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HEPPNER

Gazette times

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Princess Kim accomplished rider

Princess Kim Bedortha, lone, of the 1994 Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo, is an accomplished rider. This 17-year-old brunette first became acquainted with horses when she was carried horseback in the arms of her parents Tom and Anne Bedortha, who are former rodeo committee members.

Kim's first mount was a pony named "princess." That Shetland mare was her trusty steed for barrel racing, playday events, moving cattle and trail rides.

This year, Princess Kim's court mount is a dark bay 11-year-old quarter horse mare named "Molly." That mare has also proven to be an all-around type of horse, Kim says. Perhaps this mare is also one of the cleanest horses to be found anywhere due to weekly baths before parade appearances.

An active 4-H'er, Princess Kim has been involved in horse and sheep projects. An avid sports lover, she also par-

Princess Kim Bedortha

Height: 5'7"
Eyes: Blue
Hair: Brunette
Parents: Tom & Anne
Age: 17 year old senior

Activities: 4-H, volleyball, varsity basketball, track, lifeguard



ticipates in volleyball, varsity basketball and track at Lone High School, where she will be a senior this year. Summertime finds her serving as lifeguard at the lone swimming pool.

As an instructor for swimming lessons, Princess Kim has lots of hands-on experience when working with youngsters. Presently she is

considering a future role as a grade school teacher. Following high school graduation, she is planning to enroll at Western Oregon College in Monmouth.

When it comes to community events, Kim pitches in along with other lone residents. When the town hosted over 2,000 Cycle Oregon overnight visitors, Princess Kim helped prepare meals and lunches.

Fair and rodeo court experiences are not new to Kim's family. Her older sister, Kristine, was a princess on the 1991 court of Queen Jodee Ashbeck. That same year, Kim served as a permanent court pennant bearer. Wee morning hours, miles of travel and waiting in parade line-ups are some of the unglamorous parts of being a court member.

Kim enjoys her role as a court princess, meeting people and making new friends. She says her goals are to be successful and happy while striving to be a positive role model for younger girls. That attitude, shared by other members of this year's court, makes Princess Kim an outstanding representative for Morrow County.



Photo by Joyce Hughes

Lifeguarding doesn't mean just watching the kids. Pool maintenance is a big part of Kim's job.

Harvest yields about average

This year's wheat crop is "about average", according to Morrow County Grain Growers manager Larry Mills.

Mills said Tuesday that harvest was "pretty well over the half way point" and the average yield was around 40

bushels an acre. He said that last year's average was over 50 bushels per acre.

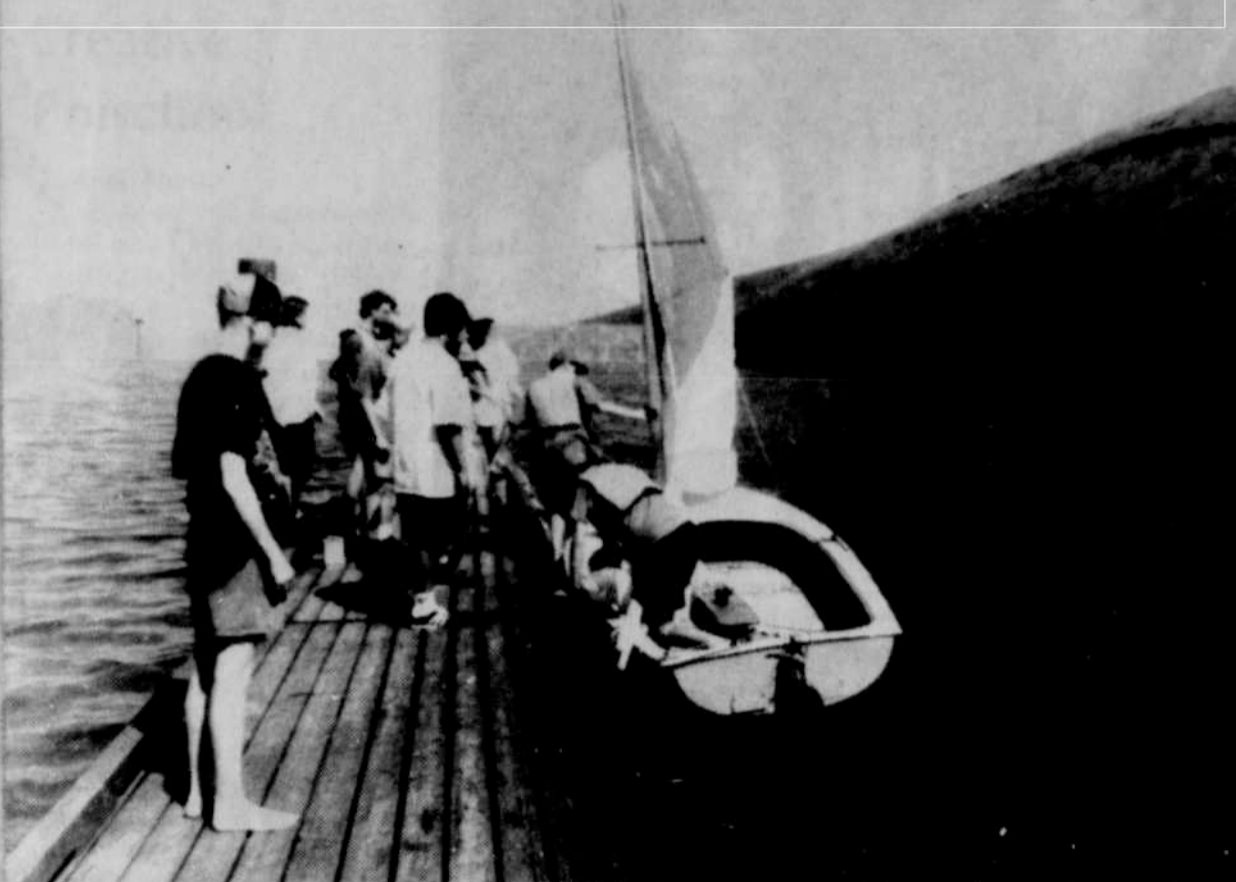
"With the moisture conditions we had the early part of the summer and the heat, I think everyone's pretty pleased," added Mills.

Park District to discuss pool

The Willow Creek Park District, at its meeting Aug. 10, will consider placing the issue of a Heppner-area swimming pool before the voters.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at Kate's and is open to the public.

Local man wants youth sailing club



Local kids gather at the dock to test the new sailboating club.

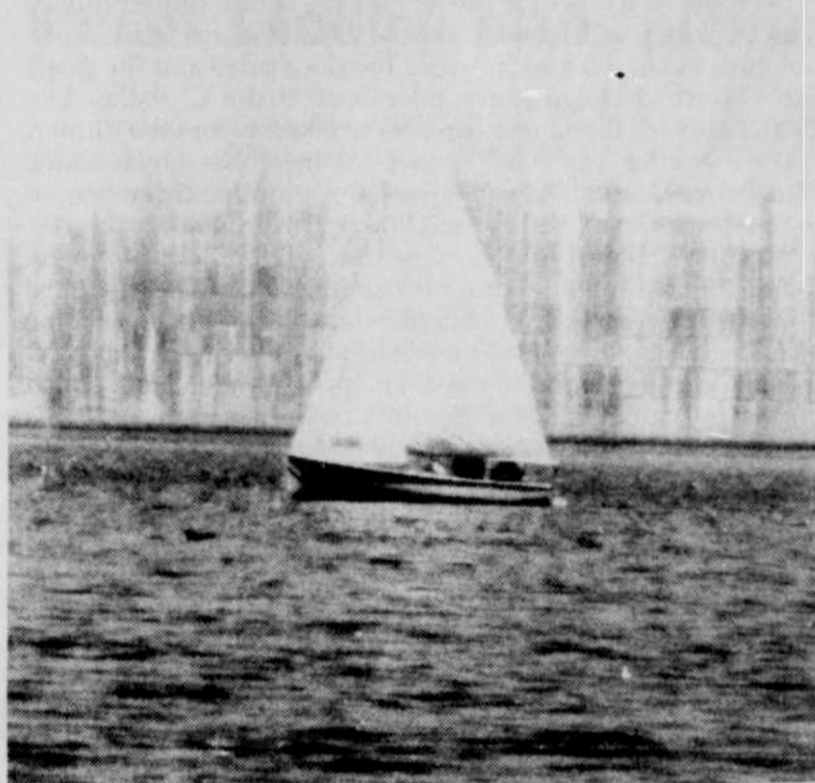
A lot of people talk about creating activities to keep our youth challenged and out of trouble, but often, nothing comes out of their good ideas. Joe Wilhelm of Heppner not only has the ideas, but the determination and knowhow to get the ideas off the paper and to work in the community. And it didn't even take a government study.

Wilhelm is in the process of getting a youth sailing club started, not only in Heppner, but in Boardman, Irrigon and Umatilla. His dream is to eventually rotate regattas between the four communities. Wilhelm says the regattas would not only provide a healthy activity for area youth, but would also provide a little spirited competition between the communities and would boost tourism dollars. When people come with their children to the regatta, they probably won't leave the area without visiting area stores. Sailboats on the lake would enhance the eye-appeal for visitors and users of the developing RV park. Sailboats are also compatible with the environment, adds Wilhelm.

The sailing club would be open to youth 12 to 18 years old and children eight to 12 years old with parental participation. If there are enough adults interested, classes could be scheduled to meet the demand. Wilhelm says that he wants to keep the costs for youth participation low or non-existent, so the club wouldn't become exclusive to a small group. The club will be open to every kid, both boys and girls, he says, as long as they follow the rules. Besides giving the kids something to do, Wilhelm says that the program will give them confidence, teach them a skill that requires cooperation and teamwork, is fun and gets them outdoors, off the couch and away from T.V. and video games.

Wilhelm, who has already taken several prospective sailors out on Willow Creek Lake, became interested in sailing while working at the docks at Wilmington, CA. After Joe had an extremely close call during the Los Angeles riots, he and his wife Marina decided to pack up their three sons, Stacy, who just graduated from Heppner High School, Shawn, 15, and Travis, 14, and move back to his home town, where "things weren't so crazy."

Wilhelm has located sailboats for the project, at a fraction of the normal cost. A Boy Scout organization at Long Beach, CA, has agreed



Shawn and Travis Wilhelm test sailboat in the waters

to sell him four 20-foot sailing boats, valued around \$4,500 each, at a cost of \$600 each as tax deductible contributions. Wilhelm says that the cost per community would come to around \$1,500. In addition to the boats, Wilhelm estimates that additional costs would include \$500 from each community for a trailer, \$300 for freight, and another \$100 for miscellaneous costs. Motors for the sailboats will be an additional \$400, but Wilhelm says a motor is not necessary at Willow Creek Lake.

Not one to sit around and wait, Wilhelm is already out beating the bushes for contributions and has lined up instructors. Mark Miller, a Morrow County Sheriff's deputy, and his wife, Elaine, who have sailed the Pacific, have

volunteered their time to help kids learn to sail, the Coast Guard Auxiliary will be able to come to each area to teach boater's safety and classes can be arranged to teach first aid and CPR, says Wilhelm. Wilhelm requires that each participant have parental permission, supply his own life jacket, complete a Coast Guard boater's safety course and demonstrate the ability to swim with or without a life jacket. One thing of vital concern to Wilhelm is getting an emergency line at the lake installed in the event of an accident.

Anyone who has ideas about funding or who would like to contribute to the program or for more information, call Wilhelm at 676-5171.

Street project moved up

The Oregon Department of Transportation has moved up its schedule to reconstruct Main Street.

ODOT had originally scheduled the street repair project for 1997, to coincide with the city of Heppner's plans for a sidewalk renovation project. But, when funds got tight, ODOT rescheduled the project for 1998. The rescheduling would have meant that downtown Heppner's streets and sidewalks would have been torn up two years in a row.

City manager Gary Marks, Rollie Marshall and John Edmundson traveled to Salem to attend a State Transportation Commission hearing June 15, testified about the problem and asked to have the street renovation project moved

back. Marks said that he learned Friday that they granted the city's request and once again have scheduled the project for 1997 to coincide with the sidewalk renovation.

In the street project, Main Street and May Street will be reconstructed from the bridge near the city park to the bridge near Court St. Market and storm drains will be installed.

The sidewalk project, funded through the Intermodal Surface Transportation Enhancement Act (ISTEA) will consist of reconstruction of Main Street sidewalks. The project will include planter boxes with trees and new lighting. In addition, Marks says that all telephone and power poles will be moved off Main Street.

HARVEST HOURS

	Lexington	Wasco Parts Outlet
Mon.-Fri.	7 a.m.-6 p.m.	Mon.-Fr. 7 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sat.	7 a.m.-5 p.m.	Sat. 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Morrow County Grain Growers

Lexington 989-8221 1-800-824-7185