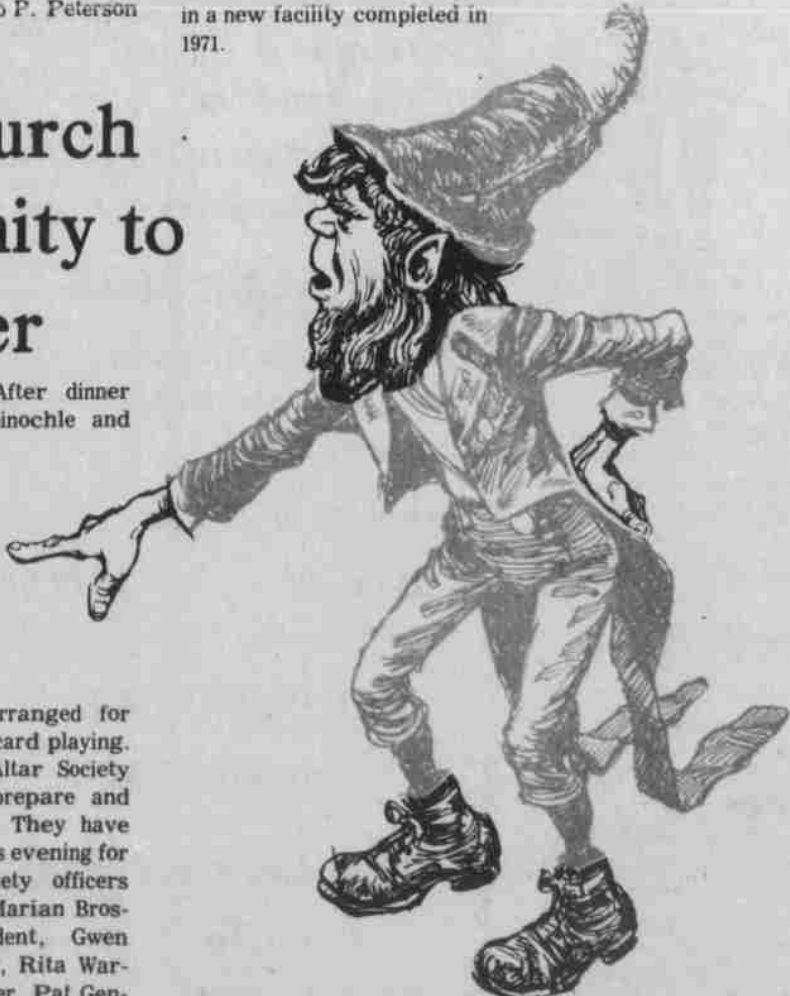
The evening's menu will be built around super Irish stew and will include French bread, some plain and some with garlic, an assortment of relishes, a choice of desserts and coffee, tea or milk. They will charge 75 cents for children under 12 and \$2.25 for each adult.

Visiting will be encouraged

from 5:30 on. After dinner there will be pinochle and

bridge tables arranged for those who enjoy card playing.

St. Patrick's Altar Society members will prepare and serve the meal. They have been planning this evening for some time. Society officers are: president, Marian Brosnan; vice-president, Gwen Healy; secretary, Rita Warden; and treasurer, Pat Gentry.



Budget crew hacks school figure

The Morrow County School Board in session at Lexington Monday night held a budget meeting. The budget committee reviewed the budget work up to the present time. The

original request had been \$3,208,702. The committee reduced this figure by \$88,249.00 to a final budget request of \$3,120,453.

The final budget request

represents a 17.4 per cent increase over last year.

At the hearing, the budget committee was unable to make additional adjustments in the budget because of two

factors. First, the amount of money to be received from basic school support remains unknown at this time. Second, the settlement of teacher salaries and a few of the classified employees' salaries were not clarified in a tentative agreement until after the budget session closed.

The state mediation service was conducting a closed session with teacher and school board representatives during the same time that the budget hearing was in progress.

A tentative agreement was reached on a base salary increase to \$9,650.00 for beginning teachers. This compares with \$9,236.00 for the base (salary for beginning teachers) last year.

At the budget hearing, it was determined that the actual tax levy will be \$2,581,631. Based on the current valuation of district, which is \$236,334,552, the actual tax will be \$10.92 per thousand.

Last year, the expenditure for schools in Morrow County was \$8.82 cents per thousand.

Any increase in the valuation of Morrow County would reduce the \$10.92 figure. The new valuation for the county is completed and announced in April of each year.

Superintendent Matt Doherty said additional reductions in the tax levy may result after final salary agreements are completed and legislative action on school support is taken.



Dale Conklin, Heppner track mentor, watches Dan Nix (left) and Larry Palmer finish a 45 minute run. Track and baseball are featured on sports, pages 6 and 7. (G-T Photo)

Sports dessert set

Tonight (Thursday), Heppner High School winter athletes will be honored at a basketball dessert. The dessert will honor all high school players from both the girls' and boys' basketball teams.

Both the varsity and junior varsity rosters will be acknowledged. Players from the basketball season such as first and second team all Columbia Basin girls Jackie Mollahan and Maureen Healy and CBC honorable mention, Keny Grieb, will be honored.

Other players from both squads will also be honored by various awards including Most Valuable Player on the Mustang and Filly squads.

The dessert is set for 7:30 p.m. Thursday night in the Heppner High School cafeteria.

Parents are asked to bring a dessert.

	WEATHER		
	High	Low	Precip.
Wed., Mar. 2	46	26	.05
Thurs., Mar. 3	42	33	.59
Fri., Mar. 4	52	30	
Sat., Mar. 5	60	33	
Sun., Mar. 6	59	41	
Mon., Mar. 7	59	42	.02
Tues., Mar. 8	55	35	.24

Thursday saw rain mixed with snow to open the reporting week. Through Tuesday, total measurable precipitation for March was 1.09 hundredths. Normal for March is 1.28 hundredths.

March may be close to normal, but the amount of precipitation is nowhere near the record 4.08 hundredths inches set in Heppner in March of 1957.

Look out John Glenn

Rockets part of 4-H "Involvement"



Mike Howell, county Extension agent and 4-H leader, stands with rockets he's built and plans to study in a new 4-H program. (G-T Photo)

Space Age Technology has entered the 4-H program in Morrow County. Model Rocketry and Aerospace education can help 4-H members better understand the world in which they live, says Mike Howell, County Extension Agent and model rocket project coordinator.

Aerospace has become a part of our society. Model rockets powered by solid propellant fuels are excellent "Involvement" learning experiences, Howell said.

Howell reports that eight project meetings dealing with model rockets and aerospace education have been planned, starting on Mar. 10 at 4:00 p.m. at the county fair grounds. During the eight sessions, 4-H members will learn about the history of jets and rockets, theory of flight, principles of rocket propulsion, safety, plus gain an understanding of solid propellant rockets and fuels.

Each member will have the opportunity to construct and launch his or her own rocket. In addition to belonging to the 4-H program, all members will have the opportunity to join the ESTES Aerospace Club, which includes a membership kit with many special items, plus their first rocket. Cost per student will be \$3.75, which includes one rocket, plus engine.

If all progresses as planned, says Howell, it is hoped that the club can get involved in contest rocket meets, design various types of multi-pad launch systems, hold public demonstrations, plus have members advance to higher skill levels within the project area. A special section for exhibiting rockets at the county fair has already been written.

Anyone wanting additional information concerning this new 4-H project area should contact Mike Howell at the county Extension office.