

# Heppner cowboy attends MSU, finishes 3rd in steer wrestling



**Ron Currin**

Adjustments are something many college students must make. But for Ron Currin, Heppner, the adjustment is not only in the classroom but also in the rodeo arena, said Mardi Mileham of the Montana State University News Service.

The Montana State University transfer from Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton, finished third in steer wrestling in the final standing following the College National Finals Rodeo in Bozeman last summer, and he's expected to be one of MSU's strongest competitors this season, Mileham said.

Classes are more difficult at MSU, Currin admits, and he

**Topic Club members host Bookworms**

By JUSTINE WEATHERFORD

In alternate years, the lone Topic Club members and the Heppner Bookworm members entertain each other. On Wednesday, March 24, the Topic Club members were hostesses to the Bookworms in the basement of the Lone United Church of Christ.

About twenty members from the two groups learned about India as Helen Martin showed the colored slides the Martins took during their 1981 tour. Helen described the various communities and institutions they visited, told of the street scenes and rural scenes and about some very special temples and shrines, such as the magnificent Taj Mahal.

Before the Bookworms arrived, the Topic Club members held a brief business meeting. Their guests were greeted by the club President Loren Hubbard and the day's hostess Shirley McNary, who together served chocolate-angel pie during the visiting time after the afternoon's program.

## Little League registration slated

Little League baseball registration will be held Friday, April 2, at Ron McDonald Chevrolet in Heppner, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., announced Ted Toll, president.

Children who live in the Heppner, Lexington and Lone areas that will be age seven before August 1 but do not reach age 13 by August 1 and did not play for a major team last year may apply, said Toll. The major league will include children between nine and 12 years and the minor team will be made up of children between seven and 10 years old, he added.

A birth certificate or other proof of age should accompany the application, Toll said.



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spends more time studying since his transfer. MSU's rodeo program has also presented a transition, but he feels the transition has been smooth.

"The rodeo program here is more oriented toward rough stock," Currin said. "In Oregon, everyone wanted to be a team roper and here everyone

wants to be a bronc rider. Here they have a lot of good bronc riders and in Oregon you had a lot of good ropers."

"Currin is as dedicated to his rodeo career as he is to gaining an education while attending MSU, and he's succeeding in dividing his time between the two. He is not only determined to win a

college national title, but wants a shot at the college all-around. In the region, he's hoping for titles in all three timed events," said Mileham.

But the goals he has set for his rodeo career have not overshadowed his own academic expectations.

"I want to learn something while I am in school," Currin

said. "Roping will only be temporary and I have to be ready to move on to something else when that is over. This is a good opportunity for an education and I have to be ready for something when I am through roping."

Influenced by his father's interest in roping, Currin participated in high school

rodeos in Oregon. Encouragement by friends resulted in his pursuing the sport. He has spent the past two years on the amateur rodeo circuit and last year participated in 120 rodeos in the Northwest United States and Canada, hitting the majority during the summer months. Although he now has the option to join the PRCA circuit, he plans to remain in

amateur competition at least one more year, stated Mileham.

Currin admitted the amateur circuit is easier than the pro, but he still covered his expenses last year, with money left over. Although he knows he could make money on the rodeo circuit, he maintains that college participation will give him more

experience as well as an education that will help secure his future, Mileham continued.

Currin is uncertain whether he will remain in Montana this summer or return to Oregon to follow the circuit. That decision will be made down the road - after he has his chance at the regional and national titles, she concluded.

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