

The Heppner Gazette-Times

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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Weather

by the City of Heppner

December 16-18			
	High	Low	Snow
Tues.	28	11	2 1/2"
Wed.	34	13	2 1/2"
Thurs.	38	12	2 1/2"
Fri.	30	12	2 1/2"
Sat.	31	13	2 1/2"
Sun.	38	14	2 1/2"
Mon.	29	13	2 1/2"



When Will It End?

A buoy stands in the ice at Willow Creek Lake as freezing temperatures have gripped the area since mid-November. With winter not officially here until December 22, snow, freezing rain, and frozen fog have area residents wondering if a thaw will come before spring.

Block grant application submitted for funds to restore Heppner Hotel

Widespread community support exists for the rehabilitation of the Heppner Hotel into a retirement facility says project co-ordinator Meg Murray. That this was evident was ascertained before action was taken to apply for a grant for construction. The application for a city block grant was submitted last week to Salem offices by Tony Barnhart of the East Central Oregon Association of Counties (ECOAC).

Bruce Paulson of the ECOAC went with Barnhart to Salem, and was optimistic about the project.

"There shouldn't be any problem with this project," Paulson said Tuesday. He said the project was received very positively by the people at the Oregon Community Development Fund.

"The reception was better than most of the projects presented this year," he said.

As the \$300,000 federal revenue sharing block grant is repaid by rental of the units, this money will stay in the community to be used for other worthwhile projects. This will have a continuing impact for needed development. The remainder of the sum needed for completion will be a loan from the state that will be repaid to the state from rentals. The city will retain ownership of the hotel, with a lease agreement for operation of the facility with the Umatilla Housing Authority.

Much interest abounds for occupancy. Inquiries have been forthcoming from former residents wishing to move back, as well as from local people. They wish to know

when the apartments will be available and where they might sign a waiting list.

Before proceeding the following support has been received:

- feedback from the man and woman on the street via a letter submitted to the Heppner Gazette-Times.

- a resolution in support by the Heppner Economic Development Corporation

- a motion in favor by the Heppner-South Morrow County Chamber of Commerce

- a motion in support by the Heppner Senior Citizens Advisory Board

- a motion in support by the lone Agri-Business Organization

- a resolution in support by the Heppner City Council

- a resolution in support by the Morrow County Court.

In addition to the above, there is a letter from John Hempel, Pioneer Memorial Hospital Administrator, expressing the need for a physical therapist to serve half time at the hospital and half time at the retirement facility for those occupants as well as townspeople.

The criteria followed for selection is based on need for a retirement facility in a given area. The Tri County area of Gilliam, Wheeler and Morrow qualifies for consideration on this basis. The need is real. Hospital facilities, as well as close by shopping and churches, are necessary also to gain consideration. Recreational areas such as the Willow Creek dam lake are a plus also. Second item looked at is whether it prevents a degeneration in the area. Third consideration is whether any jobs are created, or a need is met, such as the physical therapist.

Crucial support has been forthcoming from Rep. Raymond French who has taken time and effort to express his interest in our community. Much needed additional support has been supplied by Sen. Hatfield, Rep. Bob Smith and Rep. Bill Bellamy. Sen. Packwood has expressed interest in seeing the completed proposal.

Those interested in the project's development appreciate the support of each and every person and organization.

Final decisions on the block grants will become known approximately February 15.

Newspaper deadlines change

News and advertising deadlines for the December 25 issue of the Gazette-Times will be as follows: news items - 9 a.m. Monday, Dec. 23, classified advertising - 1 p.m. Monday, and display advertising - 3 p.m. Monday. The newspaper will be mailed one day early, Tuesday, Dec. 24, because the Gazette-Times office will be closed Christmas Day.

Westerling pleads not guilty to Murder charge

Larry Westerling entered a plea of not guilty by reason of insanity Tuesday, Dec. 17 at his Circuit Court arraignment for the Murder of Son Vinh.

Westerling, 24, allegedly shot and killed Vinh in the service bay of the Chevron station in Heppner on Friday, November 30. He was arrested by the Heppner police minutes after the shooting and indicted by the Morrow County Grand Jury on December 3. Since his arrest, he has been in custody at the Eastern

Oregon Psychiatric Center and the Umatilla County Jail.

After a six week waiting period, Morrow County District Attorney Richard McNerney reports, Westerling will be moved from the Umatilla County Jail where he is being held without bail to Salem to be observed for a month by a state psychiatrist to determine: 1) if he was capable of forming mental intent to commit murder, and 2) if he is able to aid in his own defense (stand trial).

McNerney predicts that it will be three or four months before a trial date is set.

Fillies tromp No. 3 Huskies

By Dana Reid

The Heppner Fillies won their fifth straight game against the third state ranked Sherman County Huskies, Saturday, Dec. 13 at Sherman County.

The Heppner Fillies are ranked one notch above the Huskies, holding down the second ranked team in the state. These rankings were done before Heppner and Sherman County met on Saturday.

Although both teams are ranked high in the state, neither team proved themselves in the game at Sherman.

The Fillies did play a good game defensively, but offensively they had nothing to brag about.

As a team that is, Lana Reid led the Fillies with 21 points.

"It was a good game for us defensively. We controlled Sharp and Martin inside and kept them off the boards," said Fillies' Coach Royer. "We struggled on offense but did hit the key baskets when we really needed them in the third quarter."

The first quarter was slow as it ended with Heppner only one point ahead of the Huskies, 10-9.

Things started picking up a little in the second quarter. The Fillies went into the locker room, at half-time, with a six point lead.

The third quarter didn't tell much of the story with both teams scoring an even 12 points.

In the fourth quarter, Heppner took that six point lead up to a 14 point lead to win the game.

Royer felt that the Fillies rebounding and defense was the difference. The final score was 53-39.

Missy Eubanks added 12 points and nine rebounds for the Fillies. Missy Turner led the team in assists with five, while Dana Reid had four.

"It's nice to know that we can beat a good team on their home floor," said Royer. "And we did so without playing that well offensively." We had some good individual perfor-

mances, but as a team we had trouble getting into our offense and running the break," Royer concluded.

Fillies rank No. 2 in early season poll

Below are the ranking for State Class A high school girls basketball teams. The rankings were compiled prior to Heppner's win at Sherman County, on Saturday night.

Team	Points
1. Corbett	54
2. HEPNER	52
3. Sherman County	51
4. Crow	37
5. Neah-Ka Nie	25
6. St. Mary's	24
7. Gervais	19
8. Oakland	14
9. Enterprise	11
10. Lost River	10

The Fillies next game is January 4 against MacHi here at Heppner. The game will start at 6 p.m. Sherman Co. 9 6 12 12 - 39 Heppner 10 11 12 20 - 53

Santa returns



Heppner area merchants have received word that Santa Claus will be in Heppner Saturday, Dec. 21 for some last-minute requests from area children. He will arrive on

Main Street at 1 p.m. and stroll up and down checking to see who's been naughty or nice. This will be the benevolent elf's last visit to Heppner before his annual Christmas eve delivery.

Soroptimists donate money, toys to area projects



Soroptimist President Barbara Bloodsworth holds two 'Care Bears' that will be among donations to the Neighborhood Center. Members sent coupons to a national magazine for a chance at winning one of the stuffed toys in a drawing.

By Justine Weatherford

During the year the members of the Soroptimist International of Heppner have earned funds through food sales, their annual fall rummage sale, their recent style show and their participation in the Artifactory.

Last Tuesday, Dec. 10, Soroptimist board member Mary Goheen presented a \$50 check to George Koffler, treasurer of the Heppner Chamber of Commerce, to be used by the chamber's brochure revision committee in getting out a new county promotional brochure. The supply of the brochures published in 1981 is exhausted and a revised edition is expected to be printed as early as possible in 1986.

On Wednesday, Dec. 11, on behalf of the Heppner Soroptimist, Mary Goheen presented a \$100 check to Jane Rawlins, secretary of the Senior Citizens Building Fund Committee. This money is being added to the funds the seniors are collecting from many projects and donations. The building committee feels positive about the plans to build a Senior Citizen Building here similar to the building at Irrigon.

During several Christmas seasons the Soroptimists have been contributing dolls to the Heppner Neighborhood Center for distribution to little girls. This year each member has given a toy, either a doll or something for a young boy which should bring joy to the needy children of this area.

State reverse notes on sale locally

Citizenship cards for the State of Eastern Oregon and the official currency of the State of Eastern Oregon are on sale for \$2 for the cards and \$3 for each "state reverse note."

The State of Eastern Oregon is comprised of the eight counties in the Eastern region of Oregon - Morrow, Harney, Grant, Baker, Malheur, Union, Umatilla, and Wallowa. The State was formed last spring in an effort to develop a unique identity for the region and to promote tourism to the area.

Since then media attention has already been directed to the State. The \$3 bill is confederate sized on goldenrod paper with a picture of the current governor on one side and copies of the state seal on the back. Both citizenship cards and state currency are being sold under the pretense that the state will have no taxes. The proceeds from the sale of the currency and the cards will be used to develop tourism and to further promote an identity that is uniquely Eastern Oregon.

Each county is represented of official senators, and the Governor, Neal "Doc" Werner travels to instill pride in the state.

The citizenship card entitles the carrier to all privileges of the State of Eastern Oregon and identifies its holder by the profession of his or her choice in frontier times. Curiously there is a preponderance of "ladies of the evening."

Three dollar bills are on sale in Heppner at the Heppner Bowl, Coast to Coast, Country Rose, and Peterson's Jewelers.



Non-negotiable copy of confederate-sized state of Eastern Oregon currency