

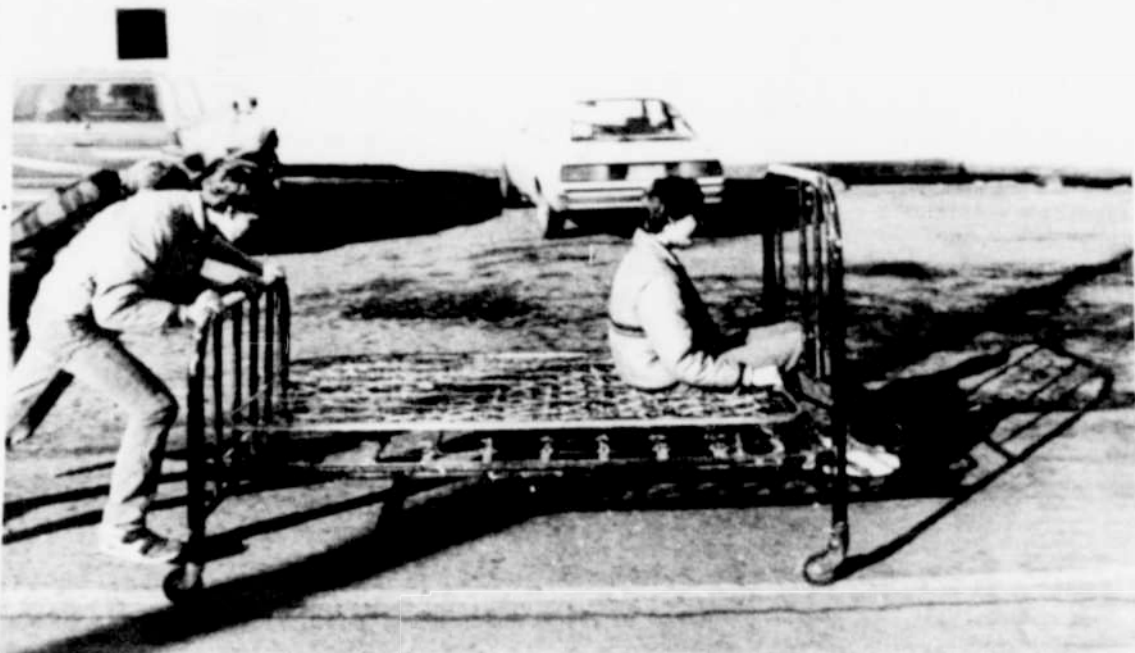
Morrow County's Home-Owned Newspaper

The Heppner

# G-T azette imes

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## Contestants getting ready for big St. Patrick's Day bed race



Lone students practice the "Shamrock Dash"

There is still time to get your entry in for the big St. Patrick's Day bed race, says race chairman R.L. Banka. Entries may be returned along with a \$10 entry fee up to March 7. Entry forms may be picked up at Cal's Cafe, Charlie's Pizza and the Heppner Gazette-Times, and returned along with entry fee to R.L. Banka, Box 123, Heppner, OR.

The trio testing out their bed above are Dan Peterson, Tom Wilson and Richard Basford from Lone. The lone shop class is building this bed for the lone band entry. The metal frame will be painted and flags attached before race day, says Marv Peterson, shop teacher. Peterson says wheels for the bed came from a shopping cart. "There seems to be better control if the turning wheels are on the back," he said.

## Lucky numbers are on back of buttons



Check the back of your St. Patrick's Day button and you will find your own personal lucky number which may be good for free prizes at certain Merchants in Heppner on St. Patrick's Day weekend. Each button has a number between

one and 500, and on Saturday, March 14 certain local businesses will be posting numbers on merchandise in their stores. If your number matches the posted number, you win that prize. Buttons are on sale at local stores for only \$2. In addition you may wear your button to show your support for the annual St. Patrick's Day event, as the proceeds from the sale of the buttons will be used to help fund this year's festivities. So buy your button, support St. Patrick's Day, and look for your lucky number, it may mean a free gift on March 14. Participating businesses in lucky numbers will be announced before St. Patrick's Day in the Gazette-Times.

## Heppner to receive \$5,000 grant

Heppner is scheduled to receive a \$5,000 technical assistance grant for development of a water facility plan, Governor Neil Goldschmidt's office announced last week. The grant awards were selected from 91 applications submitted to the Intergovernmental Relations Division last December. The grant awards were recommended to the Governor by the Oregon Community Development Advisory Committee following their February 17 meeting in Salem. Heppner is one of 47 cities and counties to receive over \$7.5 million in Oregon Community Development funds.

## Revenue sharing funds disbursed in Co.

At a meeting with the Revenue Sharing committee February 5, the County Court tentatively approved the disbursement of \$59,000 in federal revenue sharing funds in Morrow County. Vera Cooley requested \$10,000 to be used for operation of the county's two senior meal sites at Irrigon and Heppner. The senior services agency was advised to develop a plan for future years since federal revenue sharing will no longer be a source of funds for county services. Neola Mackey, president of the Morrow County Neighborhood Council board of directors, requested \$12,000 for operational costs at the center; \$10,000 was approved. Commissioner Jerry Peck advised the council board to try to get more help from federal and state agencies. Judge Louis Carlson advised that more structure is needed within the council organization and that they eventually will have to hire a co-ordinator. A request by Marlene Currin for matching funds for a fair board application for lottery funds was ap-

proved for \$2,000. The fair board is applying for lottery funds to build a steel building on the east boundary of the fairgrounds; it is expected to cost \$72,888, not including electrical or plumbing costs. The committee was told that this may be the last year lottery funds are available for fair projects because the governor is wanting to use lottery funds in other ways.

## District FFA convention set Sat.

Over 100 Future Farmers of America members from Pendleton, Hermiston, Riverside, McLaughlin, Condon, Weston-McEwen, and Heppner will meet in Heppner on Saturday, February 28, for the Blue Mountain District FFA Convention. Award winners will be selected and District officers will be elected. Activities will begin at 10 a.m. and will continue until 3 p.m.

Tentative approval of \$28,000 for county land acquisition was given. Marianne Kahl and John Hempel of the Heppner Day Care Center board of directors requested \$8,000 for general operating expenses. Historically, the Boardman Day Care Center received \$40,000 in 1985 and \$1,000 last year. The Heppner request was tentatively approved.

## Weather Report

by City of Heppner

	February 18 - 24	High	Low	Precip	Snow
Wed.	44	30	.03		
Thurs.	48	31	.0		
Fri.	51	31	.01		
Sat.	56	33	.0		
Sun.	47	34	.01		
Mon.	44	30	.44	3"	
					snow
Tues.	40	20	.0	2"	old sn

## Chamber tours Heppner Hotel; city to send hotel amendment to voters



Chamber members head up stairs of old Heppner Hotel

The Heppner Chamber of Commerce toured the Heppner Hotel Tuesday, and heard more about a planning renovation of the sixty-year-old structure into a senior citizen housing complex. In a related matter the Heppner City Council voted Monday to send a charter amendment to the voters March 31, asking that the city be allowed to borrow up to \$400,000 to help finance the construction. The city already has a \$500,000 grant to cover part of the renovation, however, approximately \$400,000 more is needed. Rents collected from seniors living in the project will repay the city's loan with some left over, says city attorney Bill Kuhn, who has

been working on the project. Tuesday, chamber members were able to see first hand the deteriorating condition of the hotel. The bottom floor of the hotel is housing a carpet and fabric store, and a barber shop. The second floor has some residents living there, and the third floor is vacant and unlivable. Monday evening, members from many local groups met at Columbia Basin Electric Co-op to discuss the hotel project and the up-coming vote on the city loan. Chamber of Commerce president George Koffler chaired the meeting, and he said it was important that people receive factual information about the hotel project.

An information campaign is planned in the coming weeks to insure voter awareness on the details of the project. The campaign will include tours of the hotel, fact sheets for distribution, a float in the St. Patrick's parade and letters to the editor and news articles in the newspaper. Attorney Ann Spicer attended the Monday meeting and pointed out that rents will be used to retire the \$400,000 debt, and the only way tax payer money would be used is if the housing center was less than three-quarters full. Already there have been enough people signed up to rent all rooms in the complex, and there is a waiting list, said Spicer.

## Governor visits Heppner



Heppner Mayor Cara Costa with Oregon Governor Neil Goldschmidt

The City of Heppner received a very special gift on the occasion of its 100th anniversary of incorporation February 9, 1887-the presence of Oregon's Governor Neil Goldschmidt. The Governor first stopped at Heppner Elementary School where he spoke with students, shook hands and led them in singing Happy Birthday to Heppner. At Heppner City Hall Goldschmidt was greeted by local politicians and citizens, and a crowd of news media-newspapers from Hermiston and Pendleton, a radio station from Hermiston, and television cameras from Tri-Cities in Washington and from Portland.



The media came to town

Following the formal presentation, the governor answered questions and joked with the crowd that spilled out city hall's front door and onto the sidewalk. Goldschmidt emphasized the importance of recruiting new businesses into Oregon. Most businesses looking for a place to locate, he said, are impressed with the work ethic of Oregon employees. What they're not sure about, he said, is how serious Oregon is about industry. He feels businesses want to know what we're doing to help the businesses that are already here. Changes in workmen's compensation laws are necessary, he said, to help Oregon be more competitive with other states by reducing the cost of doing business here.

He repeated for Washington TV camera what he said on a campaign swing through Heppner before the Nov. election-that he does not support Hanford as a site for a nuclear waste dump. It simply doesn't make sense to truck waste two-thirds of which is created on the East coast-over these roads in the winter, he added. Goldschmidt said he believes storing nuclear waste so close to the Columbia river system is potentially dangerous. Concerning the sale of the Heppner-Condon branches of the railroad, the governor said that currently there is little grant money available to help public bodies purchase a branch line. "Regardless of the impact to the road if the railroad is abandoned, we have no way to take road funds and send that on the railroad. No program exists which allows us to do that. We need a fund to make loans to businesses and

communities in this situation. The best we can do now is encourage rail purchase by short line operators who will make it work like a business." On his arrival, the governor was met by state police and Heppner Mayor Cara Costa at the Lexington airport. At the conclusion of the Governor's visit, Matt Doherty, chairman of the Superconducting Supercollider task force rode with him to the airport where the governor left for a noon regional discussion at Baker. **Best dressed Irish contest** Bring a wee bit more Ireland to Morrow county, March 14 and 15. Dress for the occasion with the wearing 'o the green. If you put on your thinking cap, you may just win the prize for the best dressed Irishman, woman, or child. Dress the town green! Costumes will be judged after KUMA coffee hour.