

Off the Wall By Marilyn Robinson

The lure of a country lifestyle perhaps tugs at your heartstrings and you're tired of being closeted between close neighbors. If more open space and raising animals is on your mind, hopefully you have independent means for critter support.

Those loveable domestic animals come in all sizes and shapes. The definition of livestock is broad-based, according to government terminology. There are llamas, emus, reindeer or many different horse or cattle breeds. One cattle owner favors the small shaggy, horned Scottish Highlanders, claiming these browse eaters rid his Western Oregon pastures of abundant Scotch Broom. Perhaps they would like our pesky knapweed.

Potbellied pigs can be housebroken, they claim. But I'd prefer ostriches that can make their own potholes. Then there's a Salem area breeder who swears by yaks. Native to the Himalayan Mountains, this hardy breed is similar to the Asian buffalo. There are now about 600 head of Yaks in North America with the largest concentration on the West Coast of the U.S. Judging from pricey quotes there must be a whole lot of "yaking" going on.

Cows crossed with yaks produce animals low in cholesterol and fat, they claim. They're unlikely to flood the market due to their small size and slow maturity. Unlike buffalo, they are easily managed. The Tibetians have been "yak-packing" for some 5,000 years. Hopefully I won't encounter a backpacker with a yak in tow, as it took my stead awhile to recover from a llama encounter.

But there is another school of thought that all animals should be free to roam. Vegetarians perhaps assume that eating meat is akin to cannibalism. Hopefully they don't meet up with reintroduced-to-wilderness grizzlies or a cougar that prefers human junk food.

If you believe what you read, reports say that live cattle prices are down due to over-production, high grain prices and the stigma of the mad cow disease in England. Like the Alar apple scare, there's no scientific proof that beef can transmit Creutzfeldt-Jacob Disease or is connected to BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy). The scenario is like the E. Coli illness which was never proven to come from American beef.

What's needed now is a cattle breed, like camels, that can go days without water. With more impending fenced watering places, cowhands could pack a canteen and choose the day of the week to drive cattle to water. Shouldn't fishermen also be required to sterilize waders before stepping in creeks? And who is going to prevent deer or beaver from doing their thing in the water?

Consumers should be able to buy red meat at the lowest prices on record. However the producer has never been able to tack production costs onto live cattle prices. Solving a disastrous live cattle market lies with control of the commodity futures which has become the voice for beef marketing. Commodity futures create the attitude and price in the market place that has nothing to do with supply and demand.

As to supply, USDA figures show frozen beef storage at around 342 million pounds in March, 1996 compared to 348 million pounds in March, 1995. About the expansion of U.S. cattle herds, records show that combined dairy and beef cow numbers in the U.S. have dropped by about two million from last year. Nearly three million cattle were brought into the U.S. and once they cross the border, they are counted as American cattle. Meanwhile packers are buying and feeding out thousands of cattle and setting prices through their monopolies.

That's free enterprise? I don't think so. Maybe we should go back to the barter system. For instance, you dig post holes while figuring the value of healthy exercise. I'll provide a prime rib lunch and the option of adopting a cow.

Rodeo members compete successfully

The Intermountain and Columbia Basin High School Rodeo clubs have been busy traveling to many rodeos in the past few weeks. Both teams have been doing very well, said a club spokesperson. Following are the results of the John Day, Redmond and Union rodeos:

John Day High School Rodeo-bareback sixth Tyson Shoemaker, eighth Nate Filbin, both Columbia Basin (CB); calf roping sixth Justin Matteson, 10th Seth Hopper, both Intermountain (IM); saddle bronc second Filbin, seventh Ty Wilkins, CB; steer wrestling fourth Hopper, fifth Matteson; barrel racing third Angela Munkers, CB, sixth Lexi Matteson, IM; pole bending first L. Matteson, second Katie McCoin, CB; goat tying first Mandi DUBY, IM, fifth Tiffanie Munkers, CB; breakaway eighth L. Matteson, ninth Billy Swanson, IM; boy's cutting sixth Brian Knowles, IM; girl's cutting third DUBY, eighth T. Munkers, ninth A. Munkers; team roping first J. Matteson, second Hopper, eighth Ben

Rodriguez, IM.

Redmond High School Rodeo: bareback first Filbin; calf roping sixth J. Matteson; saddle bronc third Shoemaker; steer wrestling ninth Hopper, 10th J. Matteson; bulls second Wilkins; barrel racing first McCoin, fourth L. Matteson; pole bending seventh L. Matteson; goat tying fourth L. Matteson; breakaway second A. Munkers; boy's cutting 10th Hopper; girl's cutting first DUBY, eighth A. Munkers; team roping seventh J. Matteson, eighth L. Matteson and Knowles, 10th Hopper.

Union High School rodeo: bareback second Filbin, fourth Shoemaker; calf roping fourth J. Matteson, ninth Andy Cleveland, IM; saddle bronc fourth Filbin, fifth Wilkins; steer wrestling fourth J. Matteson; barrel racing fifth L. Matteson, eighth McCoin; poles second McCoin, ninth T. Munkers; goat tying 10th T. Munkers; breakaway fifth McCoin; girl's cutting fifth T. Munkers; team roping ninth DUBY, 10th J. Matteson.

Spelling contest winners announced

The 1996 Morrow County School District Spelling Contest was held recently at Heppner High School.

Division I winner was Til Tullis from Lone Elementary School. Division II winner was Randi McElligott, Lone Middle School. Division III winner was Josh Coiner, Heppner High School.

Following is a list of winners: Division I-first Til Tullis, Lone Elementary School (IES); second Jami Moore and third Zach Baker, both Sam Boardman Elementary School (SBE); fourth Daniel Jepsen, Heppner Elementary School (HES); fifth a three-way tie between Sarah Miller, A.C. Houghton Elementary School (ACH), Sheena Christman, IES, and Ryan Campbell, HES; sixth a three-way tie between Marcy Miller, HES, Tracy Griffith, IES, and Nick Anderson, ACH; seventh

Josh Kegler, SBE.

Division II-first Randi McElligott, Lone Middle School (IMS); second Julie Mason and third Patrick Kenney, both Columbia Middle School (CMS); fourth Leah Denton and fifth Joey Bourrie, both Heppner Middle School (HMS); sixth Joe Peck, CMS; seventh Mark McElligott and eighth Shelby Krebs, both IMS; ninth Mitch Mathews, HMS.

Division III-first Josh Coiner, Heppner High School (HHS); second Jory Crowell, Lone High School (LHS); third Donnie Pointer, HHS; fourth John Doherty, IHS; fifth a tie between Bret Files, Riverside High School (RHS), and Brian Kofler, HHS; sixth Niki Sullivan, IHS; seventh Tony Scott and eighth, Erika Cornejo, both RHS.

Births

Jordan Marrie Day-a daughter Jordan Marrie was born to Julie Nelson and Forrest Day of Irrigon on May 6, 1996 at Good Shepherd Community Hospital. The baby weighed 6 lbs. 13 oz.

Jessica Danielle Henslee-a daughter Jessica Danielle was born to Benji (Pearson) and Dave Henslee of Philomath on May 9, 1996 at Good Samaritan Hospital in Corvallis. The baby weighed 5 lbs. 11 1/2 oz, and measured 20" long.

Her grandparents are Frank and Chloe Pearson, Milwaukie, and Dave and Starla Henslee, White City. Great-grandparents are Jo Martin, and Pete and Edna Pearson, all Baker City, Ken and Vivian Smith, Medford, and Fred and Nona Whitney, Wenatchee, Washington.

Daisy Nadine Navarro Ramirez-a daughter Daisy Nadine was born to Agapita Ramirez of Boardman on May 13, 1996 at Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston. The baby weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz.

Eliseo Fregoso-a son Eliseo was born to Felipa Zavala and Eusebio Fregoso of Boardman on May 18, 1996 at Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston. The baby weighed 7 lbs. 11 oz.

John Joseph Horner IV-a son John Joseph was born to Rebecca and John Horner III of Irrigon on May 21, 1996 at Good Shepherd Community Hospital. The baby weighed 6 lbs. 6 oz.

Papineau brings home the winners

The following story about former area resident Cammie Papineau has been reprinted from the Monday, May 6, Tri-City Herald.

By Paul Lindberg
Herald staff writer

Cammie Papineau's day started slow but finished fast. And she couldn't have picked a better day to do it.

On the final day of Sun Downs' spring meet, Papineau started off by bruising her left ankle aboard Charlies My Name in the starting gate before the first race and finished third.

But before Sunday was over, the meet's winningest jockey added three more victories to her total of 26 and swept the meet's main events.

Papineau rode Sail Thru Customs to victory in the \$30,000 Miller Pot O' Gold Futurity in the 10th race-the meet's main event for quarterhorses-and piloted Honest Cal to a track record time in the Wild Horse Casino Stakes in the 11th race-the main event for thoroughbreds.

"I didn't get as good a break as I wanted," said Papineau,

describing her victory aboard Sail Thru Customs. "I just went to whipping and rode as hard as I could.

"I didn't know who won after, but I knew it was close. I couldn't see anything in front of me, so that was a good sign."

Sail Thru Customs, a horse trained by Kennewick's Lin Melton, sprinted 400 yards in 15.6 seconds to win by a head.

Honest Cal covered 1 1/16 miles in 1:47, two seconds better than record set in 1990 by Trooper Dee and Run of Press.

Melton was named the meet's winningest trainer.

Papineau went on to win four races Sunday. The 29-year-old native of Heppner, Ore., rode Allarcasshassets to victory in the fourth race and Sammi's Pal to victory in the eighth.

"My ankle was sore all day," Papineau said. "But I can't feel a thing right now."

Another large-2,341 Sunday-bumped the weekend total to 5,586. And Sunday's handle was about \$4,300 short of Saturday's handle, which included more than \$18,000 bet on the Kentucky Derby alone.

Preschool grad planned May 29

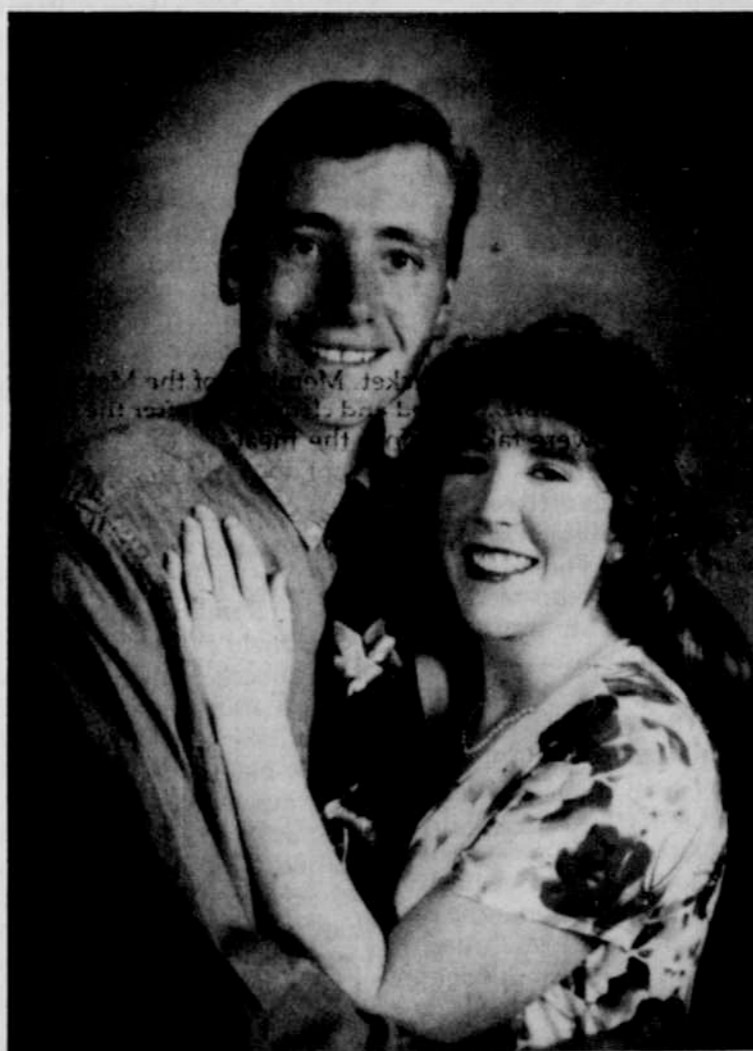
The community is invited to attend the Heppner Day Care and Preschool graduation planned for Wednesday, May 29, at 6 p.m. at the Morrow

County Fairgrounds.

A reception will follow the ceremony.

For more information, call Sue Norton, 676-9968.

Engagement



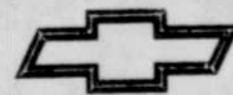
Koker-McLaughlin

Kelly Suzanne McLaughlin and Jeffrey Lewis Koker announce their engagement to be married. The bride-elect is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. McLaughlin, Heppner. Jeffrey's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Don Koker of Toledo.

Kelly graduated from Heppner High School in 1990 and from Central Oregon Community College in 1994. She is employed as a registered nurse at Central Oregon Health Care Center.

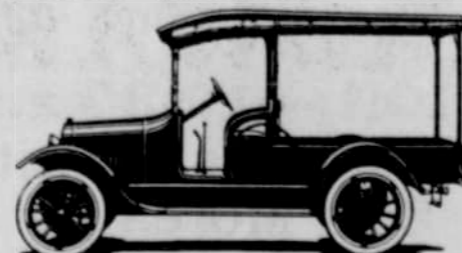
Jeffrey graduated from Newport High School in 1988. Her served in the U.S. Army from 1988-95 and attended Central Oregon Community College. He is employed with Beaver Coaches in Bend.

The couple plans a July 20 wedding at St. Francis Catholic Church at Bend.



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John Wenholtz



I would like to Thank everyone who voted for me in The Primary Election.

I hope I can count on your support in the general election in November.

If you have any questions or concerns Please call me at 541-922-3941

County Commissioner

Paid by John Wenholtz, Route 2 Box 282, Irrigon, OR 97844

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