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Ione 4th of July a huge success



Marvin "Saddam" Padberg wheels his SCUD launcher in Ione's 4th of July parade last Thursday. Padberg used a squirt gun to urge parade watchers to the dunk tank later in the day.

By Anne Morter

The annual Ione Fourth of July celebration was highlighted by Captain Leland White's breathtaking B-52 Fly-By and by the Boardman-based Port of Morrow's bed racing teams stunning upset in the highly competitive bed race.

White, son of local ag pilot, Tom White, maneuvered the mammoth B-52 past the crowd four times. Conversation between Leland in the air and Tom on the ground was broadcast over the PA system, allowing the crowd to eavesdrop. Leland radioed from 14,000 feet over Arlington at 5:15 p.m. and arrived in Ione within minutes. On his first pass, he opened the bomb doors as he flew over. After turning around somewhere over Heppner, he flew over as slow as he could get the plane to go, approximately 165 miles per hour. On the next trip, he tipped the plane up on a wing, enabling the crowd to see the top of the plane. On his final pass, White brought the B-52 in from the east at full power before turning the nose skyward over the football field and heading home for Fairchild Air Force Base in Spokane, WA. According to organizers, the B-52 Fly By was a hit with the crowd and will probably not be repeated since Leland White is leaving the Air Force.

In the dog-eat-dog bed race, the Port of Morrow team from Boardman clawed their way to victory over several local teams including the Circle W Flying Pigs. The Flying Pigs were disqualified for blatant cheating and the International Bed Racing Federation (IBRF) is considering official sanctions and possibly a lifetime suspension for the "Pigs" outrageous disregard for official rules. The "Pigs" were caught using twice the allowable number of team members, hindering other teams, and generally disrupting this highly structured competition. Organizers noted that the Port of Morrow team's win obligates them to return next year to defend their title.

The Parade honoring all veterans kicked off the festivities. About 30 veterans acting as Grand Marshals, rode on the lead float. The parade

also featured the Morrow County Rodeo Court with a full battalion of pennant bearers, several antique and restored automobiles, the Martingales 4-H Club, the Smoke-Free, Drug-Free class of 2000, Smokey the Bear who is helping the forest service celebrate their 100th anniversary, (with the spotted owl controversy in full swing, Woodsey Owl was notably absent) and many others. The crowd's favorite had to be the Bristow's Bag Ladies. The staff of Bristow's Market were dressed in their best house coats, support hose, army boots and curlers and pushing shopping carts. At frequent intervals, they strutted their stuff much to the delight of the crowd.

At the parade end, the veterans were honored. Dustin Padberg led the crowd in singing "America the Beautiful" and then provided a musical background as Rich Harper read excerpts from John F. Kennedy's 1961 Inaugural Address. Shortly after the ceremony, two F-15 Eagles from the Portland Air National Guard did a Fly-By, an exhibition that had been confirmed the day before at 4 p.m.

Contests ran throughout the warm and breezy day. Brent Sheirbon won in the singles division of the tennis tournament and then teamed up with Rich Harper to take the doubles title. Jeff Orr, Dorian Forrar and Tim VanCleave of Heppner defeated Gregg Rietmann, Joel Peterson and Dennis Stefani of Ione for the three-on-three basketball tournament. On the women's side, Lana Orr, Missy Cutsforth and Dana Reid took the title.

The Padbergs, Darcee, Dustin and Darren won the volleyball tourney. Marie Rudisill of Ione won the women's cow chip toss. She said she's always been good at slinging the bull and it was about time she won something for it. Jeff Orr won on the men's side.

Sam Bellamy won the horseshoe toss, becoming a repeat winner as he had tossed his way to victory several years back.

Hailey Barger, hot shot frog jumper from Sitka, Alaska, coached her big bullfrog to a win in the

frog jumping contest. Hailey, who celebrated her first birthday as well as her first big win on July 4, is the daughter of former Ione resident Deena (Hams) Barger. Over 90 youngsters participated in the popular frog jumping contest.

The dunk tank was a new event this year, added to raise funds for the Mike Matthews Memorial Scholarship. Dunkees were Ione mayor, Mark Tullis, city council member Linda LaRue, IHS coaches Gregg Rietmann and Del LaRue, and most popular of all state trooper Carl Martin. Martin, dressed in full uniform played his role perfectly, even holding a sign that said "\$50 fine for fuzzi-dunking."

"It was a heck of a day," said co-chairman Marvin Padberg. "It was a great day of family fun, just like we advertised," said the other chairman, Frank Halvorsen. They reported that everything came off relatively smooth and the weather couldn't have turned out much better. They felt that the B-52 Fly-By was a very enjoyable addition to the festivities. They also reported that the day was successful for the local groups and clubs who used booths to raise funds.

County to mail questionnaires

Morrow County is conducting a survey to ensure that everyone is able to get the help he needs in the event of an emergency. Questionnaires are expected to be mailed on Monday, July 15, to some county residents. The questionnaires will be printed in both English and Spanish.

The questionnaire was designed to find out who is unable to hear, read, or understand emergency messages, and who needs extra help if they have to leave their home in an emergency.

The survey includes boxes to check off if you cannot hear, cannot see, cannot move around well, cannot understand English or Spanish and have no one to translate, whether you need an ambulance or medical care to leave home, special medical supplies, a special vehicle to leave

Forest Service building construction nears



Ruby Shear at Forest Service building site

A community project, three years in the planning is nearer to fruition this week as demolition on the Fulleton building in Heppner is nearing completion.

The building was destroyed in order to make way for a new U.S. Forest Service office building. Ruby Shear, owner of the property, says that construction of the building, which has already been set back two weeks because of regulations and other delays, is expected to begin in two weeks, barring any more delays, and completed by the end of December or the first of January.

According to Shear, the single level building will have wood siding and an awning and the site will include room for 60 parking spaces. The building will be 11,500 square feet, compared to 9,900 square feet of the Fulleton Building and 10,500 square feet of the Columbia Basin Building for example. The project will also occupy the neighboring house owned by the Lauritsens,

which will be moved, and the apartments nearby which will be torn down, said Shear.

Miller and Sons Excavation has been contracted to do the demolition. Bruce Sinkey, of Design Studios of Eugene is the architect, and Pacific Construction and Development Inc., of Eugene is the building contractor. "I've encouraged them to hire as many locals (for the subcontracting) as they can," said Shear. "Because this is the community's building, not mine."

Shear said that she will have four five-year leases with the Forest Service, with a guarantee of 10 years of occupancy. "The Forest Service main office has worked really well with me," she added. Shear began working on the project in Nov. 1988.

The buildings on the site have evolved from a saloon to a livery stable to a gas station and then to an automobile sales garage first owned by the Fergusons, then by Charlie

Hodge and then by Roice and Betty Fulleton. Ruby's parents who bought it in 1952. Ron McDonald leased the building as Ron McDonald's Chevrolet until they left to move to Madras in 1984. Ruby and her husband, Tom, bought the building from her parents that year.

Ruby and her parents and sister, Diana (Ball), moved to Heppner in 1952. A third daughter, Becky (Cannon) was born in Heppner. Ruby graduated from Heppner High School in 1968. She taught fifth grade at Heppner Elementary and her husband taught art at the high school and junior high from 1968 to 1977. The Shears, who now live in Eugene, own two retail nurseries, Reed and Cross Nursery in Eugene and Springfield Nursery in Springfield, and a wholesale nursery, Shears Nursery. They also do landscaping at the Lane County Fairgrounds in Eugene. They have two children, Ann, 8 and Ryan, 11.

Queen Jodee injured in accident

1991 Morrow County Fair and Rodeo and Oregon Trail Pro-Rodeo Queen Jodee Ashbeck was injured early Saturday morning July 6, in a one-vehicle accident on Coombs Canyon Road near Pendleton. According to police reports, Timothy Hamilton, the driver on the 1972 Bronco, failed to make a curve on Alkili Canyon Road around 2:30 a.m. Saturday. The vehicle rolled once and ejected all of the passengers, none of whom were wearing seatbelts.

Jodee, who was transported to St. Anthony Hospital in Pendleton, sustained multiple fractures of her upper arm and shoulder. She was expected to be released from the hospital Tuesday, July 9. Hamilton was treated at St. Anthony Hospital for a skull fracture and then transferred to Walla Walla where he underwent surgery. He is in serious condition.

Two other passengers in the vehicle, Christine R. Duggan, 19, and Richard J. Sanford, 20, both of Pendleton, were treated at St. Anthony.

According to Jodee's mother, Julie Ashbeck, Jodee plans to carry out her court activities by use of an immobilizer for her arm and shoulder and will use a calmer horse for parades. She will also limit grand entries for awhile said Julie. Jodee's recovery is expected to take six to eight weeks.

Midge spraying planned

The City of Heppner will be contracting fogging for midges (a small insect swarming at Willow Creek Dam) in the areas in town around the dam.

City officials say that a malathion insecticide will be used and residents

are advised to stay indoors for 30 minutes after the spraying.

When the city receives complaints about the insects it will begin spraying. Rene Devin, city recorder, says that a list of people requesting prior notification of spraying will be kept at city hall.



Harvest Time - Dean Munkers watches the unloading of a wheat truck at the Morrow County Grain Growers Ione elevator. Harvest is now underway in Morrow County. Heidi Nelson from the Ken Nelson farm is driving the truck.

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