


The Official Newspaper of the  
City of Heppner and the  
County of Morrow



The Heppner  
**GAZETTE-TIMES**  
Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

U.S.P.S. 240-420

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**Obituaries**

**Margaret A. Wright**

The funeral for Margaret A. Wright was held at the United Methodist Church in Fossil on Saturday, May 2. Private committal services were held at the Mayville Cemetery.

Mrs. Wright, 72, of Fossil, died Monday, April 27, 1992 at Pacific Community Hospital in Newport.

She was born May 24, 1919 at Condon to George and Robena Smith Parman. She grew up on the farm her grandfather had homesteaded in 1889. She attended local schools and later graduated from Oregon State University with a degree in home economics.

On Jan. 12, 1942 she married Jack L. Smith at Payette, Idaho. They lived on the Smith family farm near Mayville until his death in 1970.

She was actively involved with her three sons in the operation of the family centennial farms near Condon and Mayville. She helped organize and promote the sale of Oregon wheat in Japan and South America.

In September 1979 she married Herb Wright of Fossil and became active in Fossil community affairs.

She had served as secretary of the Wheeler County Tourism and Economic Development Commission and as a member of the Fossil Elderly Housing Commission; the Fossil United Methodist Church and the Gilliam County

Historical Society. She had served on the Board of Directors of Condon Grain Growers and as a trustee of the Pacific International Livestock Exposition had been a member of the Oregon Wheat Growers League, Oregon Cattlemen Association and Agri-Business Council of Oregon, she had served statewide with the Oregon Historical Society, the State Scholarship Commission and most recently was chair of the State Ethics Commission.

Survivors include her husband, Herb at the home; sons Roger Smith, Loyd Smith and Gordon Smith, all of the Condon area; daughter Janet Pihos of Portland; stepdaughter Pat MacInnes of Fossil; sisters, Janet Kirkpatrick of Portland and Jean Stranix of Corvallis; 10 grandchildren and two great grandchildren. A sister Mildred, also died earlier.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Fossil Ambulance Fund, PO Box 467, Fossil, Oregon 97830.

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**Sheriff's Report**

The Sheriff's office at the courthouse building in Heppner reports dispatching the following business during the past week:

April 28: Morrow County deputy contacted a resident on Black Horse Canyon regarding a suspicious vehicle in the area;

Morrow County deputies contacted an Ione resident regarding her missing vehicle. Vehicle was returned;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for a report of an assault. Call was unfounded.

April 29: Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for a report of a suspicious vehicle in the area. Investigation is continuing;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to the east bound rest area for one male with an illness. Male was transported to the Boardman Clinic;

Morrow County deputy responded to a motor vehicle accident on Fuller Canyon Road. Two females were transported by private vehicle to Pioneer Memorial Hospital;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Heppner ambulance to the cafeteria of the Heppner Junior High school. One female with injuries was transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital;

Morrow County Sheriff's office responded to the Irrigon area for a juvenile problem;

Morrow County deputy contacted an Ione resident regarding telephone harassment. Investigation is continuing;

Morrow County deputy arrested George Phillips Murphy, 21, on a Umatilla City warrant, Failure to Pay Fine. Murphy was transported and released to Umatilla Police Dept.

April 30: Morrow County deputy responded to a family dispute in Irrigon;

Morrow County deputy responded to an Irrigon resident to investigate an animal problem;

Morrow County deputy responded to Tower Road South, exit 159. Cows were on the road;

Morrow County deputy contacted a Boardman resident with an emergency message;

Morrow County deputy responded to an Ione resident regarding a dispute over a barricade.

May 1: Morrow County deputy contacted a Boardman resident with an emergency message.

May 2: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Arlington ambulance to a motor vehicle accident on I-84, mile post 124 east bound. Four patients were transported to Mid Columbia Medical Center;

Morrow County deputy responded to an Irrigon resident to investigate a report on a possible child abuse. Investigation continues;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area to

**MCSWCD plans tree give-away**

The Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District will be giving away pine and fir seedlings Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, May 12, 13 and 14 at the district office at 430 Heppner/Lexington Highway, Heppner between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Anyone interested must bring their own containers. For more information contact Janet Greenup at 676-5452.

**In the Service**

**Marine Pfc. Ryon B. Johnson**, son of Gerald Johnson, Irrigon, recently completed the Aviation Electrician's Mate Course.

During the course, at the Naval Air Technical Training Center, Naval Air Station Memphis, Millington, TN, students receive introductory instruction required to perform scheduled maintenance on naval aircraft including specialized training on electrical and electronic instrument systems.

Johnson is a 1990 graduate of Riverside High School, Boardman. He joined the Marine Corps in May 1991.

investigate a report of a possible drunk driver.

May 3: Morrow County deputy responded to the Boardman area for an animal problem. A bull was loose on the road;

Morrow County deputy received a report of a motor vehicle accident on Hwy. 730 mile post 177. Vehicle had sheered off a power pole and was still running upon officers arrival but no one was around;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area to take a report of a stolen vehicle. Vehicle was recovered;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Boardman area for a report of shots being fired; Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for a disturbance. Deputy was unable to locate anything.

May 4: Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for a neighborhood disturbance;

Morrow County deputy responded to Rod's Market to investigate possible criminal mischief. Michael R. Snyder, 21, was arrested and transported to Benton County Jail;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area to investigate a possible report of a reckless driver. Investigation is continuing;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for a family disturbance.

**D.A.'s Report**

The District Attorney's office at the courthouse in Heppner reports handling the following business during the past week:

Corey Owen, 23, Hilltop Drive Boardman, plead guilty to first-degree theft in Morrow County Circuit Court on April 24 in Heppner. According to Wallace, Owen admitted to receiving property stolen from a building owned by Longview Fibre in Boardman.

Owen was placed on two years' formal probation and ordered to serve 90 custody units. As a further condition of probation he was ordered to have no contact with persons associated with criminal activity and to pay a \$40 victim-witness assessment.

**Mustangs trounce Pirates**

By Andy Ashbeck

The Mustangs hosted cross-country rivals Riverside Pirates on Thursday April 30 and defeated the Pirates 11-1.

The two teams met earlier this season in Boardman, and Heppner dropped two to the Pirates but this time the Pirates danced to a different tune.

Senior Jim Kindle started on the mound for the Mustangs pitching the whole game giving up three hits and one run and striking out eight Pirate hitters. The Pirates scored their only run in the first inning. The Mustangs scored six runs in the fifth inning to help 10-run the Pirates in the sixth.

The Mustangs combined for 10 hits lead by Scott Coe with three and Jason Britt with two. The final score was Heppner 11 Riverside one.

**Same Old Story**

You know me pretty well. It would have been impossible to write this column nearly every week for almost four years without baring a bit of my soul.

I've just been looking through some of those old pieces and, not surprisingly, I've found some that put even me to sleep.

There were some good ones though, some issues that really laid out how I felt than and how I feel now. Most of those pieces told you a great deal about me. You know, for example, that I'm married to Frances, a school teacher. I wrote her a birthday message on July 19, 1989. You know that son Harold has graduated from Riverside, attends BMCC and will go on to Oregon State.

Daughter Laurel will graduate from Riverside this year, we have a dog and cat. You know a great deal about us all and how I feel about a lot of issues. Take government for example:

On January 11, 1989, I wrote that "Private ownership of land and control of its use is one of the very cornerstones distinguishing us from the nations of the world." Since then the Soviet empire has collapsed and the Russian people are regaining private ownership of land. More importantly, they are regaining control of its use. Is that a lesson we could learn?

Part of government is the way we sort out the right to use water. You might get the idea that water rights are a favorite subject of mine since I wrote about them on December 2, 1989; February 28, 1990 and on September 5, 1990, I defended the idea the first time, first in right, when allocating scarce water among water users. My soul is akin to all water users in arid county where there is rarely enough.

Otherwise, governmental regulations have come under fire in a piece called "Free" on May 2, 1990, and government spending blasted on September 26, 1990, in a piece called "Too Bad We Don't Have A Chance."

Economic development has always been close to this column. On June 28, 1989, Dorothy Krebs' work as the first chair of the Morrow/Umatilla County Regional Strategies Committee was applauded and the following April 18, in a piece called "We're Real Pickers," I listed what I think are the important factors of desirable growth: taxable construction, favorable impacts on business and agriculture, and addition to the potential for further growth and development.

In applying those criteria, I found development of secondary wood products industries desirable in a piece "Timber Is Done" on May 9, 1990, but I found that a prison did not fit in an earlier article on August 2, 1989.

Favoring county involvement in its own economic development was the subject of "Great Experiment" on December 12, 1990.

I guess I've always seen Morrow County as one whole unit, not the sum of two diverse parts. I suggested a cross county visitation in "Armistice Day" of October 31, 1990 and again on December 19, 1990. In the earlier of those pieces I wrote that population should not be the basis of distributing county services, a position I continue to hold.

I've made a few blunders too. On January 18, 1989, I wrote about a nightmare I had about the teacher's strike. That led to an ill-advised exchange of classified ads. But on April 19, 1989, I apologized to Gary and Marcia Kemp. Having regained some of my sensibilities, On September 6, 1989, I urged a "no" vote on the school board recall election and applauded that result on October 18. Finally, on March 27, 1991, I wrote "Crow Needs Salt" about how dedicated the school board is in pursuing education in this county.

So there you have it. The author of this column is a known quantity. The same over the years. There's no chance now to put on a new set of clothes and tell you what you want to hear. You've already read just how it is as I see it.



**OSU professor to speak at dinner**

There is still time for all friends of OSU - parents, volunteers, or alumni to register to attend the Golf & Gala Dinner on Wednesday, May 13.

The '92 fun golf tournament will be repeated at Willow Creek Country Club. Prizes will be awarded to both men and women for net and gross scores. The cost is \$2 for country club members and \$10 for non members. The tournament starts at 1 p.m.

The evening dinner will begin at the Heppner Elks Club with a no-host social hour at 5:30 p.m. A prime rib dinner will follow at

6:30 p.m. Price is \$14.50 for the dinner. Harold Kerr will be present to renew acquaintances with friends. The program will include comments from Dr. Michael Mailen, professor of agricultural and resource economics at OSU, and from Betty Brose, director of development, E.R. Jackman Foundation.


Interested friends of OSU are asked to respond to E.R. Jackman foundation by April 17. For information, or a registration form, contact the Extension office, 676-9642, prior to April 17.

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Proud to serve the community we grew up in!



**JOHN PRAG**

Use John Prag's Expertise to:

- Apply modern management techniques to county government.
- Increase the tax base to minimize individual tax impact.
- Promote county involvement in protection of property rights.