

The Official Newspaper of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

The Heppner GAZETTE-TIMES
Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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Joyce Hughes Office Manager, Typesetting
Diana Ball News Editor
Marie Struthers Graphics Department
Gail Papineau Graphics, Ad Sales
Shanna Paulus Proof Reading, Distribution

David and April Sykes, Publishers

Letters to the Editor

Let politicians know we are unhappy with situation

To the Editor:
Hunters and sportsmen—attention. Ray French was one of the first to have fee hunting on his property in Eastern Oregon. Mr. Gray, of Grant County, talked him into trying to get a bill in the legislature to give the ranchers who cooperated with the fish and wildlife boys a quota of the big game tags for the area to sell for whatever price they could get out of hunters who had the money to do such things.

They wanted tags for bulls, cows, bucks, does to sell to high bidders. I think that was getting too greedy. Let's all vote for Nelson and give these politicians notice we don't like them stealing our game to sell.

(s) Vernon Wilson
Heppner, OR

Vote no on No. 7

To the Editor:
I urge a no vote on Initiative 7. The Scenic Waterways Law under which these rivers would fall is legislation geared for the pleasure of certain recreationists only. These rivers were picked by a special-interest group who believe that their fun should take priority over drinking water supplies, food production, lumber for houses, and jobs for Oregonians. Property rights of adjacent landowners would be trampled and the threat of condemnation acquisition would always hang over them.

For this initiative no official in-depth studies are done on these rivers and no public hearings held. Selecting rivers for inclusion under this law without adequate study and with no public input is poor policy. These rivers are already well-managed by county, state, and federal agencies with flexible policies that can allow changes with changing times. Don't lock up these rivers forever for a few recreationists.

Sincerely,
(s) Jean Plaisance
Salem, OR

Send French back to Salem

To the Editor:
Maybe I am too suspicious. But I always wonder "Why?" when public bodies or candidates seem to be doing things which indicate a little more money than one would normally expect to be at their disposal. I have had occasion recently almost daily, to ask that question when I see the deluge of slick campaign material being sent by the candidate trying to unseat our competent representative of the 59th District. I found the answer in the endorsement for his challenger on page 87 of the Voter's Pamphlet. Our govern-

nor should realize we approve amendments to the constitution because we want them to be enforced. The incumbents voted against blowing the cap off the spending restriction bill we approved overwhelmingly in Oregon. And he is against a liberal interpretation of how the lottery funds should be spent. Please join me in voting for our own Ray French and sending him back to Salem to keep up his good fiscal work as our representative.

(s) Avon Melby
Heppner

French is accessible to Eastern Oregon

To the Editor:
One of the advantages of having a home-town legislative representative in our midst is that we can let him know our thoughts. Raymond French is accessible to us, and he is a fair man. He will address the concerns of all of us. Presently Raymond French is on the Water Resources Committee that governs our vital Eastern and Central Oregon water rights. In such committees it is not always what one does, but what one prevents happen-

ing, that is so important to us. In Salem, as in Washington, D.C. our governing processes are best served when two differing political parties govern the House and the Senate. Necessary compromises will then happen, insuring consideration of all points of view. I enthusiastically vote to re-elect Raymond French, and hope you will too.

Sincerely,
Meg Murray
lone/Heppner

Hardman Community Center

HAUNTED HOUSE

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at


Hardman Community Hall

Re-Elect

Jerry PECK

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French—a doer rather than a talker

To the Editor:
What is the record of Ray French, cattleman, business man, family man and four years in the Oregon Legislature? His values and his interests are those of Eastern Oregon. He is quiet, conscientious and helpful. He is a doer, rather than a talker.

His qualities show forth in his two terms as Representative of the 59th District and in the many hours of work associated with the Human Resources Committee. He sponsored, helped pass and/or voted for, among others, the following bills:
To guarantee that Oregon would never be allowed to tax Social Security benefits;
To give grandparents visitation rights;
Through "Project Independence" to furnish supplies and services necessary for senior citizens to live with dignity in their own homes;

To permit nurse practitioners to write selected prescriptions;
Through the Rural Health Bill to keep hospitals open in rural areas;
To provide facilities for 1700 new prison beds;
To make child pornography a class A felony;
To return budget surplus to taxpayers;
To stop proposed increase in gasoline taxes;
To stop the House from breaking the state's spending limit.

In addition, Ray French voted to block many spending bills and he worked for a common-sense approach to water rights problems. As he has been a capable and reliable State Representative for you and for me, we should re-elect Ray French on November 8.

Sincerely,
(s) Carroll Mitchell
Retired Army and Retired CPA
Baker, OR

Support Mike Nelson

To the Editor:
This is written in support of Mike Nelson as our next State Representative. I have confidence that he will honestly and fairly represent the citizens of Morrow County in our legislature.

Mike is not opposed to a spending limit and will never vote to repeal this legislation. Mike is a strong ad-

vocate for economic development. He is willing to work with local citizens to develop the potentials each area holds.
Be an informed voter and vote for Mike Nelson as our next State Representative.

Sincerely,
(s) Cara Costa
Heppner

French is there when we need him

To the Editor:
I am writing this letter to ask for everyone's support for Ray French in his race for re-election as our State Representative.

Ray has served Morrow County and all of his district professionally and well. He has the experience of being in the legislature and a lifelong commitment to this area of Eastern Oregon.

Ray knows our problems. He is a

very willing participant in searching out and accomplishing results that solve our problems. He always has an open door to the citizens of his district.

Ray has been there when we needed him; let us be there election day when Ray needs us.

Sincerely,
(s) John A. Prag
Boardman, Or.

Smith concerned about landowners

To the Editor:
Let me assure you that I am very interested in the protection of the rivers of the state of Oregon. I am equally determined in the protection of our citizens property rights. Also, I am an avid steelhead fisherman and have been for the past 45 years. I believe in wilderness when it is in the proper place and not abused. To me wilderness should follow the meaning that the Webster dictionary gives it. To quote, "a tract or region uncultivated and uninhabited by human beings." I think this includes people, domesticated animals such as horses and mules, or off-road vehicles. In other words, wilderness should not be an area reserved for the exclusive enjoyment of a few special interest groups.

protecting our rivers for the exclusive enjoyment of a few special interest groups at the expense of the taxpayers of Oregon. 85% of the rivers designated are in District 2 of Oregon. We are facing condemnation of private property, waste of tax dollars for federal studies, policing and "permit system" that will eventually evolve from this approach to river protection. Public use of our rivers will soon be a thing of the past.

Congressman Bob Smith was the only member of the Oregon delegation that tried to correct the problems that this bill is going to create. Bob Smith is concerned about the taxpaying land owners of his district. Remember this when you go to the polls to vote.

(s) Don Davidson
402 N Avenue
La Grande, OR 97850

Nelson is for jobs and economic development in Eastern Oregon

To the Editor:
When you become a senior citizen you realize that nothing much is new in the world. You've seen it or heard it all before. Wed Tech was to the Reagan administration what Teapot Dome was to the Harding administration, the sleaze of one was hardly distinguishable from the sleaze of the other. Now we are seeing the dirt of the Hoover campaign copied in the Bush campaign though in a little more sophisticated way.

Recently I read that the Republican party leadership had decided before the convention that they had to conduct a negative campaign to win. A few recent winning campaigns had been based on lies, innuendoes and rumors and that these methods were the only way to deflect public attention from the failures of the Reagan administration in which Bush had a major role.

Unfortunately the same thinking

must have permeated the whole Republican party. I recently received a little Republican tabloid from some Salem address promoting the re-election of the present State Representative from Dist. 59. One article featured some lies about his opponent, Mike Nelson, saying that he favored higher taxes and no State spending limits. I am particularly disappointed that the incumbent has not repudiated this false propaganda.

Mike Nelson has repeatedly stated that he opposes higher taxes. He is for economic development and jobs for Eastern Oregon. I would suggest that all voters study his real positions on the issues and his accomplishments in both business and service to his community. I am sure that if you do you will cast your vote for Mike.

Sincerely,
(s) Donald McElligott

French is "people's" representative

To the Editor:
In my capacity as Principal at Riverside High School, as Superintendent of the Morrow County School District, and now as President of Blue Mountain Community College, I have had the opportunity to work with many outstanding Legislators that represented Eastern Oregon. They were Legislators that sought the opinion of their constituents, and then tried to represent the desires of that constituency.

In the last session of the Legislature I had the privilege of working with Representative Ray French. In my opinion, Representative French has continued the Eastern Oregon tradition of sending "people's" representatives to Salem. On several occasions when bills were introduced that impacted

Higher Education, Representative French contacted me to alert me to the proposed legislation, and to seek my opinion on the impact that legislation would have for BMCC. I always found Representative French knowledgeable regarding proposed legislation and willing to listen to the view points of the various constituencies. There were times when Representative French did not share my views on a bill, but I always felt that he had listened carefully and had made his decision based on all of the information available to him.

I would like to ask the voters in District 59 to join me in voting to re-retain Representative French as our Legislator.

Sincerely,
(s) Ron Daniels
Boardman, OR 97818

Smith — a powerhouse in legislature

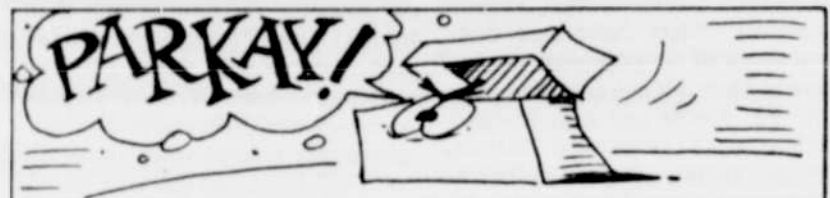
To The Editor:
An endorsement article appearing in The Oregonian noted that U.S. Rep. Bob Smith was a "20 year power in the Oregon Legislature". Having served as a State Representative along side of Smith for eight of those 20 years, I can attest to the fact that Smith was indeed a powerhouse in the legislature for the people of eastern Oregon.

In fact, I was always impressed by Smith's determination to put people first and special interest groups last. Of course, Smith's willingness to represent eastern Oregon has not always been popular with the high paid lobbyists and big city newspapers. Yet, time after time, Bob Smith has held his ground even if it has meant standing alone. The most recent example of this, as noted in the endorsement article, was on the Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers bill which extended federal control over several rivers located in eastern Oregon. Smith was opposed to this federal takeover attempt and fought hard on behalf of those he represents—even though powerful congressmen from Oregon's metropolitan areas applied great pressure on him to change his position.

During my service in the legislature, I was a Democrat and Smith was a Republican. In spite of this difference, I have always ad-

mired Smith and his strength of character. Without reservation, I whole-heartedly encourage the people of eastern Oregon to re-elect Bob Smith as their Congressman. A more committed representative would be hard to find.

Sincerely,
(s) Drew Davis
Portland, Or 97208



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