

## Big Sky all star team announced



All-star selection L-R: Melissa McElligott, Kimberly Bedortha, Allison Sullivan, Becky Wagenblast, Mary Jan McCarty

By Anne Morter

The Big Sky All-Star team was announced at the conclusion of the district tournament last weekend in Moro.

Melissa McElligott and

Kimberly Bedortha were named to the West All-Star team. Allison Sullivan, Becky Wagenblast and Mary Jane McCarty were honorable mention.

## No Friday school this week

No "Friday School" at Hope Lutheran Church this Friday, Nov. 11 because of the legal holiday, Veterans' Day. Children can enjoy the day with family and friends.

The next "Friday School" will be Nov. 18 from 9 a.m. to

3 p.m. Students are reminded to bring commercially canned or packaged food for the Neighborhood Center. Food will be collected until Dec. 16.

Practice for the Christmas program to be given in mid-December will also begin.

## Monthly sing

Nov. 13

The monthly singspiration sponsored by the Ministerial Association will be held Sunday, Nov. 13 at the Seventh Day Adventist church in Heppner. The sing will begin at 7 p.m.

"Bring your special music, we'll entertain you with ours and serve refreshments too," said a spokesperson for the church.

## Help available in choosing insurance company

Insurance consumers can get help choosing an insurance company from the latest edition of Oregon Insurance Complaints, an annual report released by the Department of Consumer and Business Services.

Oregon Insurance Complaints ranks insurance companies from best to worst on the basis of the number of complaints the Insurance Division has received from disgruntled consumers. The report covers five lines of insurance: health, auto, homeowners', life and annuities. The rankings are based on two measurements: the total dollars a company earns from its Oregon Policyholders and the number of complaints that were filed against the company with the Oregon Insurance Division. The report reflects complaints closed in 1993.

"The report can be a very effective tool for consumers when selecting an insurance company," said Carol Michael-Bennett, Morrow County Extension Agent. "A smart shopper looks not only at an insurance company's rate and financial strength, but also at how it treats its policyholders. Complaint statistics are a way to measure an insurance company against its competitor in consumer satisfaction."

To get a free copy of the report, write: Complaint Report, Oregon Advocacy, 470 Labor and Industries Building, Salem OR 97310.

## Air Life needs funding for new construction



Vern Bartley

Air Life, the non-for-profit organization that provides helicopter and airplane ambulance services for the Heppner area, is being forced to move because of expansion of the hospital at Air Life's home base in Bend.

Construction underway at St. Charles Medical Center, Air Life's base of operations, will soon create a situation where parking lots, buildings and pedestrians will be to close to the Air Life hangar and helipad to allow safe flight operations. The current Air Life business offices and pilot rest quarters are scheduled for future demolition, so, Air Life must relocate its operations.

The total construction budget for a new 4,520 square foot facility is estimated to cost around \$476,746. St. Charles has committed to contribute \$150,000, plus the land, existing helipad and bulk refuel-

ing site adjacent to the hospital emergency room. This leaves another \$326,746 for Air Life to raise.

Air Life Program Manager Vern Bartley came to Heppner Thursday, Oct. 27, to meet with the local team to discuss a campaign to raise funds for the expansion. Bartley said that Air Life hopes to raise \$200,000 in grants, but they also need individual contributions to meet their fund raising goals by the spring of 1995.

According to an Air Life pamphlet, 25 percent of Air Life's operating budget comes from family memberships; 70 percent comes from patient and insurance payments, four percent from affiliate hospital support and one percent from donations. Bartley says that the not for profit company has broken even since 1987.

The Air Life helicopter serves 170,000 people spread over 70,000 miles, including Heppner, from Portland to Klamath Falls to Burns. The Air Life fixed wing aircraft serves a greater area from as far south as Fresno, CA. to as far north as Vancouver, B.C. and as far east as Salt Lake City and Missoula, Mt.

Air Life has served central and Eastern Oregon with a helicopter and airplane air ambulance for over nine years. A critical care flight nurse with advanced training in heart, trauma and emergency care staffs each flight and respiratory therapists or flight medics fly as second medical attendants. A specialty team skilled in care for expectant mothers and newborns is

available around the clock, according to an Air Life news release. The helicopter and airplane are flown by Airling Transport rated pilots.

Bartley says that flight charges range from \$3,000 to over \$8,000 depending on transport distance. Member patients of Air Life pay nothing out-of-pocket for a medically urgent transport. Air Life bills a member's insurance carrier and accepts the payment as payment in full. Air Life flies anyone in medical need, however, non-members will be billed the difference between Air Life charges and insurance payments. A 12 month membership is \$45; 18 month, \$67; 24 month 90; and life membership \$1,000. Tax deductible contributions are also welcomed.

Besides Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner, affiliate hospitals include: Blue Mountain Hospital in John Day, Harney District Hospital in Burns, Mid-Columbia Medical Center at The Dalles, Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Prineville, and hospitals at Redmond, Roseburg, Lakeview, Springfield, Klamath Falls, Madras, Gresham, Portland, Medford, Salem and Eugene.

The local team of volunteers include Robanai Disque, Florence Holt, Irvin Rauch, Rita Sumner, Jerry Healy, Eunice McElligott, Molly Hill and Greg Sweek.

For more information or to donate, contact one of the team members or Air Life at 1-800-522-2828, 503-385-6305, or write, 2500 N.E. Neff Road, Bend, Or 97701.

## Just a Reminder

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## Three plays to be presented at Western

Three original student plays will be presented by Western Oregon State College theatre/dance department Tuesday, Nov. 15 through Saturday, Nov. 19 in the intimate Rice Auditorium Studio Theatre on campus.

"Wet Cheese and Five Other Ways to Fight Soap Scum", written and directed by William Sharp will be presented Nov. 15, 17 and 19 at 8:15 p.m. Two one-act plays, "Unrelenting Dreams" by Irwin R and Ellen Margaret Lewis and "Family Scrapbook" by Anne M. Nordhaus, will be presented together on Nov. 15 and 18 at 8:15 p.m. and Nov. 19 at 2 p.m.

Tickets priced at \$4 for students or \$5 for non-students are available at Rice Auditorium Box Office 503 838-8462 and is open weekdays from 1 to 5 p.m.

Taking on the role of Ken, as well as Mama, Bobby and Martha, in "Family Scrapbook" will be Daniel Beck, a freshman theatre major who graduated from Heppner High School. Beck is the son of Karen and Al Beck. The play's author, Anne Nordhaus, was a student at Western last year. "Family Scrapbook" deals with such mature themes as childhood sexual abuse, homosexuality, and murder. This story of a dysfunctional family is told through a flashback of memories that overwhelm the main character, Dave. The play's other main figure Ken, (Daniel) also becomes three characters from Dave's past: his mother Mama, a childhood friend Bobby, and his girlfriend Martha.

The other one-act play "Unrelenting Dreams" is about a man in prison for attempting to abuse his granddaughter. The focus of this play will be directed by Western theatre professor Richard Davis. In the play, the abuser, Ralph remembers the past while surrounded by the harsh realities of his present home. Other characters who enter the play through Ralph's memory and reality are his obsessive wife June; his granddaughter Rudy; Rudy's mother, Marsha, the daughter he abused; his son Peter, who is struggling with

how to tell his family that he is gay; Henry, a lawyer who knew of Ralph's corrupt nature and a prison guard and medical technician who observe Ralph in the prison.

Fist fights, name calling, painful memories and hurtful revelations dominate the weekend retreat for a group of old high school friends in "Wet Cheese and Five Other Ways to Fight Soap Scum". Sylvia and Dan who own a wilderness cabin, invite three couples to join them for a three-day weekend at their home. Their

guests represent a wide range of personalities, from disc jockey Keith and his wife Bailey, to alcoholic rock singer Irwin and his trumpy teenage girlfriend Deena, to missionary Amy and her husband Pastor Tony. The play focuses on the characters' male-female relationships as well as the longevity of friendship between school mates.

"Wet Cheese" is the third full-length play written by William Sharp a senior from Dallas, who is majoring in The Arts. Sharp also directs this production.

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