

How does 160 miles of Billy Joel sound?

One hundred and sixty miles of Billy Joel's music doesn't sound too bad...unless you consider that that 160 miles was spent on the seat of a 10-speed bicycle.

"I keep singing that song over and over," said Rod Cole, 15, son of Don and Carolyn Cole of Heppner. "I can't get it out of my mind."

Rod, his cousin, Russ, from Milwaukie, Ore., and a friend Ron Roth, from Happy Valley near Milwaukie, left from Milwaukie at 7 a.m. last Tuesday and arrived in Heppner on Thursday.

Remarkably, the trio emerged almost unscathed from their 3-day ordeal. Ron was injured in a collision with Rod's bicycle Wednesday night in Arlington, but he received first aid on the scene

and was able to continue. "Everything feels good except my head," he commented.

The three ate in restaurants and slept in motels while they were on the road. "Most people were pretty nice," said Rod. At one point, up a steep hill, a log truck driver stopped to give the boys water and encouragement. And their three-day journey was not without some fun. They stopped at the John Day dam and swam in the Columbia in Arlington.

Arriving in Heppner the boys were treated to a celebration with a decorated cake provided by Rod's mother, Carolyn.

Would they do it again? "Sure" they replied, but not tomorrow. Maybe next year.



Russ Cole (L), Ron Roth, Rod Cole

County students to compete in state spelling championships

Eighty-one Oregon students who won county spelling contests will compete in three divisions in a state championship Saturday, Aug. 30 at the Oregon State Fair in Salem.

Contestants include Renee Struthers of Heppner Elementary, Todd Harrison of Heppner High and Terri Meyers of Sam Boardman Elementary.

The contests will be held outside the Department of Education's one-room school. Students in grades 1 through 6 will compete at 10:30 a.m., grades 7 through 9 at 11:15

a.m. and grades 10 through 12 at noon.

The contests will not be like the traditional spelling bee. Instead of spelling the words orally, students will have ten seconds to write each of 30 words on paper after each word is pronounced, used in a sentence, and pronounced again.

Rick Myers, special projects manager for KATU Television in Portland, will give the words.

First, second and third place winners will be announced

after each contest. State School Supt. Verne A. Duncan will present awards to the winners at a ceremony at 1 p.m. outside the one-room school.



Justice Court will appear as usual in next week's Gazette-Times.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Umatilla Electric Cooperative Association gives notice that payments are now and have been available at the main office of Umatilla Electric Association at Hermiston, Oregon to the persons' names hereunder of membership and payments which have been authorized for more than five and one-half years. Unless said persons or heirs claim said membership and payments not later than December 31, 1980, they will be forfeited to the cooperative.

Russell M. Dorran
Russell M. Dorran, Manager

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