

HEPPNER



50¢

Lone girls visit Australia on sports exchange



Becky Wagenblast (back 2nd from left) and Melissa McElligott (front center) with the rest of the volleyball team.

They may not have thrown a shrimp on the barbie, but two lone High School girls sampled much of life 'down under' during a volleyball exchange to Australia during spring break.

Becky Wagenblast, 17, and Melissa McElligott, 16, both lone High School juniors, traveled to Australia as a part of a volleyball team organized by Dufur volleyball coach Kelly Darden. Wagenblast and McElligott said that the Dufur coach asked them to join eight other girls to play against Australian high school teams through the International Sports Exchange. Besides the two lone girls, five girls from Dufur, two from Wheeler and one from The Dalles made up the team. They won three out of five games against the Australian girls' high school teams.

The team left March 18 for Sydney, Australia, and returned March 26. In between that time, they played a volleyball game a day for five days, against five different schools and stayed with five different Australian families. Most of the time the girls stayed two to a family. They spent the entire time in Sydney, which has a population of around three million, but were able to go to the beach, which had warm water, visit an aquatic center, go shopping, tour a koala farm which also had kangaroos, take a 'Captain Cook's Cruise', go up in the Center Point, which is like the Space Needle, and just wander around Sydney. The girls said that the weather was warm there and they were able to wear shorts all of the time. Becky said that one of the highlights of the trip, besides shopping, was celebrating her birthday in Australia. They both said they brought back "tons of souvenirs".

On the down side, the girl noted the many mosquitos and the "huge" cockroaches in Australia.

McElligott and Wagenblast said that there were many immigrants in Australia and added that it was hard to understand

Australian English, especially spoken by immigrants. Wagenblast was hosted by an Albanian-Yugoslav family for one night and McElligott stayed with a Greek family. Most of their experiences with host families were good ones, they said. The girls also commented on the many Japanese tourists in Sydney.

Wagenblast said she had flown to Florida and LA, but McElligott had never flown before. Still, despite a two and-a-half-hour plane trip to Los Angeles, a 15 hour ride from Los Angeles to Sydney and a serious case of jet lag upon their return, the girls echoed their desire to 'do it again' some day.

Wagenblast is the daughter of Steve and Vicki Wagenblast, Lexington. McElligott's parents are Joe and Jeri McElligott, lone.

Service clubs have new pole for shingles



Barbara Bloodsworth and Vi Wilgers stand in front of sign maintained by the Soroptimist International Club of Heppner.

The service clubs of Heppner now have a new pole to hang their shingles on.

Soroptimist member Vi Wilgers, who often takes care of the planter the pole was set in, said she recently noticed that the pole had rotted away after years of watering.

Archie Ball and Columbia Basin Electric donated a new pole and the labor to reset the pole. This time they placed the

pole outside the planter to prevent water from rotting it. However, according to Wilgers, Ball said that the old pole had held up for 20-30 years. Guy VanArsdale, with the county crew, put the service clubs' sign back on the pole.

Wilgers and Soroptimist Barbara Bloodsworth gave the spot a splash of color, planting red tulips in the planter.

Guy VanArsdale new public works director



Guy VanArsdale
Guy VanArsdale, Lexington, was hired as the Morrow County Public Works director March 20.

VanArsdale comes to the position from a long career in road construction and logging.

Originally from Stockton, California, VanArsdale first came to Oregon when he was

around 20 years old to see his father, whom he had never met before. His father was road construction supervisor for Boise Cascade at Joseph. VanArsdale worked with his father for four or five years and then got a job doing road construction. He was one of the crew who built Coal Mine Hill. After that he went to work for Kinzua Corporation at the request of Milo Prindle. VanArsdale then purchased Kinzua's road construction and logging equipment and contracted for various mills in the area, providing mostly mechanized cutting, skidding and loading and hauling.

VanArsdale's son, Mike, now operates the road construction business. Another son, Steve, works in management at UPS in the valley. VanArsdale and his wife, Barbara, are in the process of sell-

ing their logging-specific equipment. They also own a flying service.

VanArsdale, who has a complete crew of around 30 at the Public Works Department, says that plans now are to concentrate on road maintenance, with new construction to begin probably next year.

VanArsdale says that he really enjoys his new job and is usually in the office around 5 a.m. to get some work done before the crew leaves. He says he hopes to have a separate line installed so people can get in touch with him before the county switchboard opens. "People should be able to get a hold of us if we're here," says VanArsdale.

The crew is now on a four-day, 10 hour shift through the summer, although VanArsdale will be working five days a week.

All day everyday kindergarten recommended

By Chuck Starr, superintendent of Morrow County Schools.

I hear that you have recommended moving all kindergarten programs in our schools next year to full time, four days a week. Why? Won't that be too long a day and too many days for these little children?

Yes, I have recommended moving our kindergarten program to four days per week in '95-96. All kindergarten students in Morrow County have been attending full days for the last three years. They have not all been attending every day of the week, however. This will be a change for three of our four elementary schools.

Why? Well, there are several reasons for this recommendation. Let me summarize them

as follows:

1. We are completing the second year of a pilot program at A.C. Houghton Elementary, where all kindergarten students have been attending the same hours and days as first graders. It has been very successful.

2. Currently, we have three different ways we serve our kindergarten students. All of them are in school full days, but the days are scheduled like this: A.C. Houghton-four days per week; Lone-three days per week; Heppner and Sam Boardman-two days per week. We need to be consistent in these programs for all four schools.

3. Research studies in other schools, and our own ex-

perience at A.C. Houghton indicate that full day, every day educational experiences for kindergarten students do a much better job of preparing them than either half day or every other day programs. We need to do what is best for our children.

As for the long day and long week for these children, I received the following statement from Cindy Beatty, one of our teachers of kindergarten students at A.C. Houghton Elementary. "We have found that it only takes about two weeks for our kindergarten students to adapt to the full time schedule. It has been a wonderful program. I highly recommend it for all of our kindergarten classes."

Home Rule committee seeks public input

The Home Rule Charter Committee is seeking public input on its proposed charter draft, in a meeting on Tuesday, April 25, at 7 p.m. at Boardman City Hall. The committee will also hold a meeting in Heppner on Tuesday, May 23, at 7 p.m. at the Heppner Elementary School multipurpose room.

"In an editorial by Mr. Dinkins in last week's paper, he erroneously said that deliberations are essentially complete," said Rollie Marshall, Home Rule Committee chairman.

"The fact is, the committee is seeking public input because the draft is not complete. Mr. Dinkins also stated that they are proposing five districts with the entire county voting on all candidates, which is true. What he failed to mention was the committee will also be presenting at least three other proposals."

"Whatever your ideas are about Home Rule, the Charter Committee wants to hear from you," said Marshall. A copy of the charter draft is available from any member of the committee: Marshall, vice chairman John Prag, Don Holes, Linda LaRue, Jack Strege, Lisa Rietmann, Bill Brown, Dan Van Schoiack, or Hal Dinkins.

According to Marshall, the committee is proposing: a five member board of commissioners nominated by districts, elected by all the county voters;

commissioners who would be paid a nominal (\$500) fee and meet one or two nights per month; a county administrator who would eventually be hired (Judge Louis Carlson would be asked to fill that role until his

term is up); and county officials except the sheriff and justice of the peace who would be appointed by the board, rather than elected.

Marshall said that the com-

mittee feels that a county administrator working with a "volunteer" board would help to open up the board positions to a greater number of county residents.

Shrubs and trees planted at Willow Creek campground

A work party turned the Willow Creek Campground green over the weekend.

The crew planted 44 large trees and 110 two gallon assorted shrubs Saturday, April 15, at the recreational vehicle campground which opened St. Patrick's Day at the Willow Creek Dam near Heppner.

Willow Creek Park District chairman and driving force behind the campground, Kenny Turner, expressed his appreciation to the volunteers for their hard work. Volunteers included Bill Gentry with his backhoe, Wilbur Jackson, Cara Osmin, Gene Doherty, Leonard Munkers, John Edmundson, Vern Keithly and students, Jeanette Brantley, Royal Robinson, Travis Wilhelm, Matthew Van Liew, Corey Breeding, Matt Berretta and Justin Nelson. The middle and

high school students were recruited by Heppner High School teacher and coach Greg Grant and the 4-H Extension office.

Turner said that Kay Proctor of Green Feed and Seed made a special trip and provided the nursery products at a discount rate for the landscaping project. A 3 1/2 x 10 foot entry sign at the campsite was done by Robin Graff and the lone High School shop class.

Turner says that the next project at the campground will be installing the landscape sprinkler and drip system. Anyone wishing to help with this may call Turner or Keithly. Paving will be done this summer and will essentially complete the campground, said Turner. He added that a courtesy dock, trails and lakeside tree plantings will be done as soon as possible.

HES kindergarten visitation day planned

The Heppner Elementary kindergarten has planned its spring visitation and registration for Thursday, April 20.

Next year's kindergarten students will visit with the teacher, Mrs. Warren, while parents fill out forms. Parents should bring the child's immunization records and birth certificate.

Parents of prospective kindergartners should call the school office, 676-9128, for an appointment.

The Grade 7-12 Transition Committee will meet Wednesday, April 19, at 7 p.m., at the Heppner High School cafeteria. Anyone interested is urged to attend.

Spring Circular Sale

Ends Sat., April 22

Morrow County Grain Growers

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