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Bike racers compete in Heppner and Lone



Bike racers, Otis Rubottom, Jeff Mitchem, Ed French and John Mitchem, pause between events in the Columbia Plateau Stage Race held in Heppner and Lone June 7-9, sponsored by the Emerald Velo Cycling Club.

The four, all from the Portland area, say they compete in around 100 races during a year. Jeff Mitchem, 36, a landscape architect, Rubottom, 24, a freelance writer, John Mitchem, 30, who works in a bicycle shop, and French, 28, a sub-contractor, say they stay in motels, camp out, or sleep in their van, which is also packed with extra wheels and time trial gear. The four, none of whom is married, laughingly say that their hobby is "barely" tolerated by their girlfriends back home.

Around 90 cyclists, ranging in age from 18 to 50 and mainly from the Portland and Seattle areas, participated in the race.

The event is organized by a son-in-law of Don McElligott of Lone.

Meeting slated on tourism plan

A comprehensive Tourism Strategic Plan (TSP) which includes and impacts Morrow County will be presented to the public at a special meeting in Heppner on Tuesday, June 18, from 7-8:30 p.m. at All Saints Episcopal Church in Heppner.

The presentation will include information about the North Central Oregon Visitors Association (NCOVA), a region-wide non-profit organization which is under formation.

NCOVA is a pilot entity charged with establishing a stable funding base within two years. If successful, NCOVA will serve as a model for other tourism agencies to become self-sustaining, said a news release from Michael Wetter and Associates, a Salem consulting firm and developer of the plan.

More than a year in development, the TSP for the six counties of North Central Oregon is intended to serve as a blueprint for investments of time and money for both the short

and long term of up to 20 years, said the release.

Public response to the plan is important, as it will be refined and implementation begun during the remainder of this year, they continued. Members of the consulting team will conduct the presentation and there will be slide show.

Anyone with an interest in tourism and economic development is encouraged to attend. Presentations will be held in each of the six counties. This is the chance for Morrow County residents to offer input for the county's role in the plan.

While the plan contributes to overall economic development and offers recommendations for development and marketing, it also emphasizes projects and programs that will preserve and enhance the region's quality of life.

Local NCOVA board members who have participated in the process include John Edmondson and Greg Smith of Heppner, and John Prag of Boardman.

WC Music Festival set for June 30

The Willow Creek Music Festival, scheduled for Sunday, June 30, at 7 p.m. at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Heppner, will begin with musical selections presented by the Willow Creek Youth Symphony (WCYS).

In addition to the orchestral selections, a harp solo will be performed by Amy Jepsen, eight, Heppner. Having studied piano for two years, Amy became interested in the harp and began taking private lessons last year. She travels to the Tri-Cities every other week for instruction in the harp from harpist Laurie Turner from Walla Walla, said Sharla Erich, WCYS director. Amy will be performing an arrangement of "Beauty and the Beast."

The WCYS originated last year due to an interest by young people in south Morrow County to play musical instruments as a group and to be able to "share their talents with their family, friends and community," said Erich.

The WCYS began with nine children ages six-14. Since then it has grown to 24 members and encourages the interest and support of players of all

Learning made fun



Heppner Junior High students demonstrate homemade solar cookers

School may be out, but the lessons learned by the students of Heppner High/Junior High School teacher Dave Fowler will last for quite a while. Mainly because the projects were fun.

Fowler's students built and used solar cookers and pop bottle rockets.

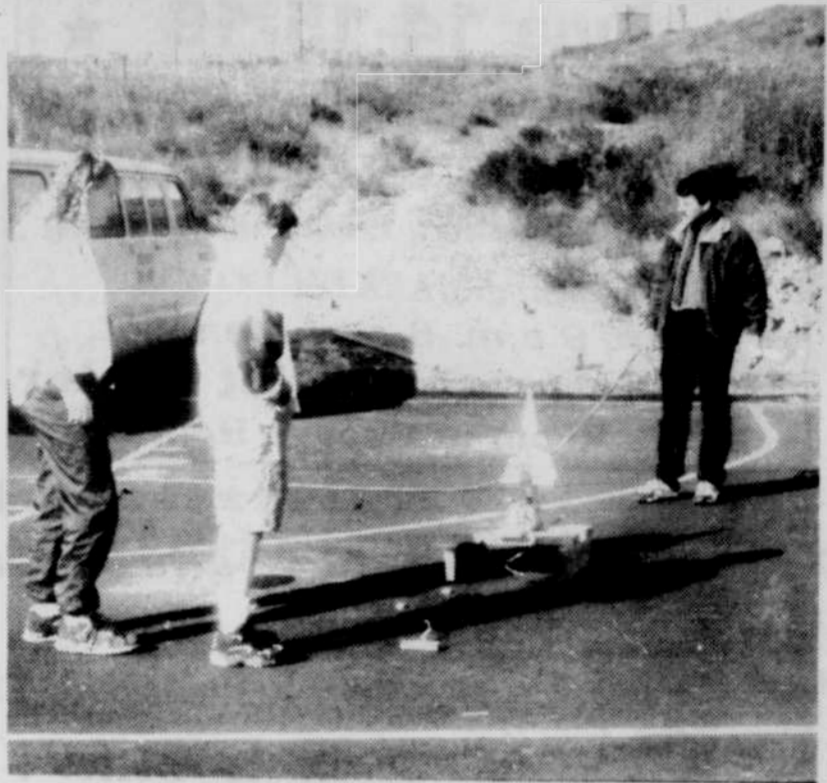
The cookers, put together with boxes, aluminum foil, newspapers for insulation, glass and a wooden dowel, actually work, although you might not want to rely on them if you're really hungry. Stew takes two days to cook from a frozen state, raw chicken, about four hours, a grilled cheese sandwich, three hours, and a hot dog, two hours.

The cooker works like this: the sun reflects on the tinfoil and shoots inside the box; the heat is stuck inside the box; and something with a black bottom, like a cookie sheet, cast iron pan or dutch oven collects the heat. Fowler said that he got information about constructing the cookers from solar cooking clubs.

The rockets were made from one-liter pop bottles, fins and a cone made out of cardboard. The bottles are filled half with water and half with compressed air and placed on a launcher. When a rope is pulled, the bottles are projected into the air. The air inside the bottle pushes the water out and creates the propulsion. Fowler says that one misfire created a "pretty good explosion".

When the bottles are launched, the students record how high they go by use tangraphs to measure angles.

Fowler said that Bryce Tucker, one of his students last year, designed the launcher.



Heppner Junior/Senior High School teacher Dave Fowler assists students in rocket launching

Deadline to enter tourney extended

The deadline for submitting entries for the Heppner High School Alumni Golf Tournament has been extended from Saturday, June 15 to Sunday, June 30, a tournament spokesperson has announced. Entry forms are available at the Heppner Post Office and at the Willow Creek Country Club clubhouse.

The first annual alumni golf tournament will be held July 6-7 in Heppner and will include a dinner at the Heppner Elks Lodge Saturday night. All Heppner alumni and their spouse or guest, as well as Heppner High School educa-

tors, are invited to participate. Tournament format will feature a scramble, where each member of a five-person group tees off, then hits again from the best shot and so on until the ball is in the cup. "With a scramble format, golfers of every skill level can play," the committee person stressed.

Winners of the tournament will have their names and a photo placed on a plaque that will be displayed in the trophy case at the high school.

For more information, contact David and Patti Allstott, 676-5216, or John and Sonja McCabe, 676-5231.

Adult, juveniles arrested in Heppner

One adult and two juveniles were charged in connection with an incident involving a stolen pickup, according to Heppner Police Chief Doug Rathbun. Jason Bathurst and the juveniles were cited by Heppner PD with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and criminal mischief and released.

The pickup, owned by Vern and Fern Evans, Heppner, had been stolen, driven around the Heppner High School track, and abandoned overturned on June 7.

Bathurst was also cited for possession of less than one ounce of marijuana.

Police advise to "harden the target"

Heppner Police Chief Doug Rathbun cautions members of the community to remove car keys and lock vehicles. "Remember, it is against the law to leave your keys in your vehicle," says Rathbun. "Please don't leave money or valuables in your car."

By following these few simple rules, Rathbun says you can ensure the safety of your vehicle and valuables. "Many city residents have really been hit hard lately with these types of crimes," added Rathbun. "All of us need to be more careful and make sure that we aren't an easy target for such crimes."

Tarnasky named to OSU team

Alecia Tarnasky, Heppner, has been selected as a member of the 1996-97 Oregon State University, College of Home Economics and Education Undergraduate Ambassador team.

Tarnasky, a senior majoring in merchandising management, will serve as a representative of the college at various activities such as school visitations and other public speaking engagements.

CHEMICAL MEETING

At Beecher's Tuesday June 18 at 7:30 a.m. Breakfast provided

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