

Local FFA delegates attend FFA convention

Zane Martin and Brent Wright, Heppner FFA Chamber officers, were delegates to the national FFA convention in Kansas City, Mo. November 11-16. Expenses for their airfare were partially funded through local chapter fund raisers.

Martin said this was a great opportunity as one of 23,000 delegates to meet people from all over the United States and several European countries.

Highlights of this convention included a career fair where agriculture colleges presented agriculture-related courses. A farm and livestock equipment fair also gave insight into the new products available on the market, Martin said.

The convention also featured leadership seminars designed to help officers. The awards ceremony for national proficiency awards was impressive, Martin said, as was the installation of national officers.

The FFA delegates were entertained by singer Lee Greenwood, who also spoke to the members. An address was given by secretary of agriculture Mike Espy.

Heppner delegates said it was fun to attend the stock show that was in progress at the same time as the convention. For Martin, being an observer was a new role, as he has shown cattle there from his herd of about 30 saler cows.

Wright, who has grown up on the family ranch at Rhea Creek, has been an active 4-H and FFA member during his Heppner school years. His main project area includes a small flock of purebred sheep.

This is Martin's first year as a Heppner FFA chapter member. Martin, who lives on the Vey Ranches on Big Buttercreek, was previously an FFA member in Montana and in Crook County. Martin hopes to attend the national convention again next year while attending Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton. There he plans to major in animal genetics and nutrition and he hopes to be a part of BMCC's livestock judging team.

Tina Kemp ties for 1st in contest



L-R: Tina Kemp, Ryan Munkers, Zane Martin

Members of the Heppner FFA chapter competed at the state level in contests held Dec. 11 at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton.

Tina Kemp of Lexington tied for first in sales and was presented a third place award in customer relations in the state competition. Teacher Bill Umbarger said that contestants were required to complete a written test and give a sales presentation as though they were selling a product. They were also required to demonstrate how they would handle a customer's dissatisfaction with a product or service.

Kemp, along with other Heppner FFA members, Ryan

Munkers and Zane Martin placed 11th overall in team competition out of 28 chapters throughout the state competing. Of the eight FFA chapters in the local district, Umbarger said three of those chapters were in the top 11.

Heppner FFA members also placed among the top 10 in other contests, Umbarger said. Students gained valuable experience from mock job interviews after submitting personal resumes. Participants were also given oral interviews about their capability and knowledge concerning a specific workplace. Chapter members also competed in advertisement lay-out displays.

Ask your state police

Oregon State Police Senior Trooper Norm Zeller, Heppner, is considering writing a column in the Heppner Gazette-Times "Ask your state police". The column will be designed to answer some of the questions the public may have regarding Oregon's laws.

Questions concerning the state motor vehicle code, the fish and wildlife code or the criminal code may be sent to "Ask Your State Police" Norm Zeller, c/o Heppner Gazette-Times, Box 337, Heppner.

The Gazette-Times and officer Zeller welcome your inquiries.

HEPPNER



VOL. 112 NO. 52 8 Pages Wednesday, December 29, 1993 Morrow County Heppner, Oregon

Health Dept. seeks volunteers for program

The Morrow County Health Department is seeking volunteers to administer topical fluoride treatment to children in local schools, according to Morrow County Public Health Nurse Laura Burnside-McElligott.

The program follows a report by the health division that cites a lack of access to preventative services for 'whole populations', including fluoridation and oral health education.

Oregon has one of the lowest water fluoridation rates in the nation, according to the report. In 1989, only 23 percent of those served by public water systems had access to fluoridated water. This ranks Oregon 45th among the 50 states plus Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. Water fluoridation is considered the most cost effective means of preventing tooth decay in communities.

Most Morrow County communities have some naturally occurring fluoride. However, the levels still are too low to obtain full benefit of fluoridation. Children at least through age 16 should take an additional fluoride supplement. Call the Morrow County Health Department to find out the level of fluoride in your water and the supplement dosage needed.

Topical fluoride is another prevention method. It can be used in addition to partially fluoridated water. Oregon Health Division will provide materials and training for giving topical fluoride to school children. The time requirement for volunteers would be approximately five

minutes per class each week.

In addition, says Burnside-McElligott, many of Oregon's low-income and geographically isolated individuals do not have access to dentists for regular check-ups and sealants. Three Oregon counties, Gilliam, Sherman and Wheeler, have no practicing dentists. Another three counties have a very low dentist-to-population ratio, at least 50 percent lower than the average for the western United States. These counties are Tillamook, Curry and Polk.

Children in schools with half or more of the students receiving reduced price or free lunches had double the decay compared with schools in higher income areas. Both A.C. Houghton in Irrigon and Sam Boardman Elementary Schools are in this category, says Burnside-McElligott.

The amount of tooth decay varies by ethnicity and region of residence. Native American and Asian children had higher rates of dental disease than Hispanics, African-Americans or Caucasians. Untreated cavities also were more prevalent in residents of rural areas than urban residents. The need for dental treatment among caucasian 10 to 12 year olds was 16 percent in urban areas and 26 percent in rural areas.

Regardless of race or ethnic origin, Oregon's five year old Head Start children have higher decay rates than the overall rate for five year olds nationwide.

Low-income adults have extremely poor oral health. More than three-fourths of the low-

income adults screened at public health clinics needed dental care.

Seniors, too, have an inordinate amount of tooth decay. More than half of the nursing home residents examined needed dental treatment, including about 17 percent who needed urgent care because of pain or infection. The dental health of those examined at senior centers was slightly better than nursing home residents, but worse than average for U.S. senior centers.

Poor oral health can result in severe pain, premature teeth loss and general health problems. Prevention and early treatment of tooth decay can prevent problems that are more severe and more expensive.

Rick Wilson, a dentist representing the Oregon Dental Association, traces Oregon's dental problems to inadequate funding. He said dentists are "overwhelmed" with requests for free or discounted care. "Oregon dentists are willing to do their fair share," said Wilson. "But the profession cannot shoulder the entire burden of dental care for the poor. The Oregon Health Plan will help some access problems. Society has a responsibility to fund that care."

Oregon's report on oral health was jointly funded by the Health Division, Oregon Health Sciences University and the Multnomah County Health Department.

Anne Morter BMCC coordinator



Anne Morter

Anne Morter of Ione is the new South Morrow County community coordinator for Blue Mountain Community College.

A problem with the phone lines has kept the Blue Mountain phone

line out of service to start this term but anyone needing information may contact Morter at 422-7429. The Blue Mountain line, 422-7040, should be functional again near the end of January.

Winter term registration is underway, with one class, Handgun Proficiency, already full. Classes offered this term include a variety of computer classes, knitting, "Snowball Star", quilting, Spanish, aerobics, woodworking and once-a-month cooking. A woodworking class has been added in Ione with Robin Graff as the instructor. That class will meet at the Ione High School shop on Wednesdays from 6-9 p.m.

Students needing class or registration information are encouraged to call. Morter, is anxious to hear from people with new class ideas.

Sheep growers conference planned for January 10

A conference for Umatilla and Morrow County sheep producers will be held Monday, Jan. 10 at Thompson Hall, Umatilla County Fairgrounds, Hermiston.

The conference is sponsored by the OSU Extension Service in Umatilla and Morrow Counties. Producers are asked to RSVP by January 7 to the Umatilla County office 276-7111 ext 235 or Morrow County office 676-9646.

Registration for the conference will begin at 1 p.m. The registration fee is \$2 per person. Coffee and refreshments will be provided compliments of Pendleton Grain Growers.

The program will start at 1:30 p.m. with a presentation by Dr. Jim Thompson, OSU Extension sheep specialist. The title of Dr. Thompson's presentation will be "Sheep Production After The Wool Incentive Program". Following this will be a segment on "How To Use Body Conditions Scores (BCS) To Improve Management". This segment will be presented by Bill Broderick, Morrow County Livestock Extension agent and Dr. Thompson. It will also provide participants an opportunity to evaluate 15 ewes for BCS.

Dr. Thompson will also present the results of his research conducted last year in Douglas County that evaluated the effectiveness of Volar, the recently released foot rot vaccine. At 3:30 p.m. Randy Mills, Umatilla County Extension Livestock agent will present an overview of current research on heavy muscled lamb (HMS). Following this participants will have an opportunity to sample and taste barbecued lamb from HMS lamb and make a direct comparison to "regular" lamb. Following a question and answer session the conference will adjourn at approximately 4:30 p.m.

Fire at mill results in damage

A fire that broke out Christmas day in one of the kilns at Kinzua in Heppner resulted in very limited damage, according to Paul Sumner, public relations director at the mill. The Heppner Fire Department responded to the fire around 2:30 p.m.

Sumner said that the motor of

the kiln was burned up and the roof over it was charred.

Sumner said that they initially believed that the fire was caused by one of the shafts on a blower motor, but discovered that the shaft and motor were operating. He said that there is a possibility that a belt broke, causing sparks.

Animal health clinic slated in Lex.

Dr. Dick Temple and SmithKline Beecham have scheduled an animal health clinic for January 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Lexington Grange. Dinner will be provided by SmithKline Beecham and the Lexington Grange. The program will follow the dinner.

Dr. Ron Cravens (SmithKline Beecham) will discuss calf scours. Dr. Temple will discuss trace minerals, copper and

selenium, in particular. The program is not complete at this point, but there will be a segment on nutrition as well, says a press release. "You can not divorce nutrition and diseases," said Dr. Temple. "The more we learn about nutrition and diseases the more we learn about the relationship of nutrition to diseases."

RSVP by calling Karen Temple, 989-8181 before January 12 as soon as possible.

Alumni tournament set for this weekend

The Heppner High School Alumni Tournament is scheduled to be this Friday, Dec. 31 at 1 p.m. at the high school.

Saturday, Jan. 1, action will get underway with volleyball at 10 a.m. at the junior high school and basketball at 11 a.m. at the high school. A reservations-only banquet will be held at the Heppner Elks Club Saturday evening. Due to illness the group 'Henchmen' will not be playing.

Sunday will close the tournament with championship games and three-point and free throw contests.

Following are the brackets: Men's basketball: Friday '71-'74 vs. non letter 1 p.m.; pre-'70 vs. '75-'77, 4 p.m.; '82-'87 vs '91-'93, 7 p.m.;

Saturday: '78-'81 vs. '88-'90 10 a.m.; loser of game one and two, 11:30 a.m., winner of game one and two 2:30 p.m.; loser of game three and four 1 p.m. winner 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: Consolation game 1

p.m.; championship 6 p.m.

Women's basketball schedule: Friday: Team A vs. Team B 2:30 p.m.; Team C vs Team D, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday: loser game one vs. loser game two, 4 p.m.

Sunday: winner game one vs. winner game two, 4 p.m.

Women's basketball teams consist of the following years: 'A' '77, 80, 85, 89 and 93; 'B' '76, 81, 84, 88 and 92; 'C'

'79, 82, 87 and 91; 'D' '78, 83, 86 and 90.

Women's volleyball play will begin Saturday at 10 a.m. at the junior high gym with team A vs B. Team C and D will play at 11 a.m.; E vs F, 12 and G vs H, 1 p.m.

Volleyball teams are split 'A' '92-93; 'B' '90-91; 'C' '88-89; 'D' '85 and 87; 'E' '84 and 86; 'F' '81-83; 'G' '78-80; and 'H' '77.

Casey O'Brien listed in serious condition from sled accident

Casey O'Brien, son of Ginger and Burke O'Brien, of Heppner, is listed in serious condition at St. Charles Medical Center at Bend following a sledding accident December 26.

Casey, a senior at Heppner

High School, is in the intensive care unit at the hospital suffering from head injuries.

A nursing supervisor at the hospital said that Casey had not undergone surgery.