

19-year-old story still fresh to Heppner, Centennial teens



Centennial Middle School eighth graders (left to right) Snezhanna Safarov, Liz Gustafson, C.J. Butenschoen and Mike Stewart take a minute from a rodeo demonstration at the Morrow County Fairgrounds to pose for a picture.

It's a story that's 19 years old, but still fresh—at least to Heppner Junior High and Centennial Middle School eighth graders.

The two groups of students—one from the city and one from the country—delight in their annual student exchange. Each year's exchange exposes a different crop of students to two very different ways of life.

Heppner eighth graders stayed with families of eighth graders who attend Centennial Middle School, a very large school in the Portland area comprised of around 2,000 seventh and eighth graders.

Besides attending school, Heppner eighth graders took tours of the Port of Portland, Reynolds Aluminum and Vista House and enjoyed a trip on the Sternwheeler and ice skating, among other activities.

Centennial eighth graders stayed mostly with families of local seventh graders. In addition to class time, Centennial students went on a Forest Service tour and had lunch at Bull Prairie, toured a wheat ranch, saw a presentation about the cattle industry at Mark and Tami Rietmann's cattle ranch, toured the Umatilla Army Depot and the Logan Food Processing Plant, the Potlatch Tree Farm. They also enjoyed a rodeo presentation by Butch Knowles and a demonstration by local high

school rodeo team members and the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Court, a barbecued hamburger lunch put on by the Morrow County Livestock Growers and a dance.

Local students who helped out included Brian Knowles, Ryan Matteson, Blake Knowles, Brooke Boyer, Bobbie Rankin, Tracy Rankin, Ann Shear, Meghan Bailey, Lacey Matteson, Katie Sherritt and Shelly Sherritt.

So what exactly do the city kids think about Morrow County? Following are some of their observations.

Mike Stewart, 14, of Gresham says he is pretty familiar with rural life since he has spent time at his grandmother's place in Iowa. "I like the open spaces," says Mike, who lives in Gresham with his parents, William "Lynn" and Sydney, and his 20-year-old brother. Another brother lives away from home.

"Everyone's not in your business here," added Mike. "There aren't any cars flying down the street at midnight. Here you've got a lot more places to roam."

Mike, who misses his friends and family and playing soccer, says that "Everybody's a lot nicer here in general and there aren't any gangs."

Mike stayed with the Kathy and Rusty Britt family.

Liz Gustafson, 14, who stayed with the John and Diane Kilkenny family, says she likes the quietness of being out on the ranch. "It's really pretty here. I like the cows and the horses. I especially liked horseback riding."

Liz, who lives in Gresham with her parents Shelley and Rhodes, two sisters, 17 and 18, and a brother, 15, says that one of the drawbacks of living in the country is that "you have to go so far to get the necessities." "The clothes the kids wear here are not

the same," adds Liz. "I like more 'preppy' clothes." But, she added, "Kids are a lot more judgmental (at Centennial)." A big difference between the schools, she said, is that Centennial has as many people as the whole town of Heppner.

C.J. Butenschoen, 13, of Portland says that he likes the scenery in the Heppner area. "Just the atmosphere is nice," said C.J. "It's nice and quiet. It's fun being away. You learn a lot of different stuff. I like how it's little. Everybody in town knows each other."

C.J., who stayed with the Mary and Kelwayne Haguwood family says that besides his friends, he misses going to movies. While in Heppner he went four-wheeling for the first time, which he really liked. Another positive experience was meeting kids from Centennial that he didn't even know.

C.J., who lives with his parents, Kim and Ernie, and his nine-year-old sister, enjoys all kinds of sports, especially football and baseball.

Snezhanna Safarov, 14, had a great time riding horses during her stay in Morrow County and was especially proud of finishing fourth in poles and fifth in barrels at the Wrangler Riding Club playday her host family took her to. It was Snezhanna's first time on a horse. "Even little kids ride horses here," she said. "And they're not even scared."

Snezhanna said she also had fun riding on a four-wheeler, walking in the country and looking at the cows.

"Everybody lives so far away," said Snezhanna, who admits to missing shopping during her stay.

She says that kids in Heppner "don't look at other people and judge them" as much as they do at Centennial, but adds that she likes a bigger school better.

Snezhanna, who lives with her parents, Lyudmila and Vladimir, and her 17-year-old brother in

Portland, stayed with the Tim and Shannon Rust family on Buttercreek Highway.



Blake Knowles (right), Heppner High School student, shows Snezhanna Safarov, Centennial Middle School, how to tie a calf.

Ione lady tennis team in top 10 academically

The Ione Lady Tennis team has once again placed in the top 10 in the Oregon Dairy Farmers Academic All-State Awards. The Ione Lady Cardinals placed second with a 3.67 total team grade point average.

The Dairy Farmers of Oregon honors the top 10 teams in each activity with the highest combined grade point average for the team.

All team members in the top 10 receive a "Top Ten" lapel pin for their efforts.

The Ione Lady tennis team received the top honor last year and was presented with a plaque at the state tennis championships. In addition to

Legion Auxiliary plans appreciation

The Ione Legion Auxiliary met May 4 at the Legion Hall.

An appreciation dinner was set for Saturday, June 19 for all who have worked on the hall renovations.

Members worked on the poppies for the upcoming sale, May 17-22.

VFW offers free phone cards

The veterans at the Hermiston VFW are offering a free phone card for men and women who are currently in the service.

Anyone having the names of current servicemen or women may call Bill Rowell, 422-7333, and he will make arrangements to get the addresses to the Hermiston VFW.

Ione Topic Club honors senior girls

The Ione Topic Club members honored the Ione High School senior girls at their annual tea at the Legion Hall on April 28.

Girls and their mothers present were: Niki Sullivan and her mother Lori; Tori and Nansea Odinet; Katie and Lucy Tworek; Roseanne and Robin Baker from Jessica and Maureen Krebs. Lela Gribkov and her mother Kathy Gates were unable to attend.

A special program for the day was a showing of a collection of dolls belonging to Leola Hawthorne. She told about dolls of many kinds, showing some of various types of construction and different time periods from Eskimo dolls, Barbie dolls, movie personalities and an old handmade doll out of her collection of some 500.

Hostesses for the day were Katherine Lindstrom, Alice Harper and Betty Gray with the assistance of all the club members.

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Obituaries

Frank "Tim" Martin Lovgren, Jr.

Frank "Tim" Martin Lovgren, Jr., 77, former Heppner resident, died Saturday, May 1, 1999 at his residence in Redding, California.

Graveside service were held on Friday, May 7, 1999 at McDonald's Chapel. Burial followed at Redding Cemetery in Redding.

He was born March 8, 1922 in Heppner to Frank Martin and Hannah Marie Erickson Lovgren.

Mr. Lovgren married Anna Belle Betts Kirkham and they had a son, Frankie Lynn.

Mr. Lovgren moved from Mitchell to Shasta County in 1945. He worked as a heavy equipment operator for Ladd Construction.

He also served in WWII in the U.S. Army from December 22, 1942 to December 30, 1945. He was a Technical Sergeant and served in New Guinea, Luzon and the southern Philippines. He was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge; Bronze Service Arrowhead; Good Conduct Medal; Philippine Liberation Medal; two Service Stars; Victory Medal; American Theater Service Medal; Asiatic Pacific Service Medal; Parachutists Badge; Purple Heart; and a Discharge Lapel Button.

Mr. Lovgren was a member of the Elks Lodge #1006 of Redding, Moose Lodge #1073 BPOE of Redding, and Operating Engineers Local #3 of Redding.

Survivors include his son, Frank "Red" Lovgren of Dutch Harbor, Alaska; brothers, Robert Lovgren and Marshall Lovgren, both of Heppner; sisters, Edna Harshman of Milton-Freewater; Gladys Alderman of Heppner and Betty Way of The Dalles.

Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of choice.



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Walt: Seems like you folks at the bank are the only ones who still like doing things face to face.

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Walt: 'Scuse me, my friend. You're nesting on the cue ball again.

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