

Gazette times

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Principal's departure 'bittersweet'

Principal at Heppner Elementary School for the past 20 years, Don Cole, 51, will be leaving the district when his contract expires June 28.

The departure is "bittersweet," says Cole—he will be leaving his home and friends, but he has announced that he has plans to marry. He will marry Glenda Elskamp, whom he had met shortly after high school. The pair renewed their friendship through a mutual acquaintance in Hermiston, where Elskamp was working as an auditor for Adult and Family Services. She later called on Don and suggested a reunion. Don, an avid sportsman, postponed the meeting, because elk season started the next morning. They did however finally get together the following year, and plan to marry this summer.

Cole came to Heppner right out of college and taught for three years, from 1961 to 1964. He taught science in the first completed wing of the high school building. At that time high school was held in what is now the junior high building. Because some classes were at the high school and some were at the elementary school the students were bused back and forth. "We spent more time on the bus than we did in the classroom," said Cole. The year before Cole came, he said the elementary school gym had been divided into four classrooms to accommodate the number of students and music classes were held on the stage.

Originally from Baker, Cole graduated from Eastern Oregon State College in LaGrande with a degree in elementary education. Only three credits shy of having a double degree in elementary and secondary ed., Cole said that after he got involved with elementary kids he never went back. "I really enjoy working with elementary and junior high students." He taught third grade through high school freshmen.

In 1964, he left the Heppner area and worked in Milwaukie, Ore. While teaching there, he also received his master's degree in counseling from Portland State University. The basic certificate for counseling and administration was basically the same, but Cole never accepted a full-time counseling position, opting instead for administration.

Cole's first administrative position was with a one-school district at Three Links, which was located around 25 miles up the Clackamas River near Estacada. At Three Links he was not only superintendent, but principal and half-time teacher.

Cole returned to Heppner in 1971, when he became HES principal. Ron Daniels, now Blue Mountain Community College president, was Morrow County Superintendent. When Don taught school in Heppner, Daniels was principal at Boardman High School, now called Riverside



Don Cole

High. Cole says that when he first came he was probably within 10 to 15 students of enrollment now, which is around 350. The exception to that was when the plywood plant was running and enrollment soared to around 500, with 30 to 35 students per classroom.

Some things have changed about the community, though, says Cole. In the first years, only 12 or 13 students came and went over the school year. Now an average of 40 to 50 change during the year. "One of the biggest changes I've seen," he said, "is in the family structure. When I came back probably only 10 percent of the mothers worked, now we're lucky to have 10 percent that don't work." He also noted that a much higher percentage of students are eligible for reduced or free breakfast and lunch programs from one to two percent to 20 to 30 percent.

But the biggest change that Cole has seen in his job, "I think the thing that has changed the most about the job is the thing that got me into this in the first place—the direct contact with the kids. The paperwork absorbs so much of your time and energy. I like to get into the classroom—I like the 'Lunch Bunch' program—I think I like it more than the kids do." (In the program at Heppner Elementary, students are rewarded for good behavior in assemblies and are selected to have lunch with the principal.)

Cole said that he was first drawn to the community as a good place for kids. "I came back here with the idea that this was a great place to raise a family and I raised three boys

here. I hope I've returned things to the community. It's a great place to raise kids." Cole's three sons are now grown. Randy, now 30, is a teacher in Aberdeen, Washington. Rick, 28, a home builder, and Rodney, a restaurant manager, live together in Sacramento. "They still consider Heppner their home," he said. "It's a good feeling to walk down the street and be able to call people by their first names." He says some people that he taught now have grandchildren going to the same schools.

Considering his departure, which he calls "a challenging experience," Cole says that he hopes that the "school can remain a focal point in the community. The school really is a focal point and I wouldn't have it any other way." He expresses concern about the effects of Measure 5 saying, "The equalization is going to hurt this county. You look down the road and wonder what is going to happen...without some kind of supplemental system, the state of Oregon is really going to go down the tubes. There will be no more local control, there will be state-run schools."

Active in the Chamber of Commerce, the Tourism Committee, the Lions Club, the Elementary Schools Principal Association of which he was president last year, Cole says he hopes he will be dealing with people in his new undertakings, because "That's what I like."

"It's been a really pleasant experience here," he added, "I really hate to leave the community. I have mixed feelings."

Special Election Tuesday, March 26, 1991		Boardman	Heppner	Ione	Irrigon	Lexington	
Issues and Candidates		Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Totals
Morrow County Operating Levy		212	382	148	205	106	1053
\$3,401,984 outside tax base		173	341	80	248	82	924
Morrow County Medical Fund Operating Levy		192	527	167	183	125	1194
\$474,645 outside tax base		189	188	60	270	63	770
Morrow County School District Director Zone 4	Marcia Kemp	106	380	115	109	161	871
	Bill Sheirbon	261	303	123	175	63	925
Ione Rural Fire Protection Measure				143 89		14 5	157 94

Easter Services planned

The community Easter Sunrise service will be this Sunday, March 31 at 7 a.m. in the Heppner High School gym.

The Rev. Grace Drake will deliver the message.

Everyone is invited to attend. Following is a list of church services throughout the area for the Easter week.

Ione United Church of Christ
By the Rev. Isa Brown

The Maundy Thursday communion service will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 28.

An Easter breakfast is planned for 8:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday with Sunday school at 9 a.m. and worship at 10 a.m.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church
Fr. Gerry Condon

The schedule of Holy Week Devotions at St. Patrick's is as follows: Thursday evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7 p.m.;

Good Friday, commemoration of the Lord's suffering and death, 7 p.m.;

Holy Saturday: vigil Mass of the Resurrection, 5 p.m.;

Easter Sunday: Mass of the Resurrection 11 a.m.

St. William's Church, Ione

Good Friday: Stations of the Cross, 5:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday: Mass of the Resurrection, 8:45 a.m.

Everyone is welcome.

First Christian Church
Pastor Roger Scharen

Easter breakfast hosted by the Lexington Baptist, The Christian Life Center and the First Christian churches will be held at the First Christian church at 8:30 a.m. The public is invited.

Sunday school program will follow at 10 a.m. with Easter services at 11 a.m.

Heppner United Methodist
Rev. Gerry Etchison

The Easter service will begin at 10:30 a.m. The choir anthem will be "An Easter Alleluia" and scripture will be from Jeremiah 31: 1-6 and Matthew 28: 1-10.

Everyone is invited for an Order of Worship celebrating the resurrection of Christ.

All Saints Episcopal Church
Rev. George Izzett

Maundy Thursday service will be Thursday, March 28 at 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday traditional service will be from 12 noon to 3 p.m. The service will be appropriately spaced in 30 minute intervals so that worshippers may leave when it is necessary. Holy communion will be administered during the service at



approximately 2:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 30 will be the Great Vigil of Easter at 7 p.m. The service will include the lighting of the paschal candle and presentation of the candidates for baptism and Holy baptism.

Easter Sunday school classes for adults and children will be at 9:30 a.m. with Easter worship service at 10:30 a.m.

Valby Lutheran Church
Rev. Stan Hoobing

Valby Lutheran church will observe Easter Sunday services with special music by the Hope-Valby Parish Choir, liturgy sung by Kent Goodyear and lots of food at the Easter breakfast. Pastor Hoobing will preach on the theme, "On a Clear Day You Can See Forever."

Easter service at Valby will be at 8 a.m. with a breakfast to follow in the fellowship hall at 9:15 a.m. The breakfast will be served by Rudy and Jackie Bergstrom, Joel Peterson, Larry Palmer, Dave Baker, Roland and Donna Bergstrom, Herb, Nancy, John and Helen Ekstrom.

Hope Lutheran Church

The confirmation youth-Dani Hill, Jossie Evans, Rene Devin, Char Coe, Matt Keersema, Ron Robinson, Kelsie Evans and Andrea Miles and their parents will serve Easter breakfast from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Easter worship service starts at 11 a.m.

Bryan Traylor hired as Heppner Elementary School principal

A twelve-year teaching veteran and the father of three has been named the new principal of Heppner Elementary School. Bryan Traylor, Pendleton, will replace long-time principal, Don Cole, on July 1. (See related story.)

Traylor, 33, has taught four years at McKay and eight at Sherwood, both in Pendleton. Two of his 12 years of teaching have been at the fourth grade level and 10 at the sixth grade level. He has taught in all subject areas and has also taught science camp. The Heppner Elementary appointment is Traylor's first position as an administrator.

Traylor received his bachelor of science degree in education at Western Oregon State College at Monmouth in 1979 and master's in education at Eastern Oregon State College at LaGrande in 1990. He received his basic administration cer-

tificate from the University of Oregon. He has also participated in a special two-year intensive study program called a Field Base Internship for Principal Preparation and Certification, in which only 25 people were involved state-wide.

Traylor and his wife, Alice, also 33 have three children, Christopher, 4, Daniel, 7 and Phillip, 10. They plan on moving to Heppner after the school year is over and are looking for a four bedroom home to rent or lease. Traylor said he intends to "See what things are successful (at Heppner Elementary) and support them and work with staff on implementing programs." He also said he would like to "look to see what we can do to make computers more accessible" for the students.

Alice, a student at BMCC, working for her associates degree has also been employed parttime as a bank teller.



Alice and Bryan Traylor

Easter egg hunt planned for Sat.

The annual Heppner Elks Easter Egg Hunt for area children will be held this Saturday, March 30, beginning at 10 a.m.

Pre-school through Kindergarten children should assemble at the museum grounds; first and second graders at the lower field of the elementary school; and third and fourth graders at Hager Park.

Ione plans Easter party for kids

The Ione Extension Club will sponsor an Easter party for children ages preschool through the fourth grade on Saturday, March 30.

The party which will feature games, refreshments and prizes for everyone will be held in the basement of St. William's Catholic Church, 110 Main Street, in Ione. Party time is 10 to 11:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to come join the fun.

Simplot's huge feedlot near Boardman will be closed permanently by June 15, according to company officials.

Located at Three Mile Canyon, the feedlot has been phased out by owner J.R. Simplot company for being inefficient.

The lot, which finishes 80,000 cattle per year was opened in 1981.

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