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## Senator Hatfield visits Heppner



Senator Mark Hatfield (left) speaks with (left to right) Judge Don McElligott, Morrow County Grain Growers Manager Larry Mills, Louis Carlson and State Representative Ray French during Hatfield's visit to Heppner Monday afternoon.

Hatfield met with local residents to discuss everything from farm export policies, to Hatfield's recent victory in securing federal funds to enlarge the Bonneville Locks.

"This state cannot exist on the tri-county economic base," Hatfield said when referring to the new lock. He said the Portland metropolitan area cannot support the economic health of the whole state, and that the new lock will open up Eastern Oregon to development.

"The lock could be the catalyst for a very important part of our economic future here in this state," Hatfield said. He pointed out that the new lock will increase river

traffic and open new markets for Northwest products. "We're losing part of our export (of wheat) to Australia, and this lock could make us more competitive overseas, and this has national implications, not just regional," he said.

Hatfield told the gathering many of them farmers, that congressmen and senators have trouble formulating an overall farm policy, because of the diverse needs of the different commodities around the country. He said Congress needs to hear from both the national wheat group, and the Oregon wheat group, when formulating policy to deal with the farmer's problems.

He also praised farmers for their contribution to balancing the foreign trade deficit. "We have a \$170 billion trade deficit, and we would collapse without the farm export," he said.

## Heppner girl returns from national high school rodeo finals with numerous awards

Bringing home a saddle, a belt buckle, a Black Hills Gold ring made with a breakaway roper specially for finals winners by Lanstroms Jewelers, a \$500 scholarship, a \$600 scholarship, a bronze statue of a breakaway roper, a bronze plaque, two round trip plane tickets to anywhere in the United States, and a chance to go to the Youth National Finals in Ft. Worth, Texas, Trisha Mahoney, describes her trip to the National High School Rodeo finals at Rapid City, South Dakota, as a "lot of fun," and says that although she was very nervous at the competition, she is pleased with her first place in breakaway roping.

After placing ninth in the first go and not placing at all in the second go, her average time gave her a seventh place going into the short go. In the short, she roped her calf in 4.4 seconds for a second place, but her average brought her to the championship. It's interesting, she says that those who were sitting with the top places going into the short didn't place. "It's easier when you're sitting down a ways because there's nothing to lose so there's not so much pressure."

Although kept busy with morning and evening rodeo performances and volleyball in the afternoon, the dark haired, bright-eyed champion still found time to go to the Greyhound races, a Brian Adams concert, Bear Country, Cosmos "where the gravity is mixed up and you stand on the wall," and to Keystone, a rebuilt ghost town.

Now the national breakaway roping champion is getting ready for next week's Morrow County Rodeo and packing to leave for Boise State



Trisha Mahoney and Cloud Niner

University where she will attend college this fall. A 1985 Heppner High School graduate and Honor Scholar, she is the daughter of Bob and Sheri Mahoney of Heppner.

## Acting directors at MCMHS

Since the resignation of Joe DeVito, director of Morrow County Mental Health Services, Debbie McIntosh was Acting Director until the birth of her baby last Saturday. Kelly Sager is now serving as Acting Director with Bruce Barnes, Medical Social Worker, on call at all times. Barnes who is in private practice in Pendleton is a former director of the Umatilla County

Mental Health program. He comes to Heppner one day each week for consultations, office work and appointments with clients.

The county's mental health board is currently accepting and reviewing applications for a new mental health director who could possibly be in the Heppner office by the first of October.

## Voters consider city budget for third time Aug. 13

Next Tuesday, August 13, voters in the city of Heppner will consider for the third time a city operating levy which has been reduced since its defeat June 26 by 76.6 percent to \$38,515.

The total proposed city budget, including the tax base now stands at \$735,186, 10.38 percent decrease from the proposed budget which voters defeated twice.

A city operating levy outside the tax base has not been necessary for the past few years, but is necessary

this year because of the lack of available cash, spiraling costs of insurance, materials and supplies, all necessary to the operation and maintenance of the city.

Those who will be out of town for next Tuesday's election or who for some other reason will not be able to go to the polls are encouraged to send in now for an absentee ballot. Requests for absentee ballots must be signed and taken or mailed to the Morrow County Clerk's Office at the Courthouse in Heppner.

## Rain only slows harvest

Rain measured at .02 inches July 30 at the Heppner weather station was the first precipitation to fall on the area since the 13 inches of rain which fell June 8. The total July rainfall amount, .03 inches was still below the normal July precipitation of .31 inches.

July rains had little effect on the area grain harvest. Slowed only briefly, most combines were started again by Monday afternoon follow-

ing Sunday's shower, says Larry Mills of Morrow County Grain Growers.

July may have seemed like a "warmer than usual" month, but there were no days at the Heppner weather station with a recorded temperature of 100 degrees or more, and only one seven day period, July 7-13 when high temperatures were 90 degrees or higher. July 5 with 99 degrees is the highest recorded temperature so far this summer.

## Taking pride in their work

### Boys improve more than county parks



Summer Parks Project members, kneeling from left: Shannon Taylor, 14, Boardman; Chad Wynn, 14, Boardman; Project Director David Burns; Mascot Teak.

Back row from left: Travis Payne, 15, Irrigon; Glen Akers, 15, Boardman; Dwain Lewiston, 17, Heppner; Willy Long, 16, Irrigon.

More than a foothold, fireplaces, horseshoe pits and nature trails are under construction at Morrow County's parks this summer. Buildings and playground equipment might be receiving a new exterior, but while sanding, scraping and coating exteriors in bright new colors, the youngsters have built within themselves a new sense of self esteem and pride in a job well done.

With co-operation of three government agencies, six boys and an instructor are living and working in the county's Anson Wright and Cutsforth parks for two five week sessions. Morrow County is providing the projects and materials; the East Central Oregon Association of Counties job training program through the federal Job Training and Placement Act is providing minimum wage, \$3.25 per hour, for the boys; and the Juvenile Services Commission is providing the salary for their instructor. The boys are providing the enthusiasm and the muscle to get the projects done. Their instructor, David Burns, is providing the know-how and the supervision necessary for active teen-age boys.

Beginning the second week in June at Anson Wright Park, the "Six Pack" camped out in a tent borrowed from the Heppner Boy Scout Troop 661. They painted, learned to mix and pour concrete, and with the help of their instructor designed and built a footbridge across Rock Creek. Morrow County Judge Don McElligott speculates that this may be the first time some of these boys have had a chance to do something which they can be proud of. Some of them had never used a hammer or other hand tools prior to the Summer Parks Project. "I think every fireplace at Anson Wright has somebody's initials on it."

The project is voluntary, the Judge explains. Some of the boys do have restitution payments ordered by Juvenile Court and these boys agree to pay \$1 per hour of their wages toward their bill. But they

are free to quit the project at any time, and "if they don't want to work, the county has the right to send them home." We started with six boys; two didn't work out, so two more replaced them. It looks like about a 75 percent success rate, he continues. Once the restitution payments are paid, the entire wage is paid directly to the boys.

There is one exception. At the beginning of the summer, the boys voted to board themselves explains Burns, so each Monday they purchase food for the week and divide the bill. An interesting evolution has taken place. The first two weeks they bought whatever looked good and now they have become better shoppers eliminating the non-essentials from their grocery list.

At Anson Wright, since they were camping out, Burns emphasized a lot of outdoor cooking and wilderness skills more than at Cutsforth where the boys have the use of the 4-H building and kitchen. The boys work from 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. with an hour for lunch. After they're through working, Burns teaches them to identify trees, tie knots, first aid, survival skills, takes them fishing at Penland Lake, swimming at Willow Creek Dam, or invents trivial contests to keep them busy. During last Wednesday afternoon's rain storm in the mountains, they matched wits at a not so serious Cribbage game.

Burns was the head of a community and schools project in Pendleton for 10 years. The city funded the project in the schools, he explains, so in the summer, the schools returned services to the city. He has also worked as a counselor at the Homestead Youth Lodge and is currently working as a carpenter in the Irrigon area teaching night classes at Blue Mountain Community College.

In addition to learning basic carpentry skills and how to use hand tools, the boys have learned how to work together as a team. They come on Monday morning and camp until Friday afternoon when the return home for the weekend. "Everybody

shares in the work," even at mealtime. They trade off each week three cooks and three dishwashers. A long list of duties for each job is posted which eliminates arguments and a "that's not my job attitude."

"They're a nice bunch of guys," says Burns. "I have to keep after them, but they do a good job for their age and experience. They have never been in the work force and had not before had the experience of having to hurry to get a job done or to know when it's done right. I keep telling them that this is something they will need to know because they

## Western Heritage merges with Benj. Franklin Savings and Loan

The boards of directors of The Benj. Franklin Federal Savings and Loan Association of Portland, and Western Heritage Federal Savings and Loan Association of Pendleton, have agreed in principle to merge the associations with the assistance of the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp. and the Federal Home Loan Bank.

The joint announcement was made by G. Dale Weight, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of The Benj. Franklin, and Robert W. Reese, president and chief executive officer of Western Heritage.

Founded in 1934, Western Heritage has assets of \$177 million with \$132 million in savings accounts and \$110 million in mortgage loans.

Weight said the merger would be beneficial to the market area served by Western Heritage as it will bring the resources of a \$4 billion institution to the various communities. These include Heppner, Milton-Freewater, Redmond, Hermiston, The Dalles, and Pendleton.

Weight said the Western Heritage board of directors will be retained as an advisory board to The Benj. Franklin and that Reese will continue with the Association.

In addition to the traditional thrift

will be watched the rest of their working years to see if the job is O.K."

ECOAC also provided a three-hour seminar on job applications complete with a mock interview to help the boys build skills which will enable them to get a job in the future.

This summer has been trial and error Judge McElligott explains, but if no problems develop, the county will continue it next summer. The boys are helping to install a septic tank at Cutsforth Park for the new camping area on a three acre plot donated to the county by O.W. Cutsforth on the condition that the county improve it. The area will have 10 trailer spaces and 10 tent spaces.

Between now and the August 23 end of the summer's project, most of the work at Cutsforth Park project should be completed. Still to be done is a flood gate at the extended culvert near the bridge at the park entrance. The fish pond, now drained, will be cleaned out and receive a new drainage system, and a bulkhead for kids and handicapped persons to fish from. The pond which had silted full and failed to support fish life since the chemical spill in the area two years ago, will be dug to new 8' depth with a 6' inlet.

The county wishes to continue the project next summer and is expecting a \$9,000 federal grant in October which will be used to restore the fish pond at Anson Wright Park and to make other improvements there. The materials for this summer's project were purchased from money provided by a \$25,000 federal grant. Also next summer, the county hopes to have a forester mark the diseased trees in the parks so that the youthful workers can thin the trees and underbrush in the back areas of the parks making them more usable for families and kids.

And with a little cooperation and a lot of imagination, who knows what else might be possible.

## Completion of federally funded road project pushed into 1986



Dozer makes cut in hillside for new roadbed on Willow Creek Road

Preliminary stages of construction began in December of 1984 on a section of Willow Creek Road beginning just below North Fork and continuing to Cutsforth Park. Harsh weather-caused winter shut downs and unexpected drainage problems have pushed the expected October, 1985 completion date ahead to sometime in 1986.

Lopez Construction, a minority contractor from Salem, began clearing the right-of-way and staking the highway last fall. Originally allotted \$2,300,000 by a federal government grant, the project has recently received another \$850,000.

The federal grant is a result of 1921 legislation for logging roads, says Morrow County Judge Don McElligott. For 60 years the grants were used by the state until 1981 legislation reverted the grants to counties as originally intended.

To qualify for the grant, a road must meet the following criteria: it must be a school bus and mail route, must have people living along it, and it must be used to carry logs from a federal forest to a mill town.

The increased grant and extended completion date were necessary because of the large amounts of volcanic ash which are saturated with water deep under the original road bed. It has been necessary, explains the Judge to place culverts under the road with more frequency than originally planned and to put a perforated pipe covered with a mesh fabric to increase drainage under most of the length of the new section of road.

When finished, however, the new road should prove much superior to the old one, the Judge concluded, eliminating the need to shut it down during spring thaw breakups in the road surface.

## Damage estimate revised

All but two of the eight letters removed from the sign on Lone High School last week were recovered from a portion of Willow Creek flowing past the school, reports Principal Dick Allen. An earlier estimate of damage to the sign had been reduced to the currently estimated amount of \$250. Allen says that the Morrow County Sheriff's Office is continuing its investigation of the incident.