

Princess Kathleen likes to keep busy

"It's only as rainy as you make it," Princess Kathleen Brazell, 17, Lexington, responded to an onlooker at The Dalles parade observing that the drizzle hadn't dampened her spirits.

You have to put up with the rain, the composed princess said, but she doesn't seem to let it get in her way. She enjoys meeting new people and talking with them. That's one of the best parts of being a member of the Fair and Rodeo court-making people smile or laugh, she said.

All of the activities of the court are the best part, the princess amended. She admits looking forward to all of the new experiences open to her as a member of the fair and rodeo court, because "I've never been on TV before or had so many pictures taken, or been interviewed, and I'm really a novice at parades."

Although a novice to parades, the versatile princess is no stranger to horses and riding. She has been training her parade horse, an Arabian mare named G. Mistra, since May, 1986, and has trained and sold another horse. She has two horses of her own and boards a third. She has been a member of Horse 4-H and was active with Wranglers for awhile.

The princess doesn't limit her activities to horses. She's also involved with 4-H cooking and clothing clubs and the Lone United Church of Christ Youth Group. During the school year, she plays with the pep band and is a member of the national honor society, and the Society of Distinguished American High School Students. Monday, she had just returned from a 10-day Summer Honors program for which she received an hour of college credit.

She has earned several 4-H and music awards including the Reserve All-Around for 4-H Horse last year, a county medal for her 4-H records, a student band director award, and a 10th place in statewide piano competition when she was in ninth grade. She started playing piano eight years



Princess Kathleen

ago, added the clarinet when she was in fifth grade, and last year extended to the alto and tenor sax and the flute. She fills in as pianist at morning worship services for both the Heppner Methodist Church and Lone United Church of Christ.

A senior at Heppner High School who writes poetry, she is now considering an education major with combined minors in English and music at either the University of Portland or the University of Oregon.

Her many activities and riding at least two hours each day are "enough to keep me busy," the diligent princess said. "I like to be busy and do a lot of everything."

Princess Kathleen is not the only member of the family who has become involved with the court activities. Her brother, Brian, 15, has become a pennant bearer, and Mom, Jean, helped with sewing the court outfits. Her dad, Al Brazell, is her Horse 4-H leader and encouraged her to try out for the court.

Irrigators stop pumping creek water

Several irrigators taking water from Willow Creek were told to shut off their irrigation pumps or close their headgates last month because a landowner near the mouth of the creek was not getting his share of creek water.

Watermaster Michael Ladd explained that his office works on a complaint basis. When he receives a complaint from an irrigator with an old water right, he must try to get water to him by shutting off the newer water rights. His office sent letters to irrigators on Hinton, Rhea, and Willow Creek with water rights newer than 1899 asking them to shut off their pumps and close their

headgates. When water returned to the Dave Cheney and Krebs ranches, water rights older than 1908 were allowed to irrigate, but were shut off again when the complainant's water supply was cut off.

Ladd and Tony Holcomb, one of two assistant watermasters in the Umatilla County office (Morrow County pays Umatilla County for use of one parttime watermaster) began checking the three creeks after the complaint was filed and found some irrigators using water without rights, and some who were using more water than their right allowed. We had to shut back those headgates

and irrigation pumps to the amount the right specified, Ladd said.

Irrigation water rights can be confusing and much time is required to update records and oversee distribution, Ladd continued. Water rights specify an amount of water allowed to be pumped from the creek, where it is to be taken, and where it is to be used. The office has records of more than 150 rights issued on Hinton, Rhea and Willow Creeks. The confusion comes, he explained, because a landowner may have more than one water right issued at different times for the same piece of land. Or, since water rights are sold with the property, a piece of land may be divided and sold to two or more owners who then share the water right.

The problem comes when a watermaster and two assistants in Pendleton try to oversee distribution of water in 4500 square miles, Ladd continued. A landowner may have an old water right on land not in crop and a newer water right (that has been shut off) on land needing water. The watermaster's office needs to have some way to ensure that the landowner does not try to use water from the older right on the ground tied to the newer right, he said.

Irrigation water right holders seem further confused by the lack of water in the creek because Willow Creek dam was built for "flood control and irrigation" purposes they were told. Its use for recreation, they were assured was secondary and would not interfere with irrigation purposes. If the creek is dry, why isn't more water let through the dam, so all water right holders can have their share, they wonder.

It doesn't work that way, Ladd explained. Water rights the irrigators hold apply only to the normal flow of the creek. To get the water stored behind the dam, they must file for supplemental rights and then have a contract with the Bureau of Reclamation who owns the water.

Schools end year in better financial position than expected

We ended the year in better financial condition than we expected. Superintendent Doyle McCaslin told the school board Monday night.

"As you know, we were simply attempting to maintain our cash position in order to avoid borrowing heavily in November," he said. We expected to have about the same amount of cash to begin the year as we began with in July, 1986. Because of unusually good tax collections, and with the additional revenue we will receive before November, we should be able to pay all of our bills through that period. We probably won't need to borrow, he said.

In addition to the financial report, the school board considered a lengthy agenda of routine business matters, including:

-elected of Dwayne Carroll as new board chairman, to replace Joe Stevens who has served two consecutive terms. Re-elected of Jerry McElligott as vice chairman.

-heard that the A.C. Houghton summer library program is a success from Principal Mick Tolar and library aide Karleen Truax.

-heard from insurance agent of record Tim Mabry of Schroth Insurance that the district will benefit by changing its workman's compensation insurance carrier to Liberty Northwest.

-heard that the district is in compliance with all current regulations for asbestos.

-approved a tentative agreement on salaries and benefits for district principals. The contract allows the principals one additional holiday, (President's Day) but no pay raise for next year.

-decided to review and prioritize district goals at the August meeting.

-accepted resignations from Ray Tracy-Columbia Jr. High language arts teacher, David Larson-A.C. Houghton fifth grade teacher, Molly Fatland-Sam Boardman third grade teacher, Margaret Wood-Riverside language arts teacher, G. Ann Thomas-Lone language arts teacher, and Marla Kendall-north end bus driver.

-approved hiring the following: Carma Barron-kindergarten at Sam Boardman Elementary, Jennifer Byron-first grade at Sam Boardman, Beth Creason-kindergarten at A.C. Houghton, Raymond Davis-art at A.C. Houghton and Sam Boardman, Winston Raw-business education at Riverside, Lisa Sharkey-language arts at Riverside, Karen Smith-Griffith-special education at Lone and Heppner, Cindy Sutherland-third grade at Sam Boardman, Pam Docken-secretary at Riverside, and Mike Royer-head coach of girls basketball at Heppner.

-approved an easement for the City of Irrigon to cross Columbia Jr. High grounds to connect the school to the city sewer on condition the school's drainfield is not disturbed.

-appointed the Superintendent-Clerk Doyle McCaslin as budget officer for the coming year.

-appointed the Gazette-Times newspaper of record.

-re-appointed four banks as depositories of school district funds.

-authorized the superintendent to apply for federal funds.

-authorized selling two district vehicles, a 1967 pickup and a 1980 Omega, which have been replaced by recent purchases.

-approved next year's board meeting calendar.

-approved an agreement with

Market Place Connections, a non-profit organization which the superintendent said assist the district in getting competitive bidding for some of its buying.

-re-appointed Morrison and Fife as auditors of record.

-awarded bids for servicing automatic heating controls to Benz Air Engineer, a maintenance contract for district typewriters and calculators to Thom's Office Products of Walla Walla, for regular gasoline and vehicle diesel fuel to Morrow County Grain Growers, for diesel furnace fuel to Heller and Sons, for PS300 fuel to McCall Oil, for motor oil and anti-freeze to Devin Oil, for Propane to Heppner Nor-Gas, cafeteria equipment to Smith and Green of Seattle, for cafeteria storage equipment to Boxer Northwest, for dairy products to Daisy Milk Co., for bakery goods to Snyders for the north end and to Adams for the south end, roofing of Heppner elementary to Ackerman Roofing of Hermiston and tires to Hermiston Tire.

-rejected bids for copy machines, copy machine maintenance, and sewing machine service.



Jaws free woman after wreck

Heppner firefighters used the "jaws of life" to free Alice McCabe from her car following an accident on Heppner's Main St. Thursday afternoon.

McCabe was coming out of a driveway and couldn't see any cars coming for the hedge. She hit a car driven by Catherine Pointer. The force from the two cars colliding forced McCabe's car into the back of Dr. Wallace Wolff's car which was parked at the curb by his office. McCabe was cited by Heppner Police for Failure to Yield.

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Outage started when new met old

Wednesday afternoon's power outage was caused when a portion of the line under construction came in contact with the old line causing a short (called a fault) in the line, Columbia Basin Electric Co-Op Manager Fred Toombs said. The power had to be shut down until the fault could be repaired, he said. The outage began at 3:08 p.m. and lasted less than an hour.

Shop At The Morrow County Grain Growers & Save At The Fair & Rodeo

In support of the 1987 Morrow County Fair & Rodeo, the Morrow County Grain Growers will give you a special certificate good for MONEY OFF during Fair, August 19 - 23. For each \$100 in merchandise* purchased, you will receive one \$5 certificate good towards the purchase of:

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THE COLOR OF DIAMONDS

A few columns ago, the article that appeared here described the record-breaking sale-at-auction of the jewelry estate of the Duchess of Windsor. Not long after the auction, another was held that brought seven times the previous recorded per carat sale of a diamond. The diamond, which was actually a .95 carat diamond, was sold for \$880,000, at a carat price of \$926,000. What made this single diamond so costly?

It was red. And it was naturally red, meaning the red color existed in the diamond when it was mined.

Perhaps one in 100,000 diamonds are fancy colored diamonds. Their rarity makes them extremely valuable. The Duchess of Windsor's jewelry brought a high price at auction in part because of the romance associated with Edward abdicating the throne of England for love of her. The significant price at auction of this fancy colored red diamond was paid by a gem merchant and was apparently purchased for the Sultan of Brunei.

Fancy colored diamonds may be yellow, blue, orange, yellowish-green, brownish-yellow, as well as red. Because they are so rare, locating a fancy colored diamond may take some time. The fancy colored diamond had been part of a private estate in Montana and had been part of that estate since the 1950's. To the new owner, this diamond was worth waiting for.

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