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THURSDAY, March 1, 1984

25°

Heppner, Oregon



Weather
by the City of Heppner

	High	Low	Precip
Tues., Feb. 21	45	31	
Wed., Feb. 22	46	35	.01
Thurs., Feb. 23	47	38	.03
Fri., Feb. 24	52	36	.10
Sat., Feb. 25	45	26	
Sun., Feb. 26	49	30	
Mon., Feb. 27	52	35	

Nearly \$1,500 raised for Lexington woman in benefit pool tourney



Pool tournament finalists Matt Hughes (left), Bud Englert, Josie Kindsfather, Chuck Marquardt, Bryce Powell and Rick Smith pose with Debbie Sharp (center). Not pictured: Jasbo Gibbs and Mike Doherty.

About \$1,500 was raised for Debbie Sharp of Lexington during a Calcutta pool tournament in Heppner last Saturday. Sharp, 27, was seriously injured in a December 13 accident and has been receiving medical treatment at St. Mary Medical Center in Walla Walla since then. The tournament was sponsored by the Heppner Elks Lodge, Bucknum's Tavern, the Blackhorse

Tavern and the Wagon Wheel. Fifty-two players were auctioned off into 26 teams. Each of the sponsors provided the use of a table, and many people donated food for the event.

The team of Bud Englert and Bryce Powell came in first. Chuck Marquardt and Josie Kindsfather placed second, Jasbo Gibbs and Rick Smith took third and Mike

Doherty and Matt Hughes won fourth place. Winnings of \$150 for first place, \$100 for second and \$50 for third were to be divided between the two winners in each team. The prize money came from \$5 entry fees that each participant in the tournament paid. A dinner was held that evening at the Elks Lodge. Debbie attended the dinner

and posed with the tournament winners for a photo. She has returned to Walla Walla but will be able to come home on weekends.

Anyone wanting to make a donation to help pay medical costs that her insurance doesn't cover may contribute to the Debbie Sharp Trust Fund at the Bank of Eastern Oregon in Heppner.

Tour of Kinzua sawmill scheduled for Mar. 6

The Morrow County Private Woodlands Association in cooperation with Kinzua Corporation will sponsor a tour of the Kinzua sawmill in Heppner on March 6, announced Maurice Mitchell, extension area forester. All interested individuals are asked to assemble at the company office at 1:30 p.m. for a short briefing prior to the tour.

This is an opportunity to observe the mill in operation and to become familiar with recent innovations in the sawmill industry. Also, the cogenerating plant under construction will provide many points of interest, Mitchell said.

For safety purposes, those attending the tour should bring a hard hat. For those not having one, a limited number will be made available.

Farm programs signup period extended

Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block has extended the sign-up period for 1984 cotton, feed grain, rice and wheat programs by three weeks, through March 16, announced the Morrow Co. Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service office.

Block also said he has changed summer fallow rules so that the requirements would be the same as they were in 1983 and previous programs. Prior to this action, acreage designated for the 1984 programs could not have been land intended for summer fallow in the current year. Other provisions of the 1984 programs will remain unchanged, he said.

Block said he took these actions to clear away some of the obstacles which made it difficult for farmers to make sound decisions about the

programs. Also, many farmers have not been able to finalize crop operating plans including financing and lease arrangements. Since producers must sign a binding contract in the 1984 acreage reduction programs, with liquidated damages for failure to comply, they are reluctant to sign up until their operating plans are more complete, he said.

"Both U.S.D.A. and private sector analysts say that when most farmers compare these programs with their own operating plans, they will find participation is to their advantage," Block said.

Block encouraged farmers to avoid a last-minute rush to U.S.D.A.'s Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Services county offices so that they can better serve each farmer.

County residents file for school board, advisory comm. positions

Seven county residents have filed a declaration of candidacy for three vacant positions on the Morrow County School Board. Ten people are seeking election to seven advisory committee positions.

Vying for director of zone V, a four-year term are Robert Mahoney and Frank Pearson, both of Heppner.

Bryan Timms of Irrigon and Dwayne Carroll, Rural Rt. 1, Hermiston are running for director of zone II, a four-year term.

Running for director of zone IV, also a four-year term, are Pauline Winter of Heppner, William James Doherty of Lexington and Jack Stregle of Boardman.

Dean Robinson and Helen

Riehl, both of Heppner, are running for position no. one on the Heppner-Lexington Advisory Committee, a three-year term.

George Koffler of Heppner has filed for position no. two, a three-year term, on the Heppner-Lexington Advisory Committee. Koffler is running unopposed.

Position no. seven on the Heppner-Lexington Advisory Committee is being sought by Jean Brazell of Lexington. It is also a three-year term. She runs unopposed.

Julie Nelson of Lexington is running for position no. four on the Lone Advisory Commit-

C.B.E.C. board holds meeting

The Columbia Basin Electric Co-op Board tentatively approved a non-firm power rate for irrigators at a meeting last Thursday, reports C.B.E.C. Manager Fred Toombs. Bonneville Power Administration has offered to cut irrigation rates in March and April to help economically distressed farmers. The board will submit their proposed rate for B.P.A.'s approval, Toombs said.

In other business Toombs said the board:

— discussed upcoming law suits stemming from the co-op's involvement in W.P.P.S.S. The board learned that the co-op's insurance carrier, St. Paul Fire and Marine, will cover defense costs. Toombs expects it will be a year before the case goes to court.

— discussed hiring an audi-

Proposed school budget up 5 percent

The Morrow County School District's proposed budget for next year will be up five percent, reports School District Superintendent Matt Doherty.

The budget will increase by \$306,546 for a total of \$7,697,678.

Doherty says the main reason for the increase is primarily more money for salaries. Summer maintenance help has been increased, teachers received a .08 percent cost of living increase, and administrators a .07 percent. One additional teacher has been added at Columbia Junior High, and some employees have received salary incre-

ments for next year.

Employee benefits have also been increased to take care of anticipated higher costs there, said Doherty.

Purchased services (such as water, sewer, etc.) have been increased slightly; however, electricity is not expected to be as much as anticipated. This was "a bright spot," said Doherty.

In the area of capital improvements, the budget will show a decrease of 2.5 percent. The budget committee cut this amount down from an original proposal showing a 20 percent increase.

Doherty says the revenue side of the budget "does not

look as favorable this year."

"We expect to have less money from carryover funds, from prior year taxes and from several of our smaller sources that we had available last year."

He says basic school support funds from the state could improve slightly next year, however, the district will not know the exact amount until spring.

Overall, Doherty estimates that the district will have nearly \$300,000 less income from outside sources (other than local property tax) on which to operate.

The total property tax

needed to balance the budget next year will be \$6,093,165. This is a \$515,506 or 9.2 percent increase over the present local property tax funding the schools.

Of the local tax, \$742,978 is within the tax base, \$533,773 is used to pay off bonds, and the remaining \$4,816,414 will be required from a special levy.

Based on an estimated district wide property evaluation of \$790 million, the tax rate would be \$7.71 per thousand dollars. This is 55 cents more than the current rate of \$7.17.

Voters will go to the polls March 26 for a countywide election.

New P.M.H. administrator hired

The Pioneer Memorial Hospital Board has announced that a new hospital administrator has been hired. Albert J. "John" Ochsner III of Yuma, Arizona was to arrive in Heppner this week and will begin his position at the hospital March 5, reports Renee Siminoe, P.M.H. board member.

Ochsner will replace interim administrator Byron Smith who has filled the position for the last three and one-half months. Smith, who is employed by Brim & Associates, Inc. of Portland, a firm specializing in the management of small and medium sized hospitals, replaced A.K. "Lucky" Felt.

Ochsner, 46, has been em-

ployed at the Yuma Regional Medical Center, a 220 bed acute care hospital, since 1979, said Smith. Ochsner was associate administrator at the medical center, and since April 1983 he has been acting chief executive officer. Before his employment at Yuma, Ochsner was the senior research associate at the Oregon Regional Primate Research Center in Beaverton, where he worked for 13 years.

He and his wife, Pat, a native of Eugene, have a 13-year-old boy.

An open house to honor Smith and Ochsner will be held at the hospital on Monday, Mar. 5, from 2 to 4 p.m., Siminoe said. The public is invited to attend the reception.

Congressman's circuit rider coming to Heppner

Mike Hanna, circuit rider for the Second District Congressman Bob Smith, will be holding an open town hall meeting on Tuesday, Mar. 6, from 3 to 4 p.m. at Heppner

City Hall. The public is urged to attend and communicate their thoughts, ideas and problems to Hanna who will relay them to Congressman Smith.

Soil & Water Conservation District Report inside

The "1983 Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District Report," an eight page supplement, is included in this week's issue of the Gazette-Times.

The district's annual meeting will be Tuesday, Mar. 6, 7:30 p.m., at the Lexington Grange Hall. Darrel Maxwell, area extension agronomist of Pendleton, will be the featured speaker. Maxwell will review the development of the STEEP program and research efforts, will discuss straw distribution behind combines and will give a slide presentation on conservation tillage.

The public is invited to attend the meeting, meet the directors and take part in the program.

Child I.D. program postponed

The Heppner Lions Club has announced it will postpone the date of a child identification and finger printing project. The project is being sponsored in conjunction with the Heppner-Lone Branch of the American Association of University Women and the Heppner Soroptimist Club.

The project is now being organized by the clubs in conjunction with the Eastern Oregon Friends of Child Find.

At a Lions Club meeting on February 23, Carol Hardie of the Eastern Oregon Friends of Child Find gave some advice regarding organization of the project. Her recommendation, which the club adopted, was to wait until the project was more organized and more publicity given, explained Lonny Watne of the Lions Club. Therefore, the club decided to delay the project until early April.

The club will announce the date at the earliest possible opportunity in all the news media and will send notices of the rescheduled date home with elementary school students.

"The Heppner Lions Club is sorry for any inconvenience this has caused, and promises smooth operation of the project when we get underway in early April," Watne said.

Campfire kids honor dads



Local Campfire boys and girls and their fathers attended Campfire's annual Special Night for Dads last Thursday at St. Patrick's Catholic Church parish hall in Heppner. A potluck dinner was served, and the kids sang songs and put on skits for their dads. The event is held each year in February as a Campfire project to honor fathers.