

The Heppner GAZETTE-TIMES

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper



Weather

by the City of Heppner

	High	Low	Precip.
Tues., Sept. 27	61	30	
Wed., Sept. 28	58	29	
Thurs., Sept. 29	58	30	
Fri., Sept. 30	63	43	
Sat., Oct. 1	67	46	
Sun., Oct. 2	66	46	
Mon., Oct. 3	74	45	

Total precipitation for September was .50.
Normal for the month is .76.

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10 PAGES

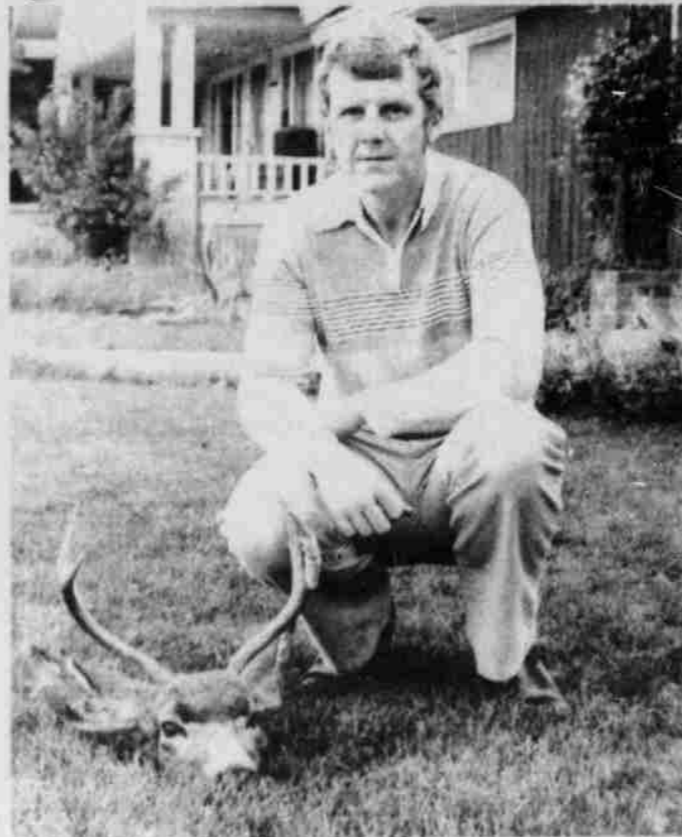
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HEPPNER, OREGON

Some local hunters bag bucks 1st weekend



Bill Myers of Heppner got lucky opening morning when he spotted this four-point buck on Wilson Creek. He bagged the deer about noon. It weighed 125 lbs. dressed out.



Don Shelton, also of Heppner, got this three-point on Rhea Creek on Saturday also. The deer was taken at about 11:30 a.m.

HHS student killed in weekend accident

A 17-year-old Heppner High School student was killed in an early morning accident Saturday on Balm Fork Road, south east of Heppner. According to the Morrow County Sheriff's Department, the driver of the vehicle apparently failed to negotiate a curve and the vehicle rolled.

Kent Klukkert of Lexington was pronounced dead at the scene.

The names of the driver and other passengers, all juveniles, were not released by the sheriff's office pending an investigation of the accident. It was reported, however, that the driver and one passenger were treated and later released at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.

Juvenile Services Comm. appoints new chairman



Tom Jones

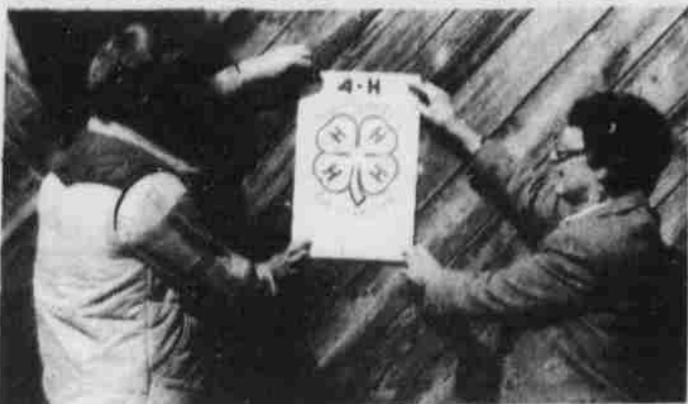
The Morrow County Juvenile Services Commission has recently appointed Tom Jones as new commission chairman. He has been an active member of the Juvenile Services Commission during the last year. Jones has a strong inter-

est in the youth of the community and feels that the programs sponsored by the J.S.C. are very helpful in deterring juvenile delinquency and providing positive experiences for the area's young people, said the commission.

Tom is employed as assistant fire management officer at the U.S. Forest Service office in Heppner. He and his wife, Barb, live in Lexington.

One of Jones' primary objectives will be the recruitment of commission members. Members serve on a volunteer basis and assist in deciding the direction that J.S.C. programs will take. Anyone interested in serving on the commission can contact County Judge Don McElligott, or call Jones at 989-8428.

It's National 4-H Week



Morrow County Extension Agent Steve Campbell and Program Assistant Birdine Tullis put up a poster commemorating National 4-H Week, October 2 through 8.

Everyone interested in learning more about 4-H is invited to attend a 4-H Recognition and Get Acquainted Night at the fairgrounds in Heppner Monday, Oct. 10, at 6:30 p.m. Dinner will be potluck. 4-H Council members will be on hand to take enrollments, as well as to discuss programs.

Consumers' increase not yet known

B.P.A. announces 22 percent increase in wholesale power rates

Bonneville Power Administration announced Friday that it will raise wholesale priority firm power rates 22 percent on November 1, but the exact amount of the increase to be passed on to members of Columbia Basin Electric Co-op members is not yet known. However, co-op Manager Fred Toombs said Monday that the increase to consumers "will be no where near that much (22 percent)." The co-op's board of directors was expecting the increase, but until Friday the actual percentage was not known. The board has set a special meeting date of October 12 to determine the increased rate for consumers.

B.P.A. has stated that the new rate for priority firm power will remain in effect

until July 1, 1985.

"Priority firm" power is sold to publicly owned utilities, and also to investor-owned utilities exclusively for their residential and small farm customers. The effect of this wholesale rate increase on retail rates will vary from utility to utility, depending on their other costs.

"Substantial cuts in programs and adjustments of cost allocations enabled us to hold down the increase," said B.P.A. Administrator Peter T. Johnson. "Many of the changes that were made resulted from the testimony of parties in rate hearings."

The "modern era" of wholesale power rate increases associated with inflation and construction of large generating facilities began in 1980. This is the lowest of the annual rate increases that have occurred since that year, Johnson said.

"As demand for power and costs associated with thermal plants stabilize, the trend has been for rate increases to subside," Johnson said. "Our projections are that rates here

in the Pacific Northwest will remain well below the national average for the foreseeable future."

The price of priority firm power will go from 1.8 cents per kilowatt-hour to 2.2 cents per kilowatt-hour. This will lift the average retail rate in the Pacific Northwest from four cents per kilowatt-hour to 4.4 cents per kilowatt-hour, compared to a national average of more than eight cents, he explained.

The rate charged by B.P.A. to the Northwest's direct-service industries — primarily aluminum companies — will go up nine percent. For an industry that continues to operate close to the level that B.P.A. anticipates, the rate increase will be from a current level of 2.45 cents per kilowatt-hour to 2.68 cents per kilowatt-hour. For a plant whose operations fall short of the anticipated level, the rate will be somewhat higher.

The surplus firm power rate has remained close to its current level of 3.1 cents per kilowatt-hour. This should enhance B.P.A.'s effort to

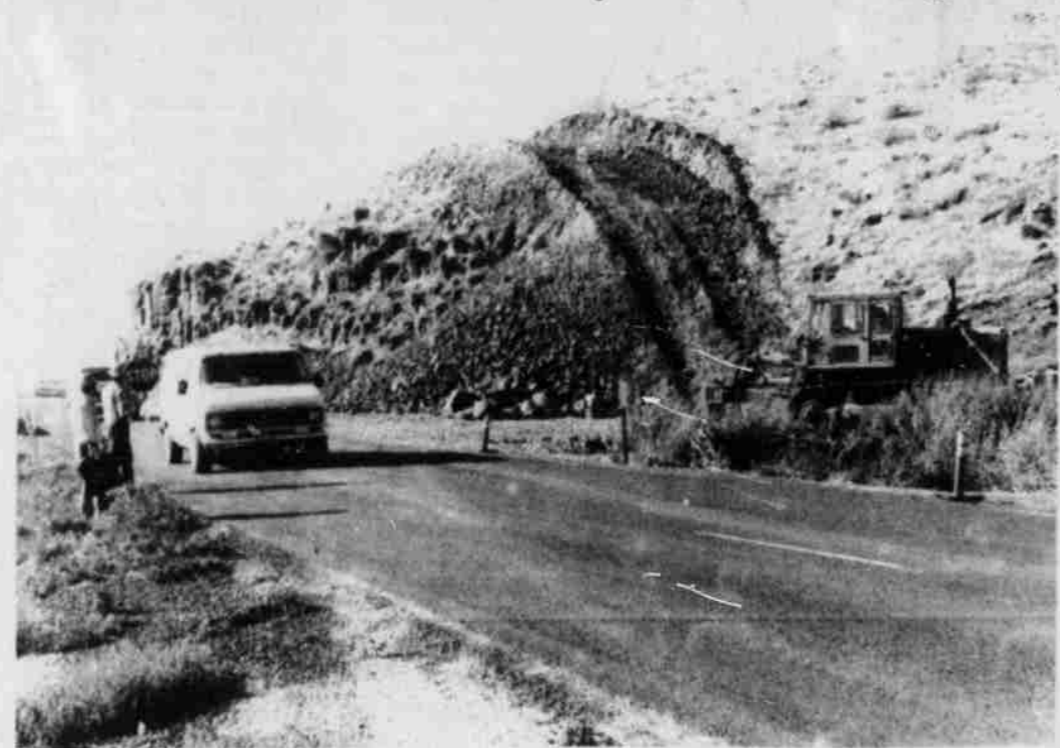
market its surplus power outside the region.

At the same time, B.P.A. has raised components of its nonfirm rate. The spill rate went from 0.9 cents per kilowatt-hour to 1.1 cents. The standard rate went from 1.82 cents to 1.85 cents per kilowatt-hour. This should bring about greater overall revenue from short-term sales of energy in good water conditions, Johnson said.

B.P.A. will require a total of \$5 billion during the 20-month period from November 1, 1983 to June 30, 1985. For purposes of comparison, the total revenue requirement for fiscal year 1983 was \$2.2 billion. For the 12-month period beginning July 1, 1984, B.P.A. needs \$3 billion.

The need for more revenue is tied to increased costs associated with power plants, conservation and federal transmission facilities. About one-fifth of the 1983 increase in the priority firm rate is due to costs of Washington Public Power Supply System projects 1, 2 and 3, Johnson concluded.

Construction underway on local highway



Highway construction workers are reconstructing and widening seven miles of the Lone-Lexington section of the Heppner Highway beginning just east of Lone. Contractor on the project is Morris Brothers of Lebanon.

The Oregon Transportation

Commission estimated the cost of the project between \$1 million and \$2.5 million. Morrow County Judge Don McElligott said Morris Brothers' bid was below the estimated cost.

The judge said at present the contractor is working to

clear space for gravel storage and a crusher, and is working on two dangerous corners in that section of the road.

The completion time of the project is 330 calendar workdays, and is to be complete in July, 1984, the judge said.

Congressman's 'circuit rider' gives update



Mike Hanna

Mike Hanna, "circuit rider" for Congressman Bob Smith, arrived in Heppner Monday for a 1 p.m. public meeting with local citizens. However, only two reporters were present.

Hanna gave an update on the congressman's activities during the first half of the latest congressional session. Smith sponsored three bills and co-sponsored over 50 bills, which included a tax credit for veterans and the repeal of the eight percent tip tax.

The bills Smith himself sponsored are HR 358 for a Columbia River Gorge Commission to ensure protection, conservation, enhancement and management of the gorge's resources; HJR 127, an amendment to the constitution to restrict pay increases for the house and senate without voter approval; and HR 435, to rebuild the lock system at Bonneville Dam.

Hanna said the congressman was disappointed that he wasn't appointed to the Agricultural Committee, but he is working on the Public Works

and Transportation Committee and was appointed chairman of a Special Task Force on Agriculture, a house committee.

Hanna said one of Smith's main concerns is "trying to pull Oregon's delegation together."

When asked about Smith's view of the U.S. military involvement in Lebanon, Hanna reported that Smith did vote in favor of U.S. Marines remaining in Lebanon for another 18 months.

The circuit rider also explained a service that Smith's Oregon office offers to citizens in the Second Congressional District that is not widely known. People having problems with government agencies such as the Internal Revenue Service and Social Security may contact his office for help to resolve the problem, Hanna said. To contact Smith's Oregon office toll free, call 1-800-533-3303.

Toxic weed mistaken for gum

A very toxic weed found along creek beds in the local area has been mistakenly identified by some local school-aged children as "Indian Chewing Gum," and has caused at least two local children to require medical attention.

The weed, Poison Hemlock (*Conium maculatum*), grows five to 10 feet tall and has tiny white lacy flowers. Infestations of the plant are found throughout the state and if it is ingested, it may be fatal. According to a Weed Identification Guide, published by the Morrow Co. Soil and Water Conservation District, the leaves of the plant have a mouse-like odor.

Early symptoms following ingestion include nervousness, trembling, ataxia, or unsteadiness of the lower limbs, and dilated pupils, followed by a coldness of the extremities, vomiting and diarrhea. Less obvious symptoms are a weakened heart rate and respiratory paralysis, which can lead to death, reports Lee Wanke, pharmacist and associate director of the Oregon Poison Center in Portland.

He explained that the pitch from the Hemlock tree, which is not related to the weed and is not considered poisonous, is sometimes chewed; a possible explanation for the mistaken origin of the chewing gum.

Most of the plants in this area are dry now, but a few are still in the green stage. Wanke says the plant is toxic in all stages, and could possibly be more deadly dried than when green since the plant's moisture content has evaporated which could cause its toxicity to be more potent. He also stated that the seeds of the weed are the most dangerous.

Fatalities from ingesting the plant have been reported in Oregon, the most recent were two years ago in Central Oregon, he said.

If there is any reason to believe that someone has ingested Poison Hemlock or any other toxic substance, contact the Oregon Poison Center immediately, toll free, 1-800-452-7165. Wanke said the caller will be asked what substance was ingested, the quantity ingested, the age and other information on the patient, and will be asked for a phone number where the center can reach the caller to check back on the patient. Wanke says in such instances the Poison Center should be contacted before taking the

patient to a doctor or emergency room because many times treatment can be recommended and administered in the home or before transporting the patient. If the center feels the patient requires a medical examination, the center will contact a doctor or emergency room, let them know a patient will be arriving and why, and may recommend a treatment procedure.

Morrow County Extension Agent Steve Campbell reports that the Morrow County Weed Control District is in the process of outlining a budget, and says that Hemlock is included on a list for a program of education and eradication.



Extension Agent Steve Campbell shows Poison Hemlock growing along Willow Creek.