

HESSIE WETZELL
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Temporary post office

A temporary post office will be set up in building next to Heppner City Hall, says Postmaster Ken Nairns. First class will have priority and Nairns asked that postal customers not all come at once for their mail.

Fire in Heppner

1/2 city block destroyed

See pages 4 & 5

The Heppner GAZETTE-TIMES

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper



Weather

by the City of Heppner

	High	Low	Precip
Tues., April 26	57	35	.14
Wed., April 27	64	41	Trace
Thurs., April 28	60	43	.25
Fri., April 29	64	39	Trace
Sat., April 30	70	48	.08
Sun., May 1	64	43	Trace
Mon., May 2	60	40	

Total precip. for April was 1.29.
Normal is 1.90.

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10 PAGES

25¢

HEPPNER, OREGON

Local students to attend summer program at U of O



Mark Fishburn (L), Shannon McLaughlin, Ron Sporseen and Ryan Duncan.



Christopher Rea



Jack Estberg (L) and Loran Hayes



Deenna Carey (L), J.J. Shaw and Sandi Turner

Ten local students have been chosen to attend a summer enrichment program for talented and gifted students at the University of Oregon, announced Linda Shaw, spokesperson for the local Talented and Gifted Program.

In order to qualify for the program, students must demonstrate two or more of the following: achievement at least two grades higher than present level, measured intelligence above average, unusual creative or productive thinking ability, a special talent, proven leadership ability, or exceptional ability in the visual or performing arts. Shaw explained.

Students finishing grades six through nine were eligible to apply.

The program will last two weeks, with three sessions being held.

Seven students from Heppner Elementary will attend. The sixth graders are: Deenna Carey, daughter of Doug and Sharon Carey; J.J. Shaw, son of John and Linda Shaw; and Sandi Turner, daughter of Ken and Jean Ann Turner. Seventh graders who were chosen are: Ryan Duncan, son of Bob and Suzanne Duncan; Mark Fishburn, son of Earl and Peggy Fishburn; Shannon McLaughlin, daughter of Bob and Bette McLaughlin; and Ron Sporseen, son of John and Rita Sporseen.

Two students from Heppner High School will attend: Jack Estberg, son of Steve and Dorothy Estberg; and Loran

Hayes, son of James and Barbara Hayes.

Ione eighth grader Christopher Rea will also be attending the program. He is the son of Keith and Judy Rea.

Heppner students Mark Fishburn, Ron Sporseen and Kathleen Brazell were chosen for the program last year. They chose classes from areas such as linguistics, foreign languages, story and poetry writing, chemistry, architectural design, calculus, anthropology, politics, building hot air balloons, computer programming, lasers, dance and geology.

"The program is designed to allow students to explore areas of both past and possible future interest," Shaw said.

School Board reverses decision restores Ione teaching positions

The Morrow County School Board reversed itself Monday night, and voted to restore two teaching positions cut earlier from Ione schools. The cuts had caused strong protests from the Ione community during the past month.

Because voters turned down a county school budget March 28, the budget committee cut \$111,509 from the budget. Included in the cuts were two teaching positions in Ione, one from the high school and one from the grade school. The budget committee cited reduced enrollment in the two schools as the reason.

Ione reacted strongly to the staff reductions, and turned out in force at an April 19 meeting of the board to protest.

A special meeting was held Monday night to discuss the cuts and the budget with the Ione community.

Using an overhead projector, community representative Marvin Padberg explained to the board the concerns of Ione and recommended actions by the board.

He said the board should restore the teachers in order to maintain the quality of education in Ione, and to keep strong support of the schools Ione has shown in the past.

"We don't feel we're dying out now," said Padberg. "It's just that we have a drop for a couple of years. It will be low next year, and then it will start to build up."

"We may have been a smug farm community down here in the past and shut out the Lexington people that wanted to come down here. We are going to try and correct this in the future. We are going to go out and soft-sell staying in school in Ione," he added.

"We shouldn't be cutting here because we aren't convinced the other schools are screwed down tight, and we don't feel it's our turn to cut into flesh," Don Bristow told the board.

A motion to restore both teaching positions to the schools was raised first; however, no boardmember would second it, so the motion died. Next a motion to restore just the high school position was made. The motion was passed by the board, however, this was unsatisfactory to Ione representatives.

"If you make that decision to keep one staff member you will not get many votes for the budget from this community," Padberg told the board.

"I have to answer to classrooms that are full: It seems

to me we are compromising and you can compromise some," said boardmember Bob Byrd.

"Unless I miss my estimate this town is waiting for a decision so we know how to vote on the budget," said Bristow.

(The district will put the school budget up for a second vote on May 17).

"Maybe we won't be strong enough to put it down, but we won't vote in favor," he added.

A motion was then made to restore the teacher to the grade school also and the board voted in favor, three to two.

The Ione community was concerned that loss of the teacher at the high school not only would lower the quality of education, but would leave an all male staff there, with no one to counsel girl students. Likewise elimination of the sixth grade teacher in the grade school would leave an all-female staff there.

Other concerns voiced by the Ione community included: — budget cuts were not spread evenly across the district.

— board should coordinate staff cuts with the advisory board in the future.

Polish family should arrive in Heppner soon

Word has been received that the Lutheran sponsored Andrez Dobosynzsky family from Poland is expected to arrive in Heppner soon, possibly by May 11.

The family is being sponsored by the congregations of Hope and Valby Lutheran churches, and pastor John Maas is urgently looking for anyone in the area who can speak Polish. Anyone with information is asked to contact him at 676-9940 or 676-5069, or Jane Rawlins, 676-9435.

Local resident donates use of helicopter

By MARY ANN CERULLO

The Morrow County Sheriff's Department has just re-

ceived the use of a three-person helicopter for search and rescue, surveillance and any emergency that arises, at a minimum cost to the county, announced Roy Drago, Morrow County sheriff.

The minimum cost will be approximately four or five dollars per hour for fuel, he explained.

A Morrow County resident who asked to remain anonymous offered the helicopter as a private donation after the need arose during an April 24 incident involving the search for a sheriff's deputy.

"The chopper will be a tremendous asset to the county for all sorts of things, like looking for a lost hunter," said Drago.

Co-op applies for \$1.8 million in loans

The Columbia Basin Electric Co-op Board of Directors signed documents to apply for two loans last Thursday, one from the Rural Electrification Administration and the other from the National Rural Utility Cooperative Finance Corp., even though the funds won't be made available for some time. Co-op Manager Fred Toombs said the money, \$1,248,000 from R.E.A. and \$563,000 from the second lending agency, will be used for needed replacements within the system and general construction. However, the co-op will not receive the funds until the co-op's liability in two abandoned Washington Public Power Supply System nuclear plants is determined.

In a related matter, the board heard from co-op attorney Herman Winters, Heppner, and Toombs said a suit that the co-op is involved in, which claims that Columbia Basin and 88 other northwest utilities are not liable for the WPPSS debt, was discussed at length.

In other news, Toombs reported that the board:

— tentatively agreed to sign a contract with the Bonneville Power Administration to purchase nonfirm energy for the co-op's irrigation customers. Toombs explained that the regulations to be eligible for the power are very stiff. The co-op should know if it qualifies by May 16, he said, however the board anticipates little if any benefit from the program.

— agreed to meet a request from the Oregon Department of Energy for Commercial

Absentee ballots available

Absentee ballots are now available from the Morrow County clerk's office at the courthouse in Heppner for the May 17 election, announced County Clerk Barbara Bloodsworth.

The ballots may be either picked up at the courthouse or requested by letter from: Morrow County Clerk, P.O. Box 338, Heppner, Oregon 97836.

Kennedy big winner in FFA Shop Skills Contest



HHS junior Sid Kennedy with the arc welder he won for taking first place in the master mechanic contest at an FFA Shop Skills Contest held last Thursday at Milton-Freewater.

Heppner High School junior Sid Kennedy was a big winner in an FFA Shop Skills Contest held last Thursday at Milton-Freewater. He took first place in the master mechanic contest and received an arc welder for his efforts.

As a group, Heppner placed second behind Pendleton, with Milton-Freewater taking third.

Other HHS students who placed were: Craig Miles - first in advanced electricity,

audit program is available from B.P.A. the co-op will adapt its program to B.P.A.'s guidelines or will instead use the B.P.A. program, which should be available in several months, Toombs said.

Kennedy big winner in FFA Shop Skills Contest

Steve Curran - first in beginning wood working, John Ferrell - second in beginning oxy-acetylene welding, John Moyer - third in oxy-acetylene cutting, Mike Bergstrom - second in beginning electricity, Rod Cole - fourth in advanced oxy-acetylene welding and Marty Britt - fifth in advanced arc welding.

Others participating from Heppner were Damon Wilson, Mark Way and Greg Orr.

BMCC to offer agricultural computer workshop

A special computer workshop geared toward using the micro-computer in agriculture will be offered by Blue Mountain Community College in Heppner, according to Nancy Brownfield, south Morrow County area coordinator for the college. The two-session class will be held on succeeding Saturdays, May 14 and 21.

Participants will meet from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Heppner High School.

Persons interested in finding out how to use the computer for making agriculture management decisions are asked to call Brownfield at 676-5039 and pre-register. Cost of the workshop is \$15.

McEwen named Heppner swim team coach

Scott McEwen of Heppner has been selected as this season's Heppner swim team coach.

The 21-year-old worked as a lifeguard at the Heppner pool for two years and was pool manager for one summer.

Last year he was employed as head lifeguard at Kahneeta.

A 1979 graduate of Heppner High School, McEwen will receive a liberal arts degree from Oregon State University in June.