

Masonic Lodge donates scholarships



Bob Isted presents Hands on Science coordinator Sarah Carlson with a check for three half scholarships for the after school science program, on behalf of the Heppner Masonic Lodge.

The program involves hands-on science activities for children and is coordinated through Heppner Elementary school.

Columbia Jr. High students score high in academic contest

Columbia Junior High earned the highest score ever attained in the fall competition for the Knowledge Master Open December 4. A team of 12 students scored 1235 of 2,000 possible points. This ranked the group 13th in the state. Students participating were David Boudreaux, Jason Brown, Erika Cornejo, Brad Emerson, Steve Garver, David Miller, Ruth Moultrie, Megan Smythe, Lonnie Spray, Shanna Tallman, Alejandra Torres and Robbie Vandecar. The team was coached by Sally Edinger.

The Knowledge Master Open is an international academic contest on computers. Students from

50 states, Canada, Mexico, Africa, Asia, Europe and South America compete in a grueling academic contest derived from all areas of the school curricula. Teams faced tough questions and vied for top scores based on accuracy and speed of answers, said a school spokesperson. This enabled all schools the opportunity to compete in a national academic contest without the expense of traveling to a central site.

Results of the contest are tabulated into national, state and enrollment size rankings by Academic Hallmarks, a Colorado publishing firm that hosts the event.

Last advent service is Wed. Dec. 18 at Lutheran churches

The last advent mid-week worship service will be observed on Wednesday, Dec. 18 at 7:30 p.m. at Hope Lutheran Church in Heppner and Thursday, December 19 at 7 p.m. at the Valby Lutheran Church outside of Ione. Pastor Hoobing will preach on the theme "From Bethlehem to Bedlam" in honor of "Holy Innocents", one of the festivals that is covered in the overall theme of "Holidays that Christmas Forgot." The readings will be based on the slaughter of

innocent boys under the age of two by King Herod. The message will be a scripture reading from St. Matthew 2:13-18.

Adult Bible class at Valby will meet at 8:15 a.m. on Sunday, December 22. The class will continue its study of the book of Revelation. "God Does Not Give Up On You," will be the theme of the Sunday sermon by Pastor Hoobing. Worship service begins at 9 a.m. and worshipers are encouraged to bring poinsettias to church.

FFA officers attend convention

It took 45 hours by bus for Heppner's FFA delegates to reach Kansas City, Missouri, for the National FFA convention November 11-18. "But it was worth every minute," concurred the two Heppner chapter officers, Jennie Ashbeck and Scott Coe.

These two Heppner High school juniors were joined by other Oregon delegates who boarded the bus at stops from Portland to Ontario. And from there they stopped only for meals, they said. In Kansas City, they joined 26,000 delegates from all over the United States including Alaska and Hawaii.

"If it doesn't interfere with football, I'd like to go again next year," chapter president Coe said. Ashbeck said she was already planning to save money for next year's trip.

Heppner chapter fund raisers, particularly the annual slave auction, paid for all major expenses for Coe and one-half of the expenses for vice-president Ashbeck.

Highlights of the convention were the appearances of President George Bush and Miss America, they said. Contests, workshops and general assembly meetings were part of the busy schedule. But they also attended the American Royal rodeo and a Shenandoah concert.

"The retiring speeches by national officers were particularly inspirational," Coe said. And he

commented that it took a great deal of dedication for these people to commit to, serving a year in that capacity.

Both Ashbeck and Coe have farming backgrounds that led to their interest in FFA, they said. Both officers intend to compete for a State Farmer degree. And they are looking forward to the state FFA convention to be held in The Dalles in March during spring vacation.

"FFA is a great opportunity to polish public speaking skills," Ashbeck commented. Coe agreed that parliamentary procedure and creed speaking contests helped to make it easier to speak in public.

Both students are also enthusiastic about the livestock judging and soil judging contests that give FFA students an opportunity to learn other skills.

"We recently had a 'sales contest' in class," Coe said. Each student was required to pick a product and develop a format for selling that item. True to their gender interests, Coe gave his sales pitch on chainsaws, he said, while Ashbeck selected clothing to sell.

Following graduation next year, their career choices are undecided they said. Both students said they are leaning towards agri-business interests and both said they are planning on attending a community college for further education.

Elementary students take part in 'Mail Call'

It may be Christmas year 'round in Christmas, Florida, and the spirit of Christmas may be present year round at the headquarters of Military 'Mail Call' but this is the time of year when it really comes to the surface. For the better part of two decades, in both crisis and calm, the organization has served as the clearinghouse to spread morale boosting mail from concerned and supportive Americans to our troops in as many places as possible.

Heppner Elementary school, coordinated by teacher Mary Haguewood is taking part in the Christmas mail program. The Christmas greetings are resorted into well over 1,000 bundles, ranging in size from 25 or so to 4,000 plus cards and letters, and sent priority mail to units and locations all across the U.S. (more than 40 states) and in every

corner of the globe. The twin goals are to include mail from many people and places in each of the thousand plus outgoing

bundles while spreading each persons cards and letters as widely as possible. It works. One soldier wrote that his unit was excited to find mail from 39 states in its bundle, and many participants have received responses from every continent. Because the mail is so widely dispersed, Christmas Mail Call has been used by schools to help make geography more interesting by prominently posting maps and pinpointing the locations across the U.S. and around the world from which the students receive responses. Teachers also use the program as an aid in reading, letter writing, art, typing and word processing.

Even though Christmas Mail Call is now in high gear, there is still time to become involved in the upcoming 1992 Valentine Mail Call. To learn how, please send a new first class stamp (no return envelope, please, just the stamp) to Military 'Mail Call' Box 817, Christmas, FL 32709-0817, and mention where you learned about this program.

No more Trader

Last week was the last publication of the Trader, a free distribution shopper. "Advertising has dropped to low to continue publishing," says publisher David Sykes.

Boardman man pleads guilty to break-in at Browns

Christopher Lyons, 19, Boardman, plead guilty to second-degree burglary in connection with a break-in at Brown's Truck Stop in Irrigon in October of last year, said Jeff Wallace, Morrow County District Attorney.

Judge Richard Courson sentenced Lyons to 18 months'

formal probation and imposed 90 "custody units" on Friday, Dec. 6. He also required the defendant to serve 30 days in jail and make restitution in the amount of \$422 to Brown's Truck Stop. In addition, Lyons was ordered to pay a \$50 victim-witness assessment, according to Wallace.

Liberty Is

Once in a while you come across a phrase that someone else has written that has such a ring of truth to it that it sticks like glue to some inner circle of your mind. That even happens to me, a fact that might come as a surprise to some of my friends.

But that's the way it was about half-way through Stephen Chapman's article in the Sunday Oregonian about Patrick Buchanan. You know those folks? Stephen Chapman is a libertarian columnist that sometimes appears in the Oregonian Forum. Typical of Libertarian's, Chapman writes on the outer fringe of political thought, most of the time.

Pat Buchanan is the ultra conservative running for President.

Sunday's article was debunking Buchanan for claiming to be a conservative when Chapman claimed to have the exclusive on that subject. It was all pretty ordinary stuff. But I'm glad I forced myself to worry through the piece. Because buried in the middle was a real gem that stuck in that inner circle and popped out every little bit to strike me with its wisdom.

Chapman wrote, "Loving liberty means embracing tolerance..."

That didn't have a lot to do with Buchanan, or with conservative political thought, nor with government at all. But it did strike a cord with me. You see, I think I'm the champion of liberty, freedom, man's (and woman's, of course, don't label me yet because of the inadequacies of the English language) freedom to try, and fail, to try and try again and to someday, somehow succeed.

I hate rules and rule makers because I think we should all be motivated to do the right thing, not by a system of laws and regulations but by the pragmatic wisdom of doing the right thing. What? The ultimate of liberty, don't you see?

Well, Chapman's phase put a new spin on that. "Loving liberty means embracing tolerance." If I love the liberty to just hang up my shingle and start printing a newspaper, well, that means I guess, that I must tolerate your doing the same. That's easy enough. I can handle that.

But I'm a little intolerant of some other things. I'm pretty intolerant of folks taking flash pictures during a play. Well, one or two parents taking a picture or two of little Johnny in his first school play, well, I can stand that. But you give a couple dozen grandparents with two or three rolls of film and a set of fresh batteries, I can get a little testy. I like the liberty to take a few pictures at a ball game, but I must confess to losing my embrace on tolerance at a play attended by a bunch of shutterbugs.

Another thing I don't like: Those hot rodders that pass me on the freeway like I'm set in concrete. I really believe that speed kills and I don't want it to be me. I can just see the speed demons passing me and then crashing such that I can't avoid the mess. Sometimes I mutter harsh words about a tailgater bound to get to Portland three minutes ahead of me. What really destroys my grip on tolerance is when the cops can't catch the guy who just passed me so they flip the yellow paper through my open window.

There are other instances I could site, perhaps less important than those two, where my love for liberty is immense, but my hug around tolerance is insecure. Nevertheless, Chapman's words haunt me because there is wisdom in what he says. I already think I have a giant embrace on tolerance of my fellow man. I can honestly say that if my neighbor wants to run off with another man's wife, that's OK by me. But I must admit, I'm likely to lose my grip and not be too respectful of his liberty if it happens to be mine.

So I think I've got it sorted out like this: Neither liberty nor tolerance are absolute things. There is a limit each of us would place on our embrace of either. In order to keep peace among us, we all give up a little liberty and admit to a little intolerance. The goal, it seems to me, is that the little bit of liberty we give up, is no more than the little intolerance we practice. If we let the two get far out of balance, then we begin to agree with what Chapman writes, or Buchanan stands for.



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