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The Heppner

Morrow County's Home-Owned Newspaper

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Rauch named conservation family



Conservation family of the year L-R: Steve Hill, Tana Hill, Mildred Rauch, Kathy Rauch, Tana Rauch.

Morrow County Conservation Man of the Year award goes to the Rauch family which farms near Lexington.

The family received the award at the annual Morrow County Wheat League meeting held last Wednesday in Ione.

Starvation Farms is a family operation. It is operated by Irvin Rauch and his wife Mildred, Irv's son Chris and his wife, Kathy, and Irv's son-in-law Steve Hill and his wife, Tana. The farm has 3300 acres of cropland plus 1100 acres of Conservation Reserve. It is primarily a wheat/fallow operation on deep Ritzville and shallower Warden silt loam soils.

This year there are 1333 acres in wheat, of which 180 are planted on double summer fallow land. Of the 1005 acres in soft white winter wheat, 350 are Malcolm and 650 Stephens. The remainder of the wheat is durum and other spring varieties. Irv believes it is important to mix up the varieties in order to reduce the impact of disease and insects. This has been a successful policy for the farm.

The principal conservation concern for the farm is wind erosion. If

the soil is worked too much, or if insufficient residue is left, the land will blow badly. Starvation Farms has been an active member of the Lexington Wind Control District since its inception in 1948.

In order to control wind erosion Starvation Farms minimizes the tillage operations. This is especially important on the double summer fallow acreage. Their usual practice is to plow with a chisel plow with sweeps. They will rodweed as necessary the first fallow year. In the second year they will spray in March or April and fertilize with their cultivator in May, followed by a rodweeding to set the moisture line. This practice has allowed them to seed the last week of August or the first week of September. Last year the yield on the double summer fallow was 70 bushels per acre. Single summer fallow land is yielding in the mid-40's.

While the increased yield on double summer fallow land makes it a profitable practice, still it would not be a part of the Starvation Farms operation if they could not keep the soil from blowing. They can, and it is.

The farm has a few sandy, very

fragile areas which tend to blow in spite of the tillage practices. They manage these areas differently, by staying off of them as much as possible, by seeding straw on them during especially erosive times. Another practice has been to straighten ditches and grass them. This allows for less turning when cultivating the field and helps hold the fragile soils. The farm has installed 13,600 feet of grass waterways.

One field is susceptible to water erosion, and as a result they have installed 25,400 feet of terraces.

Irv keeps a remarkable collection of drills on hand. He has 10", a 14" and 16" hoe drills, a 7", 12" and 14" disc drills. Depending on conditions, he will use one or the other to seed his wheat.

Irv's grandfather, Chris Moehne, started the farm in 1920. It is presently being farmed by third and fourth generation families, and is being farmed in such a way that the fifth and sixth generations will be able to farm it as well. Irv, Steve and Chris with the help of Mildred, Tana and Kathy present family farming at its best. They are community and conservation minded, and an excellent example of farming for the future.

The school district new tax base limit on schools and the school district operating levy both were voted down in Tuesday's elections. The tax base votes were 590 yes and 721 no. The district operating levy was 647 yes and 638 no votes. Irrigon voted on a three year serial levy which was defeated 96 no votes to 81 yes votes. The percentage of voters was Boardman, 35 percent, Ione 61 percent, Irrigon 32 percent, Lexington 48 percent and Hardman/Heppner 45 percent. The Heppner city sewer bond passed 311 to 97.

Reno Night postponed

Heppner Booster Club has postponed having their annual Reno Night usually held in June.

It has been decided by the club to have Reno Night sometime in the

fall, due to the fact that there are too many activities in the spring.

Look for the Booster Club's Reno night this coming fall. Don't forget.

Morrow County Election Results May 16, 1989

Measures	HEP/HARD		LEXINGTON		IONE		BOARDMAN		IRRIGON		TOTALS	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
State Measure No. 25-1 Establishes New School Tax Base Limits	249	41	118	182	136	726	331	122	111	157	242	963
M. C School District Operating Levy	261	58	143	185	145	792	301	103	83	151	235	873
City of Heppner Gen. Obligation Sewer Bond	311					311	97					97

British Broadcasting Corporation crew films area



Crew members of the BBC were in Heppner last week, filming a segment for a video about the CRP program in Oregon. They were in Pendleton and Heppner filming the effects of

the CRP in the community and visiting with businesses. Here they are talking with Joe Miller of Miller and Son's Welding.

A film crew from BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) was in Heppner last week to do some filming and research on Oregon's CRP program. Friday, they were in town filming and interviewing residents and businesses about the effects of the CRP program in the community. Saturday, they were hosted by TREO (Tours and Recreation in Eastern Oregon), with Judge Louis Carlson as their host.

According to Ms. Anne Brown, BBC reporter and spokeswoman, Oregon was chosen for this project because of its reputation in Europe

as a conservation leader and because Oregon is known as the "Green State". This is Britain's first summer in its operation of the CRP program and they came here to compare experiences.

The crew was in Pendleton last Monday and Tuesday to begin filming the first of a two-part segment in CRP. The second part will be filmed in Britain.

According to Ms. Brown, the British CRP program differs from the one in Oregon with respect to the idea behind it. Ag land in Britain is seen as a national resource. There is no requirement for spray, cutting or

planting. Specific lands have not been targeted to take out of production. The program is mostly aimed at conserving the habitat, ecology, saving the land for flowers and for recreation, says Ms. Brown.

Ms. Brown was here with producer Mike Fitzgerald and ag consultant or "farmer" as he put it, Dan Cherrington. Cherrington's brother, Rowen is an old friend of Stan Timmerman and Wes Grilley, Pendleton.

Ms. Brown replied that they would try to get a copy of the video back to Oregon for viewing, if possible.

Shaw presented Eagle Scout award



J.J. Shaw, third from right, received his Eagle Scout Award last Saturday night at the Heppner Elks Lodge. With him are his parents, left, John and Linda Shaw. Emcee Glen Ward is in the middle and Scott Cim-

miotti, Scoutmaster and Stacy Wilson, member of Troop 654 Hermiston, read off J.J.'s list of accomplishments in his years as a scout.

McElligotts host pioneer picnic

The thirty-sixth annual Morrow County Pioneer Memorial Picnic will be held Sunday, May 28 at the Morrow County Fair Pavilion in Heppner.

Registration will be from 10-12 a.m. and dinner begins at 1 p.m.

Many Heppnerites and former Heppnerites will be joining together to renew old friendships and re-visit old memories.

Visitors to the area are encouraged to visit the museum, take a look at Willow Creek Dam and lake and see what changes have occurred since they were last in town.

The McElligott family, hosts for the 1989 picnic, invite everyone to "slip on the old feed bag" and join them for some fine Eastern Oregon Cuisine.

Those attending are asked to bring salads and desserts.

Hemlock spraying begins



Jerry Anderson, Jim VanWinkle and David Winters load their sprayers to complete their project of spraying for poison hemlock. Willow Creek, Hinton Creek and Shobe Creek were sprayed for the fourth year. "It takes less time and less spray every year," says Jim, "we are making progress."

MCCAC meets

The Morrow County Creative Arts and Crafts group will meet May 22 at the Wagon Wheel. The no-host dinner is at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting is at 7 p.m. The special program for the evening will be a demonstration on Country Wood Carvings given by Rene Devin.

Anyone interested in arts and crafts is welcome to attend.

Weather Report

by City of Heppner

May 9 - 15

	High	Low	Prec
Tues.	72	45	.16
Weds.	59	35	.0
Thurs.	59	35	.0
Fri.	63	36	.0
Sat.	67	46	.08
Sun.	69	41	.0
Mon.	74	49	.0

Market Report

Compliments of the Morrow County Grain Growers

Tuesday, May 16

	Soft White
May	\$4.63
June	\$4.61/\$4.56
July	\$4.50/\$4.48
Aug.	\$4.45
Sept.	\$4.48/\$4.50

Barley

May	\$113 T
June	\$112/\$111 T
July-Sept.	\$108 T
Pik	99¢
Hard Red Winter	\$4.72

CONGRATULATIONS-Starvation Farms
 Conservation Man of
 The Year
 Award Winner!

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