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of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

**Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES**

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Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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David Sykes Publisher
April Hilton-Sykes Editor

Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: Letters to the Editor must be signed. The Gazette-Times will not publish unsigned letters. Please include your address and phone number on all letters for use by the G-T office. The G-T reserves the right to edit.

It's our world

To the Editor:

An Oregon rain fell over Littleton Colorado. It is a storm we have seen before, an acid rain. It fell in Springfield. It, too, came down in Jonesboro, Ark., West Paducah, Ky, and Moses Lake, Washington. When conditions are right, it will fall again. You can count on it. The clouds form as we speak.

What happened at a Littleton high school just outside of Denver, we now know it is not a freak storm, an aberration of our cultural climate. It is the result of the changing weather patterns in our conscious environment, changes that have been building slowly for years to a point where we are beginning to see its degrading effects. Like global warming, it is becoming obvious that these changes are due to the many choices we as a society make. We see it in rising suicide rates among the young, high rates of drug and alcohol abuse and mental illness, broken and dysfunctional families, overflowing prisons, the pervasiveness of pornography. We see it too in an increase in the levels of violence both real and imagined.

It is amazing to see the problems our culture can foster. It is a culture we have made. A storm we have brewed. We seem to have the freedom to do everything but say, "No I won't accept this."

It goes to point out that the lessons our kids learn can not be separated into neat packages: home, school, church, society, media, each lesson marked appropriate and inappropriate, real and fantasy where levels of reality and humane behavior are separate and distinct to all.

It is what we teach ourselves. You can't just mouth the words "shall not kill" or "love and respect yourself and each other." In our games, our entertainment, our government, business and family life. This is not the message we often send.

When tobacco companies trade lives for profit and their CEOs lie before Congress and we as a society accept this... doesn't that send a message about integrity and the sanctity of life.

That we accept violence and mayhem as a form of entertainment; a social, accepted high taken on a daily basis from television and film, doesn't this teach a lesson. When computer and video games our children play are based on violent body counts where blood and gore are part of the game's attraction - are not we in fact teaching.

Even when the President of the United States comes before the American people to comment on national TV about this crisis at the Littleton high school and says, "We have to teach our children that violence isn't a solution to our problems," while

at the same time leading NATO in dropping bombs and missiles on Yugoslavia - doesn't this too send a message.

That we have a society where weapons, many with the sole purpose to kill people and kill quickly, are pervasive and easily accessible to just about anybody - doesn't this in itself teach a lesson.

And how many of our disenfranchised and marginalized kids watching sensational 24-hour news coverage of this event day in and day out will think to themselves, "So this is how I get noticed."

Yes distinctions can be made, and we can argue the fine points and repeat the same phrases, the same concerns after every shooting. All the while our kids are growing up, maturing into young adults in our junior high and high schools, blending all this and more into who they are and how they think. It becomes part of the unstated, accepted construct of their world, of our world in which they will base their choices, their decisions.

We should not fool ourselves. For every kid that pulls a trigger, hundreds probably think about doing it. Many kids don't make the fine distinctions between all this input that comes into their lives. It accumulates to an effect... sometimes a horrible effect.

Maybe we don't want to think about the hair's breadth that may exist between those that pull the trigger and those that don't in what maybe becoming the high school version of road rage - but maybe we should.

Maybe, too, we should think about how many Bruce Willis-Die-Hard-Last-Man-Standing-double-fisted-gun-pumping-blazing-fury-make-my-day-glory films we let our kids watch where the hero good guy/bad guy distinctions are lost in the primal satisfaction, adrenaline pumping, excitement of blowing away all the jocks that ever put you down. How many of these films does it take to drive home a certain thought pattern.

Our culture has created a violent, frustrated sensibility then has provided the means, the weaponry to do something about it. As the saying goes, "We saw the enemy, and the enemy is us."

To think that it is just this or that problem is naive. It is a multitude of problems, a multitude of choices, a failure of personal responsibility, growing cynicism, and undermined faith. It is ways of thinking and behaving that we have come to accept as "our world". And what do we say to the students of one high school in Littleton, Colorado, "Welcome to it?"

(s)Richard Haskell
Heppner

Former resident would appreciate letters

To the Editor:
My name is Lucille Lindblad. My parents were Walter and Ella Farrens. I grew up in Hardman and lived most of my younger adult years in Heppner, before moving to Seattle in 1970. Previous married name, Parrish. We are living in a mobile home retirement community in College Place, WA. Since last December I have been very ill and homebound.
I would very much appreciate

hearing from some of you old-time Heppner residents. Anyone who may remember me please write or send a card--it would mean so much to me.
Sincerely,
(s) Lucille Lindblad
1459 Mallard Lane
College Place Wa 99324
(While living in Heppner, I was a member of All Saints' Episcopal Church, Rebekah Lodge (San Souci) and the Degree of Honor Lodge.)

Chuck Starr speaks to Ione Site Council

The Ione Site Council met for their April meeting on April 14 to discuss several topics.

Morrow County School Superintendent Chuck Starr was on hand to explain how staff development money was accounted for in the budget and detailed some guidelines for using it properly. He explained that each licensed employee in the district is guaranteed up to \$250 for professional development and the amount could be spent on coaching clinics if the employee coaches a sport.

After the first request, the Site Council is free to set more rigorous standards and deny requests that don't meet goals set by the council. A question and answer session provided some information for future use of the council.

The council approved the guidelines for awarding an academic letter award at Ione High School, beginning next year. To qualify, students must take a minimum of five graded classes and achieve a 3.80 grade point average for the semester.

Nominations are due by May 12 for expiring Site Council positions. Two parent positions, currently held by Arlynda Gates and John Collin, expire this spring. Notices have been posted around town to notify the public.

At the school, terms will expire for Betty Rietmann and Steve Schaber. They will each notify certified staff for nominations.

All nominations will be voted

on next September and each position is for a two-year term.

Principal Dick Allen reported that the School Improvement Plan must be revised to fit state standards. By May 1, 1999, a goal-setting guide and self evaluation model must be turned into the district office. Next fall, action plans will be prepared and implemented.

In honors and recognition, it was noted that a number of Ione students did well in the district math contest. Billy Gates was first place in the seventh grade. Also placing were Stephanie Holland, Brent Parks, Kasie Peterson, Tyler Raible, Taylor McElligott, Natalie McElligott, Johnny Collin and Caitlin Orem. Caitlin traveled to Salem to complete in the state geography

bee. Allen reported that preliminary results from the state writing assessment and math problem solving tests show Ione students doing well.

Charity McElligott reported that the elementary students and staff are celebrating "National Library" by decorating classroom doors and reading for prizes from a treasure box.

Members attending were Dale Holland, Dick Allen, Jim Swanson, Arlynda Gates, Linda Jones, Anne Morter, Becky Hunt, Betty Rietmann, Charity McElligott, Dean Robinson, Steve Schaber and Anita Orem. Guests included Chuck Starr and Sarah Davis.

The final Site Council meeting of this academic year will be May 12 at 5 p.m. The public is welcome to attend.

4-H Leaders Council elects scholarship winners

The Morrow County 4-H Leaders Council has selected their 1999 scholarship winners. The 4-H Leaders Council awarded three scholarships this year based on the leadership, citizenship and scholarship of the three individuals selected. "Each of these individuals has also given back a tremendous amount to the 4-H program," says Bill Broderick Morrow County Extension agent.

Jessica Krebs was awarded \$500. Her projects are home economics and livestock. A major accomplishment of Jessica's was being selected to represent the Oregon 4-H program at the National 4-H Congress.

Kevin Baker was awarded \$200. Kevin's projects are horse and home economics. Kevin has been a tremendous asset to

the Morrow County camping program," said Broderick. He has been a camp counselor for four years, including serving as camp counselor coordinator.

Kristi Worden was awarded \$200. Kristi is involved in home economics and livestock. "Kristi did a great job last year as st; review superintendent at the Morrow County Fair," said Broderick. Kristi has also been working in the Extension office in the "Structured Work-Based Learning Plan."

"These three individuals are an excellent example of young people joining an organization and developing into leaders," Broderick added. "The Morrow County 4-H program will miss these fine young people when they go off to college."

Mustangs split double header

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustangs split a doubleheader at Pilot Rock on Friday, April 23, in a key Columbia Basin Conference east division matchup. The Mustangs won the first game, 12-7, and lost the second game, 9-3.

The Mustangs are now 2-1 in CBC play, just behind the Rockets 3-1 record.

The Rockets had taken a 1-0 lead in the first before the Mustangs got going in the second as Shane Matheny led off with a double and Michael McCabe walked. Allan Gribbskov sacrificed both runners over and Cory Bennetto doubled to right center, followed by three consecutive Rocket errors as the Mustangs went up 7-1.

Matheny led off the fourth inning with another double and moved to third on a deep sacrifice fly by McCabe. Gribbskov singled home Matheny and took second on a Bennetto single. Tim Dickenson then doubled down the third base line to increase the lead to 10-1.

The Rockets scored a run in the bottom half of the inning, but the Mustangs scored single runs in the sixth and seventh innings, one on a home run by Derek Gunderson, to take a 12-2 lead into the bottom of the seventh.

The Rockets rallied with five runs, but it was not enough as the Mustangs held on for the first win

in a number of years in Pilot Rock.

Bennetto and Matheny each had two doubles and a single and Dickenson had two doubles as the Mustangs pounded the ball against the Rockets' starting pitcher Jared Labrousse.

David Bates picked up the win for the Mustangs with relief from Dylan Pettyjohn.

The Mustangs jumped out in the first inning of the second game as Gunderson led off the game, hitting his third home run of the year. Gribbskov later scored on a Bennetto double to give Heppner a 2-0 lead.

The Mustangs built their lead to 3-0 as Gunderson scored on a one-out double by McCabe.

That was it for the Mustangs as the Rockets came back with five runs in the bottom of the third and built their lead to 9-3 to get the split.

The Mustangs host Condon on Saturday, May 1 in another CBC doubleheader beginning at 11 a.m.

Statistics:
Game one -
Heppner: 1153011 12 13
Pilot Rock: 1001005 7 7 4
David Bates, Dylan Pettyjohn (6) and Allan Gribbskov; Labrousse, Jobs (4) and Humphreys. W-Bates, L-Labrousse. 2B-Tim Dickenson (2), Shane Matheny (2), Cory Bennetto 2(H); Alderman, Steik (PR). 3B-none. HR-Derek Gunderson (H), Humphreys (PR).
Game two -
Heppner: 2010000 3 4 1
Pilot Rock: 005202x 9 10 1
Dickenson, Bennetto (6) and Gribbskov, Alderman and Humphreys. W-Alderman, L-Dickenson. 2B-Bennetto (H); Pace 2, Humphreys (PR). 3B-Labrousse (PR). HR-Gunderson (H); Alderman, Steik (PR).

Gun Club holds special shoot

A special shoot of the Morrow County Gun Club (MCGC) was held Sunday, April 25, at the TKO shooting range in Ruggs.

There were seven stations to shoot from with 10 shots at each station. Best shot from station one was a tie between Jeff Cutsforth and Bill Schlichting; station two, a tie between Curt Day and Mark Schlichting. Station three was won by Kasey Childers; station four was a tie between C. Day and B. Schlichting, with perfect 10s. Station five was won by Harvey Childers, also with a perfect 10. Station six was won by Bob Krein and station seven by K. Childers.

The best score overall for the day, out of a field of 20 shooters, was shot by Curt Day and Bill

Schlichting, with a total of 40 each. Second went to Mark Schlichting and Kasey Childers with a 39. Travis Greenup took third with a 37; fourth went to Jeff Cutsforth with 33; fifth to Harvey Childers with 32, sixth to Deona Hodges with 31; and seventh to Mike Gorman with a 30.

The MCGC will be shooting once a month throughout the summer and fall until the season begins again in December. The May shoot will be held on Sunday, May 23, at noon.


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May 1st

Randi LeBoeuf and Jonathan Garrett
May 1st

Stormy Jo Howard and Jeffrey Robert Botefubr
May 8th

Jennifer Currin and Shane Guttridge
June 12th

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Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Tarnasky cordially invite you to share their joy as their daughter **Alecia Colleen** joins **Mr. Craig Kelly Angell** son of Mrs. Bobbie Angell & Mr. Larry Angell in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony on Saturday, May 1st, 1999 at 2:00 in the afternoon St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Heppner Reception immediately following at the Heppner Elks Lodge

