

## New name, owners for Heppner wood shop



Verda and Bob Hager, owners of Wood on Wood

By April Hilton-Sykes  
The Wood Shed's name has been changed to Wood on Wood, and the shop in downtown Heppner has new owners. But some things haven't changed—the experience and dedication of the owners.

Verda and Bob Hager took over the shop on July 1. Verda, who is from the LaGrande area, moved to Heppner from Irrigon in December. Newlyweds, who still measure their marriage in months, the Hagers met at Lamb Weston. Bob worked in

shipping and Verda was a truck driver. Verda's career has taken some unexpected and non-traditional turns. She was a nurse for 20 years and a truck driver off and on for about the same amount of years. She was an Oregon State weighmaster for three years and drove school bus for around five years. In fact, in addition to keeping shop at Wood on Wood, she will begin driving school bus in the area this fall. Verda has four grown children, three boys and a girl, and eight grandchildren. Two of her boys followed in her footsteps and became truck drivers.

One of her real loves, though, has always been working with wood. "My mother was a school teacher," says Verda, "but she always liked woodworking. It always amazed me that you could take a piece of wood and make something out of it."

Bob's family has a long tradition in the area—Hager Street in Heppner is named after his predecessors. Bob has lived all of his life in the area. Verda says that he lived away only while he served in the Army and during college. Bob, who has two grown daughters and two grandchildren, has worked with wood all of his life.

Verda says that Wood on Wood will handle mostly custom orders. Their projects include gun cabinets, lawn furniture, tables, chairs, rocking horses, wooden toys, planters and napkin rings. They will also offer furniture repair. Hours at the shop, located at 178 W. Willow in Heppner, will be 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The phone number is 676-5886.

Previous owner of The Woodshed, Tim Coe, will be ranching and has set up shop at a place 16 miles west of Mitchell.

**FAX**  
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## Tri-County Nationals finish third at tournament



Back Row (l to r): Coach Jeff Liddicote, Jeremy Ford, Clint Liddicote, Geoff Carnine, Kory Killingbeck, Kevin Baker, Seth Boyer, Brad Carnine, Travis Fisher, Coach Del Green  
Front Row (l to r): Manager Rick Johnston, Jason Strebin, Nate Simmons, Jared Vandecar, Jeff Waterland, Cameron Stinchfield, Derek Gunderson, Tim Dickenson, Coach Dennis Simmons

The Columbia Tri-County Nationals came in third at the Babe Ruth 14-15 year old All-Star Baseball Tournament held in Hermiston July 12-18.

The Columbia Tri-County team represents teams from Heppner, Condon, Boardman, Irrigon, Umatilla, Stanfield and Echo. The Nationals were managed by Rick Johnston, Heppner, and coached by Del Green, Umatilla and Dennis Simmons, Stanfield.

The Nationals started off against the tough Pendleton Nationals, but came away victorious, 6-2. They then played Milton-Freewater, and after falling behind 8-3, came storming back to win 16-9.

The Tri-County Nationals then found themselves up against The Dalles Nationals, a very sound team, and lost 13-3, in five innings. The loss dropped the Tri-County team into the losers bracket, and a return match with the Pendleton Nationals.

"The Tri-Co. team knew that the Pendleton team would be out to avenge the defeat handed to them on the opening day, and they immediately jumped on the Tri-Co. Nationals 5-1," said Johnston.

The Tri-County team was, by then, noted for their "come-back kid" attitude and scored six runs in the sixth to take a 7-5 lead going into the seventh inning. The Pendleton team put two more runners in scoring

position, but Tri-County players shut them off, winning the game, and eliminating Pendleton from the tournament.

The Nationals then faced a Columbia team from the Sherman-Dufur-Maupin-Goldendale, Washington area and prevailed, 11-7.

Next, the Tri-County team played the Hermiston Nationals for the chance to play The Dalles Nationals for the championship. Hermiston jumped out to a 6-2 lead after five innings, but the "come-back kids" scored four runs in the seventh inning to tie the

game.

The Tri-County team had two runners on with no outs when the rain became so bad the game had to be postponed until the next day. When play resumed, Tri-County immediately took a 7-6 lead, with a ball lined to left field.

The rally stopped there when the Hermiston Nationals scored two in the bottom of the inning to move to the championship game.

The Dalles Nationals won the championship, with Hermiston coming in second, and Tri-County in third.

## Volleyball camp to be held Aug. 2-3

A volleyball camp for sixth through 12th grades will be held Friday and Saturday, Aug. 2-3, at Heppner High School. The camp will be held from 9 a.m.-noon and 1:30-3

p.m. Colleen Hunt, head coach at Pendleton High School for 21 years, will be the coach.

Cost is \$20 per student. Call 676-5231, 676-5250 or 676-5239 to register.

## Queen and court win first in parade

First place always feels good, but twice in a row makes you feel like you must be doing something right, said a spokesperson for the 1996 Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Court. The court won a first place ribbon

and \$25 for their efforts at the Chief Joseph Days parade on Saturday, July 27.

Courts represented many rodeos of the region at the parade. The Morrow County court agreed that it was fun to meet and ride in the grand entry with so many different rodeo royals.

Court members, pennants and families traveled to Wallowa Friday, where all were invited to relax at the barbecue at the summer home of pennant bearer Sybil Krebs' parents, Skye and Penny Krebs. The Krebs make their home at Cecil during the winter months. Following the barbecue, most went to the evening performance of the Chief

Joseph Days Rodeo and some attended the dance.

Saturday, everyone had to be up early to brush and prepare horses and transport them to Joseph to be in line at the parade route.

A queen's luncheon and grand entry ended the royals' official duties for the day. The queen and the princesses from south Morrow County were excited to see friend and former neighbor Gail Papineau at the rodeo.

Most of the Morrow County entourage spent the afternoon and evening barbecuing and enjoying the facilities at Wallowa Lake, and made a leisurely return to Morrow County Sunday. Some of the pennant bearers hurried back to participate in the Morrow County Open Horse Show on Sunday.

This coming weekend, the court will ride in the Hermiston Starlight parade.

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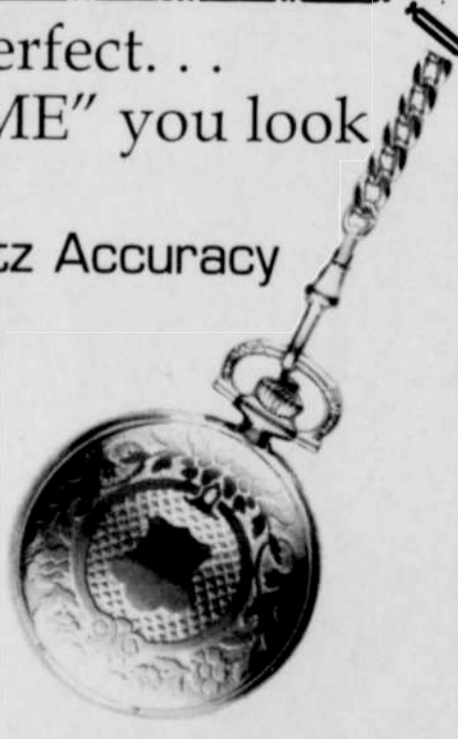
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