

Winds cause minor damage and power outage in area



Vern Batty ended up with a tree in her yard after storm early Monday.

Photo by Joyce Hughes

A wind storm caused a power outage in Heppner, blew several trees over and did other minor damage to homes and businesses.

Bill Gentry at Columbia Basin Electric said that the wind blew "a lot of power lines together. We lost nine poles (throughout the service area)."

Power went out in Heppner at 3:20 a.m. on Jan. 7 for one hour and forty minutes. Gentry said that everyone is back in service, but the last to be reconnected in Gilliam County, finally received power on Tues.

"We were more fortunate than other utilities," said Gentry. A tree was uprooted at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner and blown from the hospital to the helipad, but Pioneer Memorial administrator Ernest Wick said that there was "very minimal damage." Wick said that some tiles were also blown off the hospital roof.

Heppner resident Vern Batty of Court Street said that a tree fell on her house, but "just one board was split." "I was fortunate," said Batty. Batty said she now just has a "yard full of clutter."

A tree also fell on the home of David and Rhonda Winters on Church Street in Heppner. Rhonda said that the tree branches cushioned the tree's fall so that "only a corner of the shingles was torn off." "It was just a lot of work getting the tree cut up and out of here," she said. "We lost a nice shade tree, but I'm glad no one was hurt."



Josh Winters helps his dad cut up trees that fell in family's yard during storm

ner of the shingles was torn off." "It was just a lot of work getting the tree cut up and out of here," she said. "We lost a nice shade tree, but I'm glad no one was hurt."

A power outage in Boardman caused schools to close. Several trees blew over and area businesses lost signs.

The Heppner

Morrow County's Home-Owned Newspaper

G-T azette Times

VOL 108 NO. 2 Wednesday, January 10, 1990 Heppner 25¢ 8 Pages

Pranger, Bennett hired by SWCD



Dave Pranger

Dave Pranger is the new weed supervisor for the Morrow County Weed Control District, replacing Jim Van Winkle, who is now employed by the U.S. Forest Service. Dave

graduated from Oregon State University with a B.S. degree in ag. engineering technology. He worked as a lawn care specialist in the Portland-Metro area before coming to Morrow County. Dave and his wife Anita are living outside of Lone. "I am looking forward to working with the people of Morrow County and I encourage anyone with questions or ideas to call or stop in the office," said Pranger. The phone number is 676-5452 and the office is located at 430 Heppner-Lexington Highway in Heppner.

Tom Bennett joins the Soil Conservation Service staff in Heppner as the new soil conservationist. Tom was raised in western New York and graduated from Cornell University College of Agriculture with a B.S. degree in agricultural technology in 1977. Before coming to Heppner, Tom worked in Sherman County for



Tom Bennett

eight years and Hood River County for one year as a technician. Tom and his wife, Bonnie, have three children, Chris, 13, Rebecca, 11 and Jon, 5, and are living in Heppner.

Town and Country speaker is 'Outrageous and hilarious'

"Outrageous and hilarious" is how one reporter described Jon Bowerman's performance of cowboy poetry at a recent livestock meeting. He keeps his audience entertained with poems and stories that range from runaways and rodeo

wrecks to stray bulls and artificial insemination. He often ends up rolling on the floor or flying off the stage to illustrate what happens when cowboys try to ride outlaw horses or milk a half-wild cow on the open range.

"The Cascade Horseman" states, "Anyone who ever thought of poetry as a placid and dignified art hasn't heard or seen Jon Bowerman in action."

Bowerman is a fifth-generation Wheeler County, Oregon cowboy. He has written dozens of poems, most of them humorous, from his experiences working on the ranches and on rodeo circuit. "I was lucky in rodeo," he says, "I broke my neck just before I starved to death."

Bowerman writes a monthly column of humor and satire for "Cascade Cattleman" magazine. His poems and stories frequently appear in such publications as "Western Horseman", "Agri-Times" and "Cascade Horseman."

He has written two books. His most recent "Mustang Bulls and Milk Snakes," is devoted to poems and stories about the cattle business. The first book, "Cowkicks, Colts and Peanut Butter Bulls," was published in 1986 and is one of the few books of cowboy poems written exclusively for children. It contains twenty-six illustrated nursery rhymes, one for each letter of the alphabet.

Jon lives with his wife, Candy, and daughters, Lizzie Beth and Becky, on a small ranch on the breaks of the John Day River. All cow work is done with horses and horse breaking provides additional income and constant source of new material for poems and stories. The Bowermans are members of the Oregon and National Cattlemen's Association, the American Quarter Horse Association and the Cowboy Chapter, Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Jon Bowerman is the guest speaker at the Town and Country banquet January 19. The prime rib dinner banquet is the final event in a week of activities and meetings. Tickets are \$11 and are available at local stores.

Air Life visits Heppner with new twin-engine helicopter



Jackie Bergstrom (l) Morrow County Medical Board Chairman, receives wind sock from Vern Bartley, program director of Air Life.

A new Bell 222 Air Life helicopter made a visit to Heppner Jan. 9.

The twin-engine helicopter, with two 750 hp engines, replaces a Long Ranger 206 650 hp single engine craft.

Vern Bartley, program director for Air Life ambulance service, says that the new helicopter will enable the service to carry two passengers and three care providers instead of one passenger and two care providers as in the older helicopter. The new copter will travel 160 miles an hour, 40 mph faster than the Long Ranger.

Bartley said that heavy patients will not be a problem in the new vehicle and that winds "don't really slow us down." He said that the arrival time from Bend (where the air ambulance service is based) to Heppner is around an hour, but the service will fly the patient "wherever the doctor wants to go." He says that the helicopter can land anywhere with a 100 foot circle of

larity that ground providing there are no trees.

Bartley said that the service also has a fixed-wing aircraft available 24-hours a day. This aircraft would land at Lexington and patients would be transported from Heppner to Lexington by ambulance. He said that his service will respond to doctors and agencies such as law enforcement and hospitals, but they will also respond to individuals, although a more careful screening is done in the latter case. "We're here to complement the local (ambulance) crew. We rely on them," Bartley said. "Our primary role is as second responder - we're an air ambulance service, not an air rescue service."

Another service offered by Air Life is a subscription plan, whereby families or individuals subscribe to the air ambulance service for \$40 a year. Bartley says that if a subscriber uses the service, Air Life bills the subscribers insurance, and Air Life accepts the insurance payment as payment in full.

Elks Hoop Shoot Jan 13

Competition for the 18th annual Elks Hoop Shoot, the national free throw shooting contest for youngsters age 8 through 13 will be held at Heppner High School Saturday, Jan. 13 at 3 p.m. and Lone High School at 10 a.m.

Over three million youngsters from throughout the country entered last year's competition for boys and girls in age categories 8-9, 10-11, and 12-13. Ages are determined as of April 1. Each contestant has 25 shots at the hoop. The boy and girl in each age group with the best scores advance through four tiers of competition to qualify for the national finals.

Local winners will compete against other contestants in the district event at Hermiston, Jan. 27. Names of the national winners will be inscribed on the Elks National "Hoop Shoot" plaque, on permanent display in the New Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Massachusetts.

For further information call Dave Gunderson at 676-5423 or Dick Allen at 422-7563.

Fire burns in chip pile

A Jan. 6 fire at Kinzua Corp in Heppner was started by "spontaneous combustion," according to Heppner Fire Chief Forrie Burkenbine.

Burkenbine said that the fire had been smoldering in saw dust and bark chips at the mill and burst into flames at 9:25 when fanned by the wind.

Seventeen firemen and four fire engines extinguished the blaze with no serious losses. "We had a few problems in the grassy area," said Burkenbine, "but we kept it from spreading."

Town and Country week begins next week, starting on Tuesday, Jan. 16, with a noon luncheon and continues through the week, ending with

a prime rib banquet on Friday beginning at 7 p.m. Following is the week's schedule of activities.

"Into the 90's With Pride and Cooperation"

January 23 - 26, 1990

Heppner, Ore.

(All meetings are open to the public)

Tuesday, Jan. 23

12 Noon Chamber installation luncheon (\$5) Heppner Elks Club

Thurs., Jan. 25

5 p.m. Winetasting, Elks Club

Fri., Jan. 26

All meetings at the Elks Club

8 a.m. Soil and Water Conservation District Business Meeting

10 a.m. SWCD annual meeting

11 a.m. Small Woodlands Association meeting

12 noon Luncheon; Panel discussion featuring

Teresa Taafe, Frank Pearson, Kinzua Corp.

General Manager, Joe Miller, Gary Neal, Port of Morrow director, Roger Williams, U.S.

Forest Service and Bill Jepsen, Wheat

Producer

1:30 p.m. Wheat League Meeting

Cattle Women's Association meeting

3 p.m. Livestock Growers meeting;

Presentation by Mike Mehren "Beef Cow Nutrition"

4 p.m. Presentation by Bill Broderick "Tractor Safety for Minors"

4:15 p.m. Presentation by Walco Co.

6 p.m. Social Hour, compliments of the major

chemical companies

7 p.m. Prime Rib Dinner (\$11 each) with Jon Bower-

man, Cowboy Poet, as featured speaker

Live music and dancing will follow dinner with music by Rubicon.

Stop by and find out about our
CHRISTMAS CLUB ACCOUNT



A great way to save
for the holidays

BANK OF Eastern Oregon Member F.D.I.C.
Arlington • Heppner • Lone
Your Independent Home Owned Bank