

The Heppner GAZETTE-TIMES

Morrow County's Award-Winning Weekly Newspaper

VOL. 97 NO. 39

20 cents

12 pages

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1979

HEPPNER, OREGON

Donald F. Gilliam, official weather observer for Heppner, reports the following high and low temperatures for the past week, starting Tuesday, Sept. 18. There was no measurable rainfall for the same week.

	Hi	Low
Tues., Sept. 18	88	50
Wed., Sept. 19	85	59
Thurs., Sept. 20	87	52
Fri., Sept. 21	80	48
Sat., Sept. 22	76	44
Sun., Sept. 23	79	43
Mon., Sept. 24	81	46

The hunters are coming!

About 10,000 expected for deer season this weekend

The hunters are coming! About 9,000 to 10,000 hunters are expected to invade the Heppner area for the beginning of the deer hunting season Sept. 29.

Glen Ward of the Fish and Wildlife Department, said that is the number predicted to hunt in the Heppner unit which includes parts of Morrow, Grant and Umatilla counties. The Heppner unit takes up 950,000 acres.

Another 600 hunters are expected to hunt in the Columbia Basin unit which includes the northern half of Morrow County.

Ward said the deer crop is down 15 per cent this year from last year and the buck production is down because of the lower fawn production.

He predicted about 20 per cent of the hunters will be successful in the hunting season.

"The hunters will probably harvest about 2,500 bucks in the Heppner unit," Ward said. "In the Columbia Basin unit, about 150 bucks will be taken. The Columbia Basin unit is mostly on private land so it is hunted mostly by families and friends."

The season is short in both units. It lasts only until Oct. 10. Hungarian and chukar partridges hunting season also starts Sept. 29 but that season

does not end until Jan. 13.

"The crop for those birds is excellent this year and the limit is eight per day," Ward said.

Today is the last day for hunting grouse, the bag limit is three, and Sunday is the last day to hunt dove, with the bag limit for those birds being 10. Bow hunting season ended yesterday. East Oregon pheasant and quail season opens Oct. 13 and lasts until Nov. 18.

The deadline to buy deer tags for the season is tomorrow night at midnight. The deadline to buy Rocky Mountain Elk tags is Oct. 26 and the last day to buy tags to hunt Roosevelt Elk is Nov. 9.

"The hunting conditions are dry and stalking will be difficult," Ward said. "Because of the low buck production, spike hunting is illegal and there will be a fine from the justice of the peace if anyone is caught with a spike. Only two-point or better forked horn bucks can be taken."

Ward said most of the hunters will probably be in the foothills but more deer are in the higher elevations this year and the bigger bucks are up in the heavy timber.

"A word of caution to hunters is a new law which states that anyone trespassing on private land with a gun

can be fined up to \$500 and lose his hunting license for up to three years," Ward said. "The hunter must obtain permission from the private landowner before hunting on his property. About half of the Heppner unit hunting area is on private land and almost all of the land on the Columbia Basin unit is on private property."

Ward said the reason the hunting season is so short is because all the bucks are being killed off. He said there are more hunters all the time and that a ratio of 10 bucks to 100 doe should be maintained for proper breeding so the season is shorter to lessen the take.

"There will be no late bull hunting season in December," Ward said. "The season is longer on the west side of the Cascades because we are trying to keep people over there."

Ward said hunters should check wherever they hunt to be sure they are not in a safety zone. Some roads are also closed to hunters but they can still hike in to hunt.

Ward said the upland bird hunting should be excellent this year. He said there was a lot of concern that the baby fowls would not survive because there would not be enough grasshoppers for them to eat because of the grasshoppers being sprayed. There was a lot of food left for the young birds, apparently, because the production and survival of the birds is the best its been in years.

Although most indications are that more hunters are going out all the time, two area stores that sell hunting equipment may not agree.

Jo Pettyjohn, of Pettyjohn's Farm and Builder's Supply,

said sales at that store seem down this year.

"We probably will have guns left over," she said. "We are down in gun sales, hunting licenses and all supplies but that may be misleading because the people may be going somewhere else. We usually have a lot of last minute business but we still will be down."

Dick Sargent of the Coast to Coast store, said he feels sales at that store are about the same but they have been more spread out than in the past because of the separate bow and gun seasons.

"There were more bow hunters, by far, this year," he said. "We may have less gun hunters because you can only hunt with a bow or a gun and not both. Sales today and tomorrow should pick up because we get a lot of people from Portland coming in."



From London to Heppner

A 1952-vintage red double-decker bus that once rolled through the streets of London stopped in Heppner last week in

its present role as a bookstore on wheels, an unusual sight for Main Street.

Democratic committee looks for new judge

The Morrow County Democratic Central Committee is frantically looking for a candidate to replace Judge D.O. Nelson, who announced his resignation rather suddenly last week.

But Paul Jones, chairman of the Morrow County Democrats, is not worried about coming up with a replacement. "We have a lot of possibilities already," Jones said.

Jones said the committee Nelson announced his resignation, which becomes effective Oct. 15, to discuss names of those who possibly could take over the position.

"We (the committee) request that anyone interested in the position of Morrow County Court judge come to the courthouse Oct. 4 with a resume," Jones said. "We would prefer that a sponsor introduce the candidate. All candidates should be registered Democrats for a reasonable length of time."

Jones said the Democratic Central Committee will make its recommendation for the new judge to Gov. Vic Atiyeh Oct. 5. Atiyeh has the option of appointing the candidate of

the committee, choosing one of the other applicants or even making his own choice on who should fill the position.

"We will try to pick the best

person, and I emphasize person, for the job," Jones said. "I know some women who would make excellent judges."

About 70 residents attend Oregon Forum Workshop

Close to 70 local residents gathered together last Saturday for a forestry workshop on "Elk Management in Timber Country."

The workshop was sponsored by the Oregon Forum and funded by the National Science Foundation.

The purpose of the workshop was to get public input on the problems which confront professional foresters and wildlife personnel who manage the public lands in the Blue Mountain Region. The professional people feel they alone cannot make the decisions but the people of Oregon, who use and benefit from the resources, should have a say in determining policy regulations.

Loggers, mill workers, ranchers, hunters, hikers, teachers and wilderness advocates went to the Oregon Forum workshop. The topics discussed concerned this wide variety of people and they tried to work out the best possible compromise for all the people.

Of course, no one idea was decided on but many ideas were brought out.

Some of the questions mentioned were: Should Oregon's

forests be managed intensively for timber production, left in a totally natural wilderness or somewhere between the two extremes? If some of each, how much and by what means? How much timber should be cut and left in which areas? How many roads should be opened in a certain area? How many domestic animals should be allowed to graze in these areas?

These questions are valid and decisions must be made or we may not have any trees or wildlife anymore or maybe soil erosions and flooding will be the major problem.

Michael J. Sweeney, chairman of the Heppner Chamber of Commerce Watershed Committee, welcomed everyone to the Heppner High School cafeteria to open the workshop. William Hunter, director of Oregon Forum, explained the workshop procedures and introduced the main speakers.

Warren W. Aney, regional supervisor of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Region IV, (North-east Oregon) was the first speaker. He talked about "Managing Elk in Northeast Oregon."

The Heppner American Legion Post No. 87 and Auxiliary are again serving their annual Hunter's Breakfast in the old Ford Garage building across Main Street from the First National Bank.

Legion serves hunter's breakfast

The public is invited to come and enjoy hotcakes, ham and eggs, milk or coffee, all for \$2.50.

The breakfast will be served all night tomorrow from 4 p.m. Friday until 6 Saturday morning.

The local Elks Lodge is sponsoring a program for hunters who want to donate the hides of the animals they kill.

Barrels will be set up in towns in the area for hunters to put the hides in. The Elks will then turn in

Hunters donate animal hides

the hides to the tannery in Sherwood. The tannery will process the hides and keep one and donate one to the Veteran's Hospital Rehabilitation Physical Therapy Center.

Last year, the program collected 350 hides in the donation effort.

Umatilla administrator accepts hospital post

A.K. Felt, from Umatilla, has accepted the job as administrator of Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

Felt was offered the job last week and he accepted it the next day.

Felt has been the administrator at the Umatilla Hospital and will soon be moving to Heppner and will officially begin his new job Nov. 1.

Felt first came to the Umatilla Hospital four years ago when the hospital there was financially troubled. He has brought new doctors into the area and has made the hospital very successful.

Morrow County Hospital Board chairman Fred Martin is hoping Felt can be just as

successful in Heppner. The Pioneer Hospital has had trouble in the past financially with the passing of bonds.

Ullman visits east Oregon next week

Congressman Al Ullman, D-Ore., will be visiting in eastern Oregon next week, with dates in Ontario, Baker, La Grande and Pendleton.

He will be in the college theater of Blue Mountain Community College at 5 p.m. Oct. 5, and attend a Democratic coffee hour in Pendleton the same day at 7 p.m.

Gayla Dahlke injured in gun accident

Gayla Dahlke, 13, went back to school in Heppner Tuesday after going through a traumatic experience Sunday.

She was accidentally shot when a gun went off while she was next to a truck and the blast shattered the metal of the truck and particles lodged into her left shoulder. She was taken to Pioneer Memorial Hospital and treated by Dr. Joseph Gifford.

Dr. Gifford decided not to try to take the particles out because there are too many and some of them are very small. Hopefully, they will

work out by themselves over a period of time. Gayla is taking anti-biotics to control infection in the area.

The accident occurred Sunday at 9:45 a.m. when Gayla's brother, Timothy, was showing his hunting rifle, a .308 Winchester, to a friend. He put the gun in the gunrack behind the back window of the truck and a bullet discharged from the gun and it exploded into the back of the cab.

The explosion sent metal flying everywhere and approximately 20 small fragments hit Gayla, who was next to the truck, in the left shoulder.

probably be killed off or migrate to another area.

The group discussions led to more questions and Hunter conducted a panel discussion with the groups asking questions of the main speakers.

One question was "How can we improve the quality of hunting?"

Dr. Thomas said, "We would have to have fewer

hunters so we could say a hunter could hunt only every three years. There is no way to have fewer hunters unless we have fewer hunters."

Aney added "Can we continue to let there be unlimited hunters? We can do it two ways. We can either impose government regulations on the number of hunters or we can let it get so crowded that the hunters won't like it and they

will stop going out. Most people just want the chance to go hunting."

Orville Cutsforth brought out a concern he had about only two bull elk in a herd of about 130 elk on his land. "Will there be a breeding problem?" he asked.

"There is no ratio known on that but they do seem to get the job done," Dr. Thomas said.



The speakers at the Oregon Forum were (l-r): Warren W. Aney, James O'Donnell, Dr. Jack Ward Thomas, Raymond French and Beryl Stillman. Orville Cutsforth is in the foreground.