

The Heppner GAZETTE-TIMES

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper



Weather
by the City of Heppner

	High	Low	Precip
Tues., July 5	86	52	
Wed., July 6	78	45	
Thurs., July 7	67	46	Trace
Fri., July 8	70	42	.05
Sat., July 9	72	48	
Sun., July 10	82	53	
Mon., July 11	94	57	

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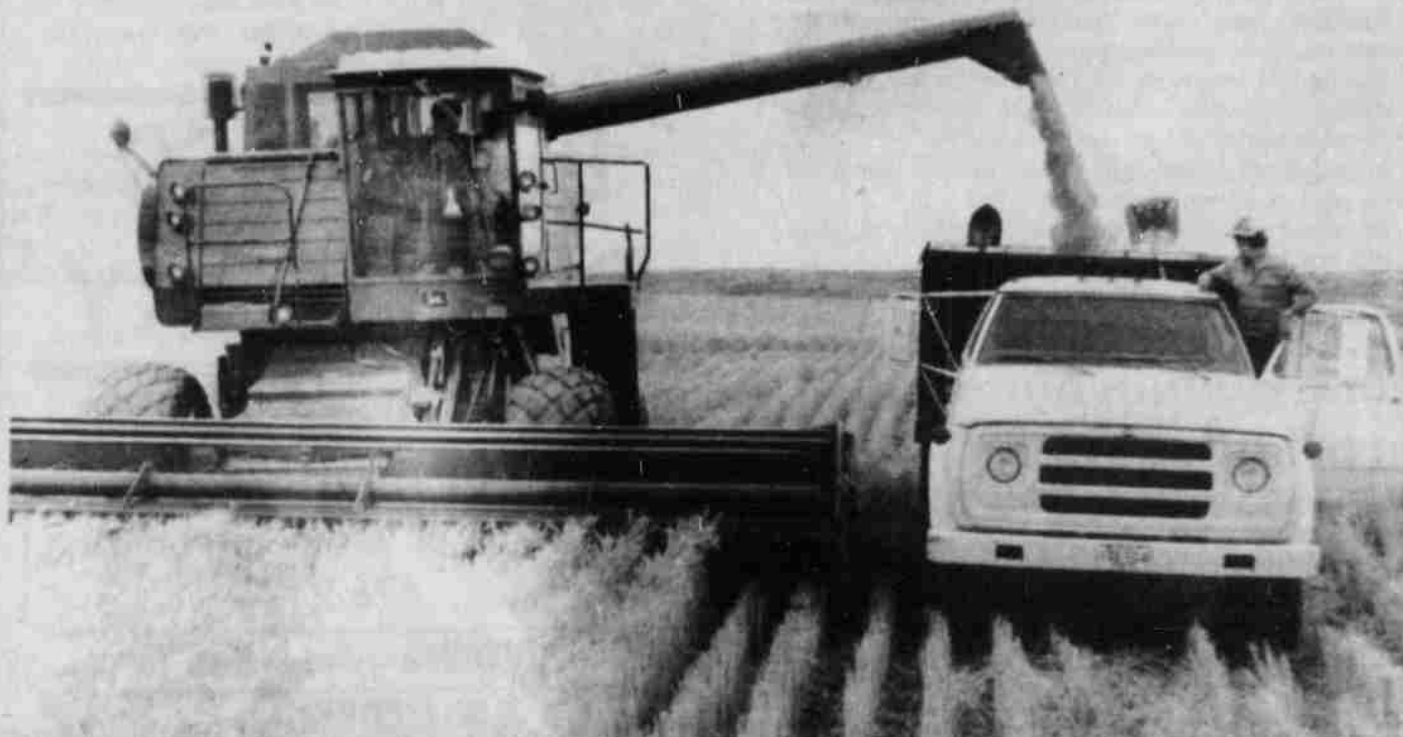
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HEPPNER, OREGON

The crop looks good

Wheat harvest gets underway in Morrow Co.



George and Nancy Miller began wheat harvesting early this week on their place north of Ione. George estimates his yield at around 45 bushels per acre.

Pictured above are Cameron Miller driving the combine, Justine Miller riding and Denny Starr driving the wheat truck.

Several Morrow County farmers began wheat harvest early this week, and although it's too early for precise figures, it looks as though the county will experience a good crop this year.

Morrow County Extension Agent Bob Costa said the hot weather over Memorial Day weekend may have pinched the heads on some stands, but overall he said it looks pretty

good.

"I feel the yield is going to be better than last year but not as good as the record yields of 1981," he stated.

Morrow County Grain Growers general manager Larry Mills says the crop does look good this year, and added that barley harvest has exceeded his expectations.

Mills said some farmers

were cutting one to one-and-a-half tons per acre in some areas. "That's pretty darn good, it's better than I thought would happen," said Mills.

He said the hot Memorial Day weather also "took its toll" on some barley stands.

Mills said even though the co-op's grain storage facilities are 60 percent full from last year going into the 1983 harvest, he anticipated no prob-

lems with storage of this year's crop.

"We have grain on the ground at the river, but North Lex is empty." He said he expected to store grain on the ground there also.

If the weather continues to be warm and sunny, more farmers are expected to begin harvesting by the end of this week.

Boardman man sworn in by Atiyeh to L.C.D.C.

Governor Victor Atiyeh swore in two of his three most recent appointments to the Land Conservation and Development Commission (L.C.D.C.) last Friday in a brief ceremony in the governor's office.

The three new commissioners are Stafford Hansell of Boardman; Clyde A. Hamstreet, Newport; and Tom J. Walsh of Portland, who was unable to attend the ceremony. Hansell's and Hamstreet's appointments will run through June 1987; Walsh's, through June 1985. Hamstreet's appointment was confirmed by the Senate earlier this spring, and they were certified to serve at L.C.D.C.'s April and June meetings, but had not been formally sworn in by the governor.

In commenting on the appointments, the governor stated, "Oregon's Land Use Program will be well served by the experience, dedication and intelligence which these three outstanding citizens will bring to what is probably the most difficult and thankless assignment in state government."

"I am pleased that their tenure on L.C.D.C. will coincide with the land use reforms of House Bill 2295 which the Senate will soon be acting on. My office, many interest groups and citizens and the Legislature have worked hard

to streamline the process L.C.D.C. uses to acknowledge locally adopted coordinated comprehensive plans and to eliminate many of the potentials for delay which critics claim characterize the pro-

gram." "With the combination of new commissioners and the virtual certainty of major reforms in the enabling legislation, I am confident that

L.C.D.C. can complete the acknowledgement process quickly and with greater sensitivity to the interests of the participants who are affected by the process."

Car rolls near Lexington



A dozing driver whose vehicle was traveling in the wrong lane was the reported cause of an accident at 7:50 Tuesday morning near Lexington.

Helen Proudfoot, 57, of Ione was driving along Highway 74 when she encountered the roaming vehicle and swerved to avoid a collision and rolled her 1978 Lincoln sedan.

Driver of the other vehicle was Bryce E. Logan, Jr., 26, of Condon.

A passenger in the Proudfoot vehicle, Scott Buschke, 14, of Heppner, was taken to Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner where he was treated for minor injuries and released. No other injuries were reported.

Logan was cited for alleged Careless Driving

Abuse of 911 causing problems

"Hello, 911 Emergency. Is this an emergency?"

This may sound like a strange or even rude question to a person on the other end of a telephone line requesting an ambulance or the fire department, but due to exceeding misuse of the emergency number, dispatchers at the county sheriff's office will be answering incoming calls on the 911 line in that manner.

Recent complaints by citizens who report calling the number and then being put on hold, or "hassled" by dispatchers prompted an investigation of the number, the people who handle the calls, and the reasons for using the number.

County Sheriff's Sergeant Greg Tullius and dispatcher Barbara Jones estimate the number of true emergency calls coming in on the 911 number at between 60 and 100 per month. However, they report that approximately 75 percent of the incoming calls on the 911 number are not emergencies. Tullius cited calling about road closures, asking where the fire is, and kids making prank calls on the number as examples of recent misuse. He also added that most of the legitimate emergency calls have come from the north end of the county, while most non-emergency calls have been coming from the south end.

As for being put on hold before even stating the nature of the call, Jones says when a dispatcher is taking a report on the 911 line, and someone else dials the number, she must put one of the callers on hold.

Sheriff Roy Drago even admits calling the number to report an emergency and being put on hold. He also admits getting very upset until he found out that a burglary was being reported on the other incoming line.

Another problem arises when more than one person sees a fire or accident and calls in at the same time to report it. The dispatcher must obtain enough information from both callers to determine if both callers are reporting the same accident, or happenings that occurred almost simultaneously, which has happened, Jones recalls.

Non-emergency calls that do come in from the Boardman area (Irrigon emergency calls are handled by Umatilla County) include Boardman law enforcement personnel who call on the 911 line so as not to charge a long-distance call to the county, or citizens who call the sheriff's office for other reasons. Drago said he feels that someone in the Boardman area should not have to pay for a long distance phone call to talk to their county sheriff. Also, no collect phone calls are allowed to be accepted by the sheriff's office, he explained. The sheriff said the county is considering obtaining a line that would enable callers from that area to place calls to the sheriff's office at no charge, thus leaving the 911 line open more of the time.

Why do people call 911 when the reason for the call is not an emergency?

"It's easier for people to dial three numbers than to dial seven," Tullius said. It's also easier to remember just three numbers.

The sheriff's office advises that if a person or property is in danger, a crime is being committed or an accident is witnessed, call 911. For all other information, call the sheriff's office business number, 676-9910, or 676-9006.

When reporting an emergency, Jones advises that the callers stay as calm as possible. Many times, she says, the caller will only say, "Send an

ambulance," and then hang up.

"It seems like an awful long time when you're sitting here waiting for that second call to come in," Tullius says.

Jones said the dispatcher needs to know the type of emergency, the address, the name of the person calling, and a number to call the caller back at. Jones stressed that callers give the address of the emergency, at least the name of the road. She says, for example, if the person reporting the emergency describes

the location as "Out at the old Smith ranch," it is often hard for the responding agency to find it, and it takes a lot more time if that agency is not familiar with "the old Smith ranch."

If you need to contact the sheriff's department, call 911 if it is an emergency, otherwise, look up the sheriff's office business number and use it instead. It could save someone, even you sometime, from getting a busy signal when help is needed and needed quickly.

County considers purchase of polygraph machine

By MARY ANN CERULLO

Morrow County may become the first county in Eastern Oregon to have a polygraph, should the purchase discussed by Morrow County Court last Wednesday go through.

Concern over finding the needed funds for the lie detector was shared by Morrow County Sheriff Roy Drago and Detective Sergeant Verlin Denton, who is a certified polygrapher, told the court he had access to a new lie detector directly from the manufacturer for \$4,125.

It was proposed by Judge Don McElligott that money be taken from capital outlay under the sheriff department's vehicle allowance for 1983-84. Instead of buying a new vehicle after two years of use, the sheriff's department would rebuild to extend the car's life another two years. Drago estimated this would save the county approxi-

mately \$5,000 per vehicle, making the purchase of the lie detector possible.

According to Denton, the polygraph would be good for over 10 years.

The court agreed unofficially to the purchase of the polygraph and to work out a

contract with Denton.

"We're blazing a new trail in Eastern Oregon with this," said McElligott. "There isn't another county in Eastern Oregon that has a lie detector. Usually it's the state police's responsibility."

Soroptimists set up fund for E.V. Blevins

Soroptimist International of Heppner has opened a savings account for E.V. Blevins at Western Heritage Federal Savings and Loan Assoc. in Heppner, announced Gail Burkenbine, club spokesperson. The account was opened with a check for \$270, which was raised during various activities held throughout the year.

Mrs. Blevins, daughter of Ed and Eleanor Gonty of Heppner, had one leg amputated earlier this year as a result of diabetes, a disease

she has had since childhood. Her husband, Terry, died of cancer last November. She has two college-age daughters, and lives in Ukiah.

The club is planning to raffle off an afghan in the fall, and also hopes to have another fund raising activity to benefit the Blevins fund.

Burkenbine says the Soroptimist Club invites other organizations and individuals to make donations to this account, which will be turned over to Mrs. Blevins at the end of the year.

Heppner Swim Team wins sportsmanship trophy



Heppner Swim Team members and coach with the sportsmanship trophy they brought home from a Prineville swim meet that was held July 2 and 3.

Outstanding swimmer for the meet was Eric Connor of Heppner. He took medals in the butterfly, breast stroke and free style.

Coach Scott McEwen reports that new member Robin McRoberts has shown much improvement and says he is pleased overall with the team's performance.

The next competition for the Heppner swimmers will be at a John Day Invitational on Saturday, July 16.