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Coombs found guilty of charges

On Friday, January 22, a Morrow County jury returned a guilty verdict against a Boardman man on four counts of sex-related charges, according to the Morrow County District Attorney's office.

Simrall A. Coombs, 69, was convicted in Heppner of Sodomy in the First Degree, Sodomy in the Second Degree, Sodomy in the Third

Degree, and Sexual Abuse in the First Degree after a trial lasting two and one-half days. The jury, composed of five men and seven women, deliberated two hours before returning the verdict. Not-guilty findings were returned on three additional counts. Attorney for the defendant was Mike Kilpatrick, Mt. Vernon. "I am satisfied with the out-

come," state Jeff M. Wallace, Morrow County District Attorney. "A lot of credit goes to the victim."

The maximum penalty which could be imposed on the combined counts is \$400,000, and 40 years imprisonment.

Judge Richard Courson ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

Goodyear to head BMCC budget committee

The Budget Committee of Blue Mountain Community College met Jan. 19 to set the direction of budget planning for next year.

Kent Goodyear, Heppner, was elected chairman of the budget committee. Ida Culp, Pendleton, will serve as secretary of the group.

Enrollment figures for previous years were presented to the committee by College President Ron Daniels. Enrollment has been relatively stable, he said, with the exception of 1979-80 and 80-81. During those years, enrollment rose to record heights not only at BMCC, but at community colleges across Oregon.

Daniels stated that the "total enrollment is not a major concern at this time." He added that the college is currently studying some of the vocational programs in an effort to either increase enrollment or reduce expenditures.

In planning for the new budget, the college needs to "budget as conservatively as possible in order to maintain an appropriate ending fund balance," Daniels told the committee. He projected that the new budget should not exceed an increase of \$200,000.

In planning the college budget, the president said that departmental requests are screened through department heads, deans and finally through the administrators. A budget document is then drafted "that is realistic in terms of the college's ability to fund expenditures," he added.

The budget committee will take a look at the proposed draft of the 1988-89 budget when they meet again March 22. At that time, the budget message and document will be presented.

Parents club reschedule

Carnival date

Due to a conflict of events, the Heppner Elementary Parents Club has re-scheduled their annual school carnival from February 13 to April 9 this year.

Winter Sports Awards presented

The Winter Sports Awards dessert for Heppner 7th and 8th grade students will be Thursday, Feb. 4 at 7 p.m. at the Junior High Gym. It is sponsored by the Heppner Elementary Parents Club and all parents and participants are encouraged to attend.

Manley to speak to Homebuddies

Homebuddies, the local social-support group for young mothers is meeting February 2, Tuesday, 9:30-11 a.m. at the Heppner Methodist Church. Jeff Manley with the Morrow County Mental Health Department will be speaking on various subjects. For more information call Kay Proctor, 676-9827.

Community choir resumes practice

Community Choir has resumed practice at HHS in the band room at 5:30 p.m. Monday evenings. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend practice. They are also looking for an adult in the community to watch 3-6 children during practice for \$10 per evening.

Anyone interested should call Kathy Hoskins, 676-5143 or Don Boyce.

St Pat's committee to meet

There will be a meeting of the St. Patrick's Committee Thursday, January 28 to be held at the Extension conference room at 7 p.m. All interested parties are invited to attend.

Weather Report

by City of Heppner

January 19 - 25				
	High	Low	Prec. Snow	
Tues.	46	25	.0	
Wed.	46	28	.0	
Thurs.	48	30	.0	
Fri.	54	30	.0	
Sat.	48	26	.0	
Sun.	41	28	.0	
Mon.	49	26	.0	

Market Report

Compliments of the Morrow County Grain Growers

Tuesday, Jan. 26	
Soft White	
Jan	\$3.33
Feb.	\$3.34
March	\$3.36
New Crop	\$3.23
Barley	
Jan.	\$88T
Feb.	\$89T
PIK	105%

The Heppner

Morrow County's Home-Owned Newspaper

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VOL 106 NO. 4 Wednesday, January 27, 1988 Heppner 25¢ 12 Pages

On the road again...to the NFR

What's it like, going to the National Finals Rodeo as a contestant? I asked Tony Currin, winner of the National PRCS Steer Wrestling Rookie of the Year Award, Resistol Rookie of the Year for 1987, winner of the Columbia Basin Circuit Steer Wrestling and the Circuit Rookie Winner. "One thing for sure, I had a good time," he says with a grin on his face.

Getting to the finals is not a minor achievement. It is a lot of traveling, long, hard hours, and with many deadlines to meet along the way. Tony found out just how many ins and outs there are in getting to the "Ultimate" rodeo. He, his brothers and different cowboys at different



Tony Currin takes time off from his busy schedule to show off the four new saddles he won this year while rodeoing full time in his quest for a trip to the NFR.

times, travelled together and logged over 100,000 miles last year in their quest for a try at the NFR. It worked for Tony, and he says he wants to try again this year. He was leaving immediately after this interview for Denver and a start on the winter rodeos. He is going south where you can compete in 4 or 5 rodeos or more a week and accumulate points faster than in the northwest at this time of year. Here the rodeos are few and far between in the winter. He is traveling with his brother Ron, Marti Britt, Charlie Patterson, Marti Melvin and Johnny Sloan to start out.

Tony and his brothers, Ronnie and Mike just purchased a new horse from Louis Toricellas, Eugene, for \$10,000. Louis trains steer wrestling horses. He and his two sons, Danny and Mike have also competed hard on the PRCA circuit.

For the 12 days Tony was in Las Vegas, he was treated royally. For a start, the hotels footed the bill for the finalists that stayed there. Each of the separate event contestants were located at different casinos. The hotel also furnished a hospitality room for the contestants, which included food, beverages and a place to just relax and socialize. The contestants had to purchase very little while there unless they chose to do so. The hotels also furnished limousine service for the contestants with chauffeur. They only had to lift the phone to have one at their

Tourism committee investigates need for motels in the area

The Heppner Tourism Committee met on January 19 at the Columbia Basin Electric meeting room. The meeting was called to order by chairman Fred Lundin. The need for motels in the area was discussed. A person in John Day will be contacted regarding this matter. Don Cole updated information on the Umatilla National Forest Plan. Fred shared a letter from the Oregon Department

disposal. The car took them wherever they wanted to go and waited for them.

There were many activities organized for the contestants while they were at the finals. There were tours, a golf tournament and the most exciting of all, a poker game "Texas Hold 'Em", sponsored by the Stardust Casino. Each player was given \$2,000 to play with. There was an elimination process with three winners from each day for four days. Each of the daily winners collected \$500, \$300 and \$200 respectively for 1st, second and third places. The winner of the 12 finalists collected \$1500 in cash, two \$500 hats and a horse trailer valued at \$4,000. On one particular day, there was a \$25,000 pot, although Tony says he did not participate in this game.

One of the hotels, the Tropicana, put on a "Trade Show". This is the cowboy's version of a flea market. Anything, even remotely associated with rodeoing was exhibited there.

of Transportation with the committee. They are willing to work with the Tourism Committee on the concerns expressed by them. A letter received from a Newport motorcycle club wanting information about Heppner will be answered. Don Cole will attend the ODOT meeting in Salem on January 23 taking the Tourism Committee concerns with him.

Legislative Candidate honored

Michael Neslon, Democratic candidate for State Representative, District 59, will be honored by Baker County Chamber of Commerce as a finalist for the "Outstanding Man of the Year" award.

Citing his long time commitment to his community, his energetic pursuits on behalf of Eastern Oregon, and his faithful service to his church,

the former Chamber of Commerce President will be honored by a large group of community leaders. This annual dinner and dance will be Saturday, January 30.

Featured speaker for the evening will be Jerry Reid, recently named Eastern Oregon Business developer by Oregon Economic Development Department.

Ropes, tack equipment and many beautiful works of art, including bronzes were shown. "It was really very impressive", according to Tony, "a great place to visit".

The NFR generates approximately 50 million dollars for Las Vegas. They are considering building more facilities to house the NFR in the near future. The arena is small, but worked to a very good advantage for Tony and his events.

Tony, when asked what he plans to do down the road, after he is through rodeoing, was very evasive with his plans. I realized later that with his events, calf roping and steer wrestling, and his young age (25) he has many years left to rodeo. When he does quit, though, he has a degree in Agri-Business from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, Ca. to back him up. Tony says what he really would like to do is "buy my dad 100 head of new cows to run for him (Tony) on the ranch." According to Ron Sr., he would like to be "sitting on the beach" in Hawaii by that time.

Lots of luck down the road, Tony and hang on to your billfold.

Gochnauer to participate in Art Exhibit

Local people will recognize the name of Cindy Gochnauer, daughter of former Heppner residents Judy and John Gochnauer, now residing in Davenport, WA. It seems Cindy is doing quite well in her art work.

The Spokane Arts Foundation has selected Cindy as one of several local college students to participate in their art show entitled "Explorations". The exhibit began January 11 and will continue through February 5 at the Chase Gallery in Spokane.

Cindy is a student at Whitworth College in Spokane.

Fair committee seeking theme for 1988

Each year the Fair Committee holds a contest for the best theme for the Fair and Rodeo. Richard Ladd, Fair Committee Chairman, would appreciate receiving your ideas for a theme for this year. Last year the theme was "Parade of Bounty in Morrow County".

Mail your theme entries to Richard Ladd, Fair Committee

Chairman, P.O. Box 244, Ione, OR 97843, by March 7.

The prizes awarded to the theme contest winner will be: a \$10 admission button for the Fair and Rodeo (good for all five days); a dinner for two, their choice, sponsored by the Wagon Wheel Cafe and Lounge; and one free haircut, sponsored by Country Shears.

Tourism pictures needed of Morrow County

Deadline is fast approaching for the North Central Oregon brochure. Colored pictures or slides depicting our area are needed immediately. Keep in mind Umatilla and Gilliam County will be sharing brochure space.

Think about pictures of this area that would appeal to a tourist...fishing on the lake, a

snowmobile or hunting scene, our industry, St. Pat's. The field is wide open.

Please bring to Chamber office right away. Picture or slide will be returned to you.

Co-pastors to serve Ione church of Christ



Pastors David and Caroline Zaworski with their children Will, 5 months and Jacon, 2 1/2 years. They will co-pastor the United Church of Christ in Ione beginning February 1.

Ione United Church of Christ will welcome new permanent leadership to the church in the coming week. David and Caroline Zaworski will be arriving in the Ione community on February 1, 1988 to begin their shared ministry as co-pastors of the Ione U.C.C. David and Caroline come to Ione from Almira, Washington where they have served 4 1/2 years as co-pastors of the Almira United Church of Christ. Each of the new pastors received a Masters of Divinity Degree from

Chicago Theological Seminary in 1983 and were ordained in the same year. Both Caroline and David graduated from Oregon State University in Corvallis, where David also graduated from Corvallis High School. The couple bring with them a family of 2 sons; Jacon, 2 1/2 years and Will, 5 months.

The church extends its invitation to the community to join in providing the Zaworski's with a warm welcome to our area.

Help Support the Heppner Hotel Project
On the Jan. 30 and Feb. 6 Community
Work Days With
Your Participation.
Volunteers Call
676-9141.

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