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The Heppner GAZETTE-TIMES

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper



Weather

by the City of Heppner

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8 PAGES

25

HEPPNER, OREGON

	Hi	Lo	Precip.
Tues., Jan. 11	67	37	
Wed., Jan. 12	67	30	
Thurs., Jan. 13	52	25	
Fri., Jan. 14	45	22	
Sat., Jan. 15	38	29	.01 fog
Sun., Jan. 16	34	32	.08 fog
Mon., Jan. 17	40	29	.01 fog

Jury deliberates 30 min. to convict Irrigon man

An Irrigon man was found guilty on nine felony charges in Morrow County Circuit Court by an 11 man one woman jury last Thursday after 30 minutes of deliberation.

Brian David Katz, 33, also known as Ronald Glen Korthouse, was found guilty on three counts of first degree kidnapping, two counts of first degree rape, two counts of first degree sodomy, one count of sexual penetration with a foreign object and one count of being an ex-convict in possession of a firearm. The charges stem from the September 3 abduction of a 23-year-old Pendleton woman and two of her children, ages four and one.

The courtroom was silent as the woman took the witness stand and related the series of incidents that began when she was forced at gun point to drive Katz from Pendleton to Irrigon. She testified that she and two of her children were waiting the evening of September 3 in their car in the parking lot of Buttrey Food Store, Pendleton, for her husband and other child to return from inside the store when Katz surprised her and forced her to drive him to his Irrigon residence where the assaults took place. She also told the jury that he had hit her and had threatened to shoot her and her children. She said he allowed her to leave at about 5 a.m. the next day.

Katz was arrested that afternoon after a joint investigation by officers from Pendleton, the Umatilla County Sheriff's Department and Oregon State Police.



Brian David Katz shields face while being led from courtroom

Umatilla County Deputy District Attorney Brenda Peterson called 14 witnesses; public defender Wallace Terry of Hermiston did not call any and Katz did not take the stand on his own behalf.

Peterson said all charges except the ex-convict in possession of a fire arm carry a maximum jail sentence of 20 years. The other charge

carries a maximum jail sentence of five years she said.

Katz had previously served time in prison for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, she said.

Peterson said that Judge Richard Courson had ordered a pre-sentence investigation and sentencing would be in about four to six weeks.

Farm Stress Workshop to be held in Heppner February 7

A Farm Stress Workshop will be held Monday, Feb. 7, 7 to 10 p.m., at the Heppner High School cafeteria. The free workshop is being sponsored by the Morrow County Wheat Growers League and is open to the public. Farmers, ranchers and their families are especially encouraged to attend, said Mark Miller, county wheat league president.

Keynote speaker will be Dr. Lee Insko of Eastern Oregon State College at LaGrande. He will discuss general issues of stress, health issues related to stress and stress related to farming. Those who attend will be asked to identify local sources of farm stress and ways of coping with it.

"This is the first farm stress seminar of its kind to be held in Oregon, possibly the entire Northwest. There seems to be a lot of interest within other wheat growing counties in the state. The organizations (other county wheat league organizations) are watching how well this seminar is accepted because most of them are interested in putting on one themselves. We hope that all farmers and ranchers and

their families will be able to attend," Miller said.

Morrow County Mental Health Services will have personnel on hand to help with discussions in identifying stress and ways of coping with it locally, said Dr. Terry Templeman, program director.

City council officials sworn in at Ione

Ione City Council officials were sworn in at a meeting of the council on January 5, reported Dianna Starr, city recorder. Mayor Linda LaRue and councilmembers Bill Rietmann, Wayne Hams and

Harvey Childers began their new terms in office. In other business, the council discussed a new sewage system for the city. No action was taken.

Refreshments will be served.

Parent Day planned at Ione School Jan. 26

Ione Junior-Senior High School will hold a Parent Day on Wednesday, Jan. 26. Students in grades seven through 12 will remain at home while parents attend a mini-schedule of classes in the morning, eat lunch in the cafeteria at noon, and have conferences with teachers in the afternoon,

said a school spokesperson. Elementary students will have regular classes that day.

Individuals who do not have children attending school but would like to attend are welcome, the spokesperson said. For more information, call the school office at 422-7131.

Many to get insurance break

Dam will reduce flood plain, says FEMA

The Willow Creek Dam will substantially reduce construction restrictions and flood insurance requirements in the city of Heppner, a representative of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) said this week.

Speaking to the Heppner-Morrow Chamber of Commerce, Chuck Steele of FEMA said he felt "upset" over reports that the dam would make no difference in Heppner's flood plain.

Steele said newly released maps from the Army Corps of Engineers show that the flood plain in Heppner will shrink both in depth and size, taking some parts of town out of the plain entirely and greatly re-

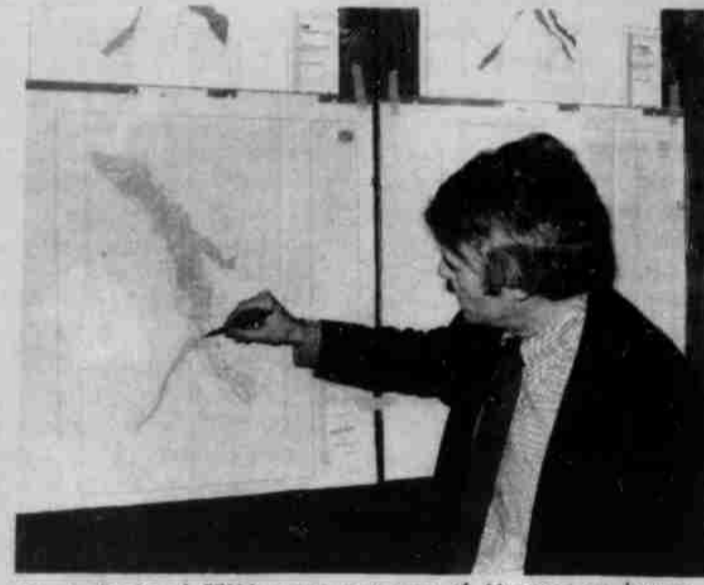
ducing the depth of the plain all over town.

The new flood plain will mean some property owners will no longer be required to carry flood insurance, and some others will see a drop in their rates.

"The trick in this is getting a survey," Steele said. "You have to determine the elevation (of your building) and there's a chance you may not even need insurance."

The survey would require a licensed surveyor or engineer coming in and "shooting" your property to determine its elevation in relation to the new flood plain, he added.

Steele said he and Ron Barratt of the Corps., who also



Chuck Steele of FEMA points out area of Heppner no longer in flood plain.

spoke to the chamber were to meet Tuesday with insurance agents and explain the new flood plain maps. He said local insurance agents would be supplied with forms for property owners who may be eligible for refunds on flood insurance premiums already paid.

He said about 100 structures in Heppner will no longer be in the new flood plain since construction of the dam.

The flood way, or that area where no new construction was previously allowed, has also been drastically reduced, Steele said.

"The flood way now consists mostly of just the (Willow) creek channel," he said.

The flood plain, which previously reached depths of five to six feet in many areas of town, has now been reduced down to an average of under one foot, Steele pointed out. (The flood plain is that area which would be covered by water during a theoretical flood which occurs every 100 years.)

"If you don't think, the dam hasn't done anything, that's not right. This is an impotent flood plain. It's a Mickey Mouse flood plain," he said.

Copies of the new flood plain and flood way maps will be available for inspection by the public at city hall.

Drama Class displays developing talents



'If Men Played Cards As Women Do' photos by Mary Ann Cerullo



'Cynthia'



'The Wonderful Ice-Cream Suit'

By JUSTINE WEATHERFORD

The students in Jane Rawlins' Drama Class at Heppner High School presented an evening of three one-act plays on January 11 and 13. These productions displayed the developing talents of the youthful drama students who acted the parts and managed the staging as an exercise in their educational growth.

The three productions began with a light, short comedy "If Men Played Cards As Women

Do," written by George H. Kaufmann, in which Gregg Orr, Gary Riley, Dan Fortenberry and Steve Curtis were the actors. They had the audience captured with their funny satirization of a ladies bridge (or was it poker?) session—but soon after the delightful mood was set the playlet ended. How short it was!

The setting for this production was arranged by Dave Florea and Carla Miles; Leah Cooper was the stage manager. Missy Turner handled the lights.

During the interlude between this short play and the second production, Heppner music instructor, Don Christensen, on his vibraphone, and his wife, Debbie, on the marimba, delighted listeners with two musical selections.

Next, a "who-done-it" by Marlene Brenner, entitled "Cynthia," puzzled viewers. It featured five talented girl actresses: Leah Cooper, Sandra Wattenburger, Carla Miles, Merry DeSpain and Missy Turner, in a romantic murder built around an absent doctor, his bride-to-be and her best friend, housekeeper, a replacement office nurse and the devoted cousin of the doctor's murdered first wife. The crew for this exciting dramatic offering was stage manager Dan Fortenberry, prompter Greg Orr and the entire drama class was responsible for supervising the set.

Following a 20-minute intermission, the longest effort of the evening "The Wonderful Ice-Cream Suit" by Ray Bradbury involved all the members of the drama class. This play had a little social message: it presented a short time in the lives of six, Los Angeles ghetto-dwelling, Mexican youths, when they found joy and understanding through sharing a single white suit.

The action moved through five scenes: streets in a ghetto, a pool room, a tenement room, Shumway's Suit Shop and the Red Rooster Cafe. The entire class, with assistance from Charlie Rawlins, took responsibility for the set. Carla Miles served as stage manager, Sandra Wattenburger handled the lights, Merry DeSpain managed the sound and Missy Turner was prompter.

The very able players included: Steve Curtis, Dan Fortenberry, Greg Orr, Gary Riley, David Florea, Tom Hannan, Glenn Smith, Ken Curtis, Mardel James, Joanna Bown and walk-through extras Wes Marlatt, Annette Wilgers and Melanie Seitz. Each player did a very fine job.

To me, the big plus of the evening was the learning that

must be taking place by each member of Mrs. Rawlins' Drama Class. Not only have they discussed drama generally, they have also now actually each taken responsibility in producing a good evening of entertainment for their community.

Several participants were involved with more than one of the productions. The printed program reveals that Dan Fortenberry, Greg Orr, Carla Miles and Missy Turner happened to be assigned responsibilities in each of the three plays.

Lexington City Council officials begin terms

Two councilmembers, the city recorder and the mayor were sworn in at a Lexington City Council meeting on January 11. New councilmembers are Shirley McCarl and Cathie Pointer. Ed Baker began a new term as mayor, and Linda Jones another term as recorder.

In other business, the council:

— received a report from Gary Munkers concerning the possible installation of a warn-

ing light at the intersection of Main and C streets. Munkers reported that the State Highway Department felt the light was not necessary.

— learned from the state that the city could paint crosswalks. The project is scheduled for sometime this spring.

— announced that Bill Shearson is the new fire chief and Darryl Bigelow assistant chief. Both volunteered for the positions.

Elks Hoop Shoot to take place Saturday

The Heppner and Ione competition for the 11th annual Elks Hoop shoot, the national free throw shooting contest for youngsters age eight through 13, will be held at Heppner and Ione on Saturday, Jan. 22 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., announced Jim Swanson of Ione, local contest coordinator.

This is Swanson's eighth year to help with the annual hoop shoot. One of the reasons he enjoys working with the participants is because he was once one himself. As a seventh grader, Swanson was a winner in the hoop shoot contest and went to finish fourth in the state competition at Oregon State University in Corvallis. Swanson will oversee the Ione competition, while Dale Holland will be in charge of the event in Heppner.

Almost three million youngsters from throughout

the country entered last year's competition for boys and girls in age categories 8-9; 10-11; and 12-13. Each contestant has 25 shots at the hoop. The boy and girl in each age group with the best scores advance through four tiers of competition to qualify for the national finals at Market Square Arena in Indianapolis.

Local winners will compete against other contestants in the district event at Hermiston in February.

Last year, Lana Reed of Heppner won local, district and state levels in the competition.

Winners advance through four tiers of competition: local, district, state and regional semi-finals — until only 36 boys and 36 girls remain.

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