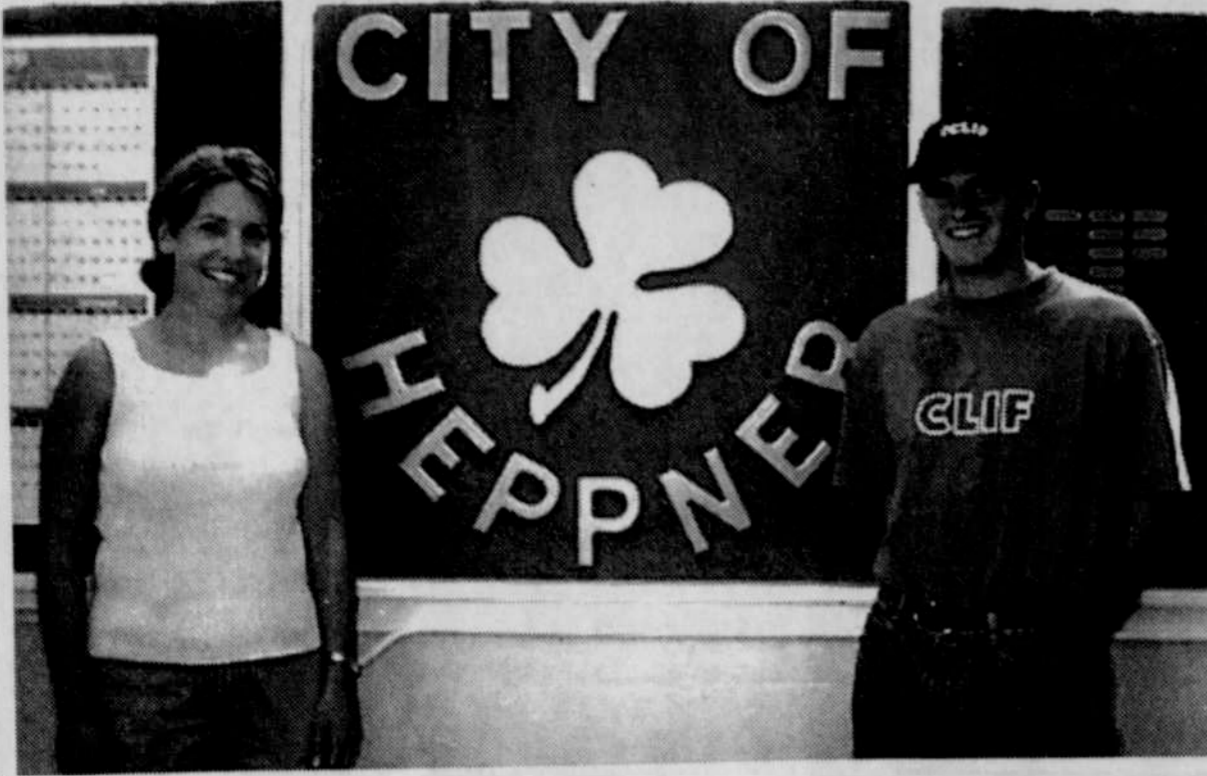


## Heppner link brings friends together



Jenny Krein and Al Heppner

It must be Kismet. A girl from Heppner meets a guy named Heppner in a place that is far, far away from home for both of them.

Jenny Krein, who is from Heppner, was an intern at the Olympic Training Center at Chula Vista, CA, last summer at the same time Al Heppner, from Columbia, MD, was an athlete training at the center. (Columbia is a city of around 100,000 between Baltimore and Washington, D.C.)

Jenny first heard about Al through her roommate at the center. Likewise, Al was told about an intern there from Heppner, OR. The two met, discovered that not only is Al's name Heppner, but he also has a link to the town of Heppner, something that he wasn't really aware of before. They found that among other things, they shared a love of track and became good friends.

Al, who is named after his grandfather, Albert, is the great, great, grand-nephew of Henry Heppner, Heppner's founder, and Al's dad, Max, had visited Heppner some 30 years earlier.

Last summer during her internship, Jenny said that she would go to Eugene this summer to watch Al compete in the 20k race walk event at the U.S. Track and Field Championships. This summer she made good her promise and also brought Al home to Heppner to visit. Other Heppnerites in Eugene for the competition were brothers and sports enthusiasts, Larry and Lance Tibbles.

It all started for Al in high school at a Junior Olympics event. Al was at the meet, competing in a running event, and he and his friends were laughing at how funny the race walkers looked. One of his friends bet him a dollar that he wouldn't do it. Of course he took him up on the bet. The next week, at the age of 15, Al competed in his first race walk event and won it, unknowingly starting a course that has a good chance of taking him to the Olympics.

Al earned a race walking scholarship for the University of

Wisconsin and in 1997 earned a bachelor's degree in English, with an emphasis on writing and a double minor in communications and coaching. After graduation he took a little time off from school before his selection for the Olympic Training Center.

In addition to his rigorous training schedule at the center, Al has been busy working for Planet Hollywood as a waiter, writing for the local Chula Vista newspaper, the Star News, and working as a sports information director for the North American Racewalking Institute.

He will start graduate school this fall, but in the meantime will leave this Saturday for in the World University Games in Palma de Mallorca, Spain, and return to Spain in August for the World Championships in Seville. He will compete in the 50k (31 miles) Olympic race walk trials in February and the 20K trials next July.

"It has been a great experience. Even if I don't make the team, it will help me out in life," says Al of the discipline, responsibility and motivation required at the center. "I get to compete for the dream of making the Olympic team. It's a pretty big honor to be at the center," said Jenny. "It's pretty motivating to be selected." Al says the same of Jenny's selection as an intern there. "Thousands of people apply for internships. It takes a special person and Jenny is no exception," adds Al.

Jenny, who was an outstanding student and athlete at Heppner High School, graduated from HHS in 1995 with numerous academic scholarships. While at HHS, she and her dad, Bob, tried to establish a cross-country team. The team was finally sanctioned this year by the Morrow County School District. Jenny graduated from OSU this year with a bachelor of science degree in exercise and sports science with a minor in business administration. Jenny, who ran in the Portland marathon in October, plans a trip to Europe this September.

An additional irony of the chance meeting of Al and Jenny, says Joy Krein, Jenny's mother,

is that Henry Heppner made the trip to Heppner this same week 127 years ago. (Since Al's arrival in Heppner Joy has communicated with Al's mother Evelyn in Columbia and has received much information about the Heppner family history through Marsha Sweek and the Morrow County Museum.)

Henry Heppner's journey to the Willow Creek Valley was a circuitous one. He came to the U.S. from Prussia (present day north Germany and Poland), first immigrating to New York, then San Francisco, Shasta, CA, Corvallis, Portland and then to The Dalles, before venturing to what is now Heppner on July 4, 1872.

Heppner, who was involved in transporting goods, had a mule team between The Dalles and LaGrande when he met up with J.L. Morrow, the county's namesake. Together they traveled up Willow Creek and established a store at what was called Stansbury Flats, now Heppner. Morrow put up the money and Heppner put up the goods for the store. Henry later became somewhat of a philanthropist, putting up the funds to establish a fort at Heppner against hostile encounters with local Indians, one room school houses and even the Gazette-Times. His youngest brother, Elias, Al's great, great-grandfather, never came to the U.S.

## Local students make OSU honor roll

Oregon State University has announced its spring honor roll. Local students on the honor roll include:

Heppner-Phillip Spicerkuhn, junior, science, 4; Travis Wilhelm, freshman, pre-engineering program, 3.5 or better;

Ione-Alison Sullivan, senior, home economics and education, 3.5 or better;

Boardman-Lara Fritz, sophomore, pharmacy, and Kristi Mason, freshman, agricultural sciences, both 3.5 or better.

## Heppner teen charged

Caleb McDaniel, 19, was charged with two counts of first degree manslaughter and two counts of criminally negligent homicide following an automobile accident that resulted in the death of two Heppner youth June 16, according to Morrow County District Attorney David C. Allen.

McDaniel's arraignment has been scheduled for this Thursday, July 1, at the Morrow County Courthouse in Heppner.

According to Allen, a conviction for manslaughter in the first degree requires proof of recklessness with "extreme indifference to the value of human life," while second degree manslaughter requires proof of recklessness. The minimum sentence for manslaughter I is 120 months of incarceration; the minimum for manslaughter II is 75 months.

The first conviction for criminally negligent homicide, defined as criminal negligence resulting in death, could be probation and a treatment program, if applicable; the second conviction would draw a sentence of 27-28 months.

According to both the DA and the Morrow County Sheriff's Office, McDaniel blew a .00 in a breathalyzer test taken at Pioneer Memorial Hospital after the accident. Results of blood and urine tests on McDaniel and a blood alcohol test on Elizabeth Baker, 16, a passenger in McDaniel's vehicle who was killed in the accident, were sent to a crime lab and are not yet available. A test done at Pioneer Memorial Hospital on John Blake, 21, another passenger in the vehicle who died at PMH after the wreck, indicated a blood alcohol level of .07, according to Allen.

Allen said McDaniel's vehicle was believed to have been traveling around 70 miles an hour around a curve up Clark's Canyon Road which was posted at 35 miles an hour. McDaniel's vehicle was passing another vehicle, driven by a juvenile, when it failed to negotiate the curve and rolled several times.

## Chamber Chatter

By Claudia Hughes, Chamber Manager

Remember the hoola hoops? Pull them out of the closet for the hoola hoop contest during the July 30 "Celebrate Heppner" sidewalk sale event to include music, raffles, Chamber dunk tank, the Irish contest winner and much more.

The HH contest will take place on the shamrock and will be open to all ages. It's time to have fun, everyone.

Have you ever taken the Wee Bit O'Ireland volkswalk? Stop by Central Market for information on following the trail of the wee shamrocks, maintained by John Edmundson and "friends".

Although the sanctioned walk must be dropped at the end of the year due to not having a sanctioned club, the walk will continue as a community attraction. One visiting volkswalker commented, "It's a pity the Heppner walk is to be dropped. Heppner is a slice of small town America, too often not seen anymore. It is the way it used to be early in the 20th century ... a nice walk, a clean town, and friendly people."

On the Chamber agenda for July: July 6 - Business meeting where all entities report and an opportunity to meet the superintendent of schools; 8 a.m., July 6, merchants' meeting to plan "Celebrate Heppner" at Klamath First Federal; July 7 - Chamber Board of Directors meet at 11:30 a.m. at Klamath First; July 13 - noon program will be CenturyTel answering internet and fiberoptic questions; July 20 - finish the community evaluation and discussion; July 27 - Jill Miles, Oregon Economic Development regional director. Come visit, noon every Tuesday at Kate's.

Thought for the week: Rule of Life - chuckle or you buckle.

## Obituary

### Ruth Brandenburg

Ruth Brandenburg, 86, of Heppner, died Wednesday, June 23, 1999, at Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston.

Graveside service for Mrs. Brandenburg was held at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery on Saturday, June 26, 1999.

She was born April 28, 1913, at New Meadows, Idaho, to John and Ora Lowe Hughes. She grew up at New Meadows and attended school there, graduating from high school in 1931.

On March 1, 1933, she married Edwin G. Brandenburg at Klamath Falls. They lived at Klamath Falls for several years and lived at the Peterson-Johnson Log Camp at Modoc Point, in Klamath County. They lived at Gold Beach for a short time, then moved to California, where they resided at Redding, Red Bluff, San Bernardino, Bernie, Cottonwood and Arcadia before moving to Heppner in 1961.

Mrs. Brandenburg was a member of the Royal Neighbors Lodge and enjoyed playing cards, especially pinochle.


Survivors include a son, John Brandenburg of Heppner. She was preceded in death by her husband, Edwin, in 1989, and a sister, Dorothy Lowry.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Pioneer Humane Society, P.O. Box 361, Hermiston, Oregon 97838.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner was in charge of arrangements.


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