

# Oklahoma man ropes another title

By Brett Hoffman  
Star-Telegram staff writer  
Fort Worth, Texas

When Tyler Merrill backs his quarter horse into the roping box, he's thinking only about a gold-buckled performance.

"When I nod my head, I'm going for first," said Merrill, who last night (August 12) lassoed his second consecutive team roping heading title atop Jazzy Little Lena at the American Quarter Horse Youth Association World Championship Show at John Justin Arena.

When the title was at stake, Merrill and Jazzy Little Lena turned in a score of 219, three points ahead of second-place finisher Adam Briedenthal, who roped from Denver Gold Jack.

Unlike rodeos that decide title races on the fastest time, the AQHYA championships are decided on how correctly the horse performs as the roper makes the catch. Though Merrill is mounted on a veteran team-roping horse, he must catch the fast-running steer in order to post a qualified score.

"I'm a guy that goes for it all," said Merrill, 16. "When you're competing, you just have to take a deep breath and do it."

Merrill's father, Frank, said he stresses winning during practice sessions at their ranch near Purcell, Okla., which is dubbed as the Windward Stud.

"There's a saying that we have at the Windward Stud: that we don't saddle up to finish second," the father said. "Of course, we believe in participation and we don't want to downplay the aspect of being happy just to be competing. But at the same time, we go for the brass ring."

The elder Merrill, a prize-winning competitor in the National Cutting Horse Association, said his son wins as the result of intense concentration.

"Tyler had taken a real calm approach with anything that he

does," Frank Merrill said. "He doesn't let his nerves get to him, but he does have a lot of confidence in his ability. The two qualities go hand in hand."

The younger Merrill also qualified Jazzy Little Lena for the team roping heeling finals. The two finished fifth with a 214.5.

If that wasn't enough, Merrill finished 11th in the heeling aboard Brinks O Lena. He also came in fifth in calf roping with Brinks O Lena.

After all that, Merrill said being a top finisher requires perseverance.

"It takes a lot of repetition during practice," he said. "You have to have a lot of determination and concentration."

Merrill is the grandson of Ora Evans of Heppner.

## Sheriff-sponsored golf tourney to benefit Special Olympics

The Morrow County Sheriff's Department is sponsoring a golf tournament for the Oregon Special Olympics Torch Run Program on Saturday, Sept. 11, at the Willow Creek Country Club in Heppner. Two flights are planned, at 8 a.m. and noon.

The event will be a couples' tournament with all proceeds going to the Special Olympics Oregon for Morrow, Umatilla and Gilliam counties.

Special Olympics Oregon provides year-round sports training and athletic competition for children and adults with mental retardation. There are 18 Olympic-type sports offered in Oregon, including basketball, bowling, downhill and cross country skiing, golf, ice skating, figure and speed skating, power lifting, gymnastics, volleyball, track and field, softball, soccer, swimming and diving, roller-skating, long distance running and walking, tennis and table tennis.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run is a friend and fund-raising event for Special Olympics that takes place in all 50 states and over 60 foreign countries. Nearly 1000 Oregon Law Enforcement personnel are involved in this event. Special Olympics Oregon presently has more than 6000 athletes participating in its programs.

The number-one priority of the 1990s is outreach--increasing involvement in Special Olympics programs. The Oregon State Mental Health Division estimates that three percent of the population is mentally retarded. This equates to over 80,000 people who qualify to participate in Special

Olympics programs. Special Olympics Oregon has room to grow.

Tom Denchel Ford of Hermiston is sponsoring a new 1999 Ford pickup for the person who makes a hole-in-one. They are also sponsoring a drawing for a vehicle worth up to \$50,000 and the lucky person's name will go into the drawing with 99 other people for that prize at a later date.

"Several businesses in Morrow and Umatilla counties have donated very nice prizes to be won at the tournament during the drawing," said organizer Larry Sample, Morrow County Undersheriff. Some cash prizes will be available for the winners of low gross and low net.

The tournament is limited to 36 couples with two flights, one flight in the morning and one flight in the afternoon. A barbecue will be held after the tournament and all prizes will be given away during the barbecue.

The cost of the tournament will be \$60 per couple. Tickets will be sold to participants for \$1 each or six for \$5 for door prizes.

As of August 31 there were only four openings (couples) left. "We have had a very good response for this tournament just by word of mouth," said Sample.

Sample said that next year they will sponsor the tournament again but will try to have it a two-day event.

Anyone interested in signing up for this year's tournament or in next year's event should contact Sample at the Morrow County Sheriff's Department at (541) 676-5317.

## Revised sports schedule

Heppner and Ione schools have released their revised fall sports schedules.

### IONE HIGH SCHOOL Volleyball

**Friday, Sept. 3:** Spray-Mitchell at Spray, 1 p.m.

**Friday, Sept. 10:** Prairie City at Ione, 5 p.m.

**Saturday, Sept. 11:** Condon Tournament at Condon, 10 a.m.

**Friday, Sept. 17:** Prescott, WA, at Prescott, 3:30 p.m.

**Saturday, Sept. 18:** Wahtonka Tournament at The Dalles, 10 a.m.

**Tuesday, Sept. 21:** Heppner at Ione, 5 p.m.

**Thursday, Sept. 23:** Echo at Echo, 5 p.m.

**Friday, Sept. 24:** Dufur at Dufur, 5 p.m.

**Tuesday, Sept. 28:** Heppner at Heppner, 5 p.m.

**Thursday, Sept. 30:** Helix at Helix, 5 p.m.

**Friday, Oct. 1:** Echo at Ione, 5 p.m.

**Thursday, Oct. 7:** Arlington at Arlington, 5 p.m.

**Saturday, Oct. 9:** Wheeler at Ione, 12 noon, and Helix at Ione, 2 p.m.

**Friday, Oct. 15:** Condon at Ione, 5 p.m.

**Saturday, Oct. 16:** Dufur Tournament at Dufur, 9 a.m.

**Friday, Oct. 22:** Condon at Condon, 5 p.m.

**Friday, Oct. 29:** Wasco County at Ione, 5 p.m.

**Saturday, Oct. 30:** Wheeler at Fossil, 3 p.m.

### Football

**Friday, Sept. 3:** Spray-Mitchell at Spray, 4 p.m.

**Friday, Sept. 10:** Prairie City at Ione, 7 p.m.

**Friday, Sept. 17:** Prescott, WA, at Prescott, 6 p.m.

**Friday, Sept. 24:** Dufur at Dufur, 2 p.m.

**Friday, Oct. 1:** Echo at Ione, 7:30 p.m.

**Thursday, Oct. 7:** Arlington at Arlington, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, Oct. 15:** Jubilee Christian at Ione, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, Oct. 22:** Condon at Condon, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, Oct. 29:** Wasco County at Ione, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, Nov. 5:** Bye.

### IONE MIDDLE SCHOOL Football and Volleyball

**Friday, Sept. 17:** South Sherman at Ione, 1 p.m.

**Friday, Sept. 24:** St. Mary's at St. Mary's, 2 p.m.

**Friday, Oct. 1:** Echo at Ione, 2 p.m.

**Thursday, Oct. 7:** Arlington at Arlington, 3:30 p.m.

**Friday, Oct. 15:** Echo at Echo, 2 p.m.

**Friday, Oct. 22:** Condon at Condon, 2 p.m.

**Saturday, Oct. 23:** A-W Tournament (seventh grade volleyball) at Athena, 9 a.m., and Pilot Rock Tournament (eighth grade volleyball) at Pilot Rock, 9 a.m.

### HEPPNER HIGH SCHOOL Volleyball

**Saturday, Sept. 11:** Riverside Tournament at Boardman, A. 10 a.m.

**Tuesday, Sept. 14:** Pendleton Tournament at Pendleton, A. 3 p.m.

**Thursday, Sept. 16:** Condon at Condon, A-B-C, 5 p.m.

**Friday, Sept. 17:** La Grande C at Heppner, B-C, 4 p.m.

**Saturday, Sept. 18:** Sherman County Tournament at Moro, A, time TBA.

**Tuesday, Sept. 21:** Ione at Ione, A-B-C, 5 p.m.

**Saturday, Sept. 25:** JV Tournament at Heppner, B-C, 9 a.m.

**Tuesday, Sept. 28:** Ione at Heppner, A-B-C, 5 p.m.

**Friday, Oct. 1:** La Grande C at La Grande, B-C, 5 p.m.

**Tuesday, Oct. 5:** Pilot Rock\* at Heppner, A-B-C, 5 p.m.

**Thursday, Oct. 7:** Stanfield\* at Heppner, A-B-C, 5 p.m.

**Saturday, Oct. 9:** Wahtonka\* at Heppner, A-B-C, time TBA.

**Tuesday, Oct. 12:** Weston-McEwen\* at Heppner, A-B-C, 5 p.m.

**Thursday, Oct. 14:** Pilot Rock\* at Pilot Rock, A-B-C, 5 p.m.

**Tuesday, Oct. 19:** Stanfield\* at Stanfield, A-B-C, 5 p.m.

**Thursday, Oct. 21:** Weston-McEwen\* at Athena, A-B-C, 5 p.m.

**Saturday, Oct. 23:** Sherman County\* at Heppner, A-B-C, 1 p.m.

**Tuesday, Oct. 26:** Pilot Rock\* at Heppner, A-B-C, 5 p.m.

**Thursday, Oct. 28:** Stanfield\* at Stanfield, A-B-C, 5 p.m.

**Saturday, Oct. 30:** Culver\* at Culver, A-B, 1 p.m.

**Tuesday, Nov. 2:** Weston-McEwen\* at Heppner, A-B-C, 5 p.m.

**Saturday, Nov. 6:** District Tournament at Athena, A, 3 p.m.

### Football

**Friday, Sept. 3:** Scio at Heppner, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, Sept. 10:** Umatilla at Umatilla, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, Sept. 17:** Baker at Heppner, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, Sept. 24:** Wahtonka at The Dalles, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, Oct. 1:** Weston-McEwen at Athena, 7:30 p.m.

**Thursday, Oct. 7:** Culver at Heppner, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, Oct. 15:** Sherman County at Moro, 3 p.m.

**Friday, Oct. 22:** Stanfield at Heppner, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, Oct. 29:** Bye.

**Friday, Nov. 5:** Pilot Rock at Heppner, 7:30 p.m.

### JV Football

**Monday, Sept. 13:** Wahtonka at Heppner, 6 p.m.

**Monday, Sept. 20:** Umatilla at Heppner, 6 p.m.

**Monday, Sept. 27:** Riverside at Heppner, 6 p.m.

**Monday, Oct. 4:** Wahtonka at The Dalles, 6 p.m.

**Monday, Oct. 11:** Weston-McEwen at Heppner, 5 p.m.

**Monday, Oct. 18:** Pilot Rock at Pilot Rock, 6 p.m.

## Tourism committee to meet Sept. 22

The Morrow County Tourism Committee will meet Wednesday, September 22, at 3 p.m. at Beechers Restaurant, Ione.

The meeting will open with a tour of Ione's Historic Sites, led by Ruth McCabe of the Morrow County Historical Society.

After the tour, agenda items for the quarterly Tourism Committee meeting will include: finalizing Morrow County's advertising in the 2000-2001 Eastern Oregon Visitor Guide, updating the 2000 Morrow County Activity Calendar, and selecting officers for 2000.

The Morrow County Tourism Committee is open to all persons interested in Morrow County visitor services and amenities. There is no cost to belong, nor to attend meetings.

For information about the Morrow County Tourism Committee or the September 22 meeting, contact Carol Michael, chair, at 541-481-3014.

## Sheriff's Report

Boardman Police Dept. received a report of two Rottweilers at large.

Boardman Police Dept. received a report from a man that his son returned home.

MCSO received a request for assistance from the Boardman Police Dept. for a DUII in Boardman.

MCSO deputy arrested John William Hargraves, 52, for DUII.

MCSO received a request for a deputy concerning theft of horses, with one of the people riding off on a horse. It was a civil problem.

MCSO deputy cited Chad Wayne Childers, 24, Hermiston, David Nasario, 28, Hermiston and Ricky Nasario, 25, Irrigon, for Criminal Trespass.

MCSO received a report of neighbors fighting outside a residence in Irrigon. The fight, which was verbal only, broke up.

MCSO, Boardman Police Dept. received a report of a boat in distress with five people paddling. The boat made it to the marina.

Boardman Police Dept. received a report of an attempted kidnap. An adult male allegedly tried to lure a boy down the stairs in an apartment complex in Boardman.

MCSO received a report of a male lying along the freeway on I-84. The subject was hitchhiking.

Boardman Police Dept. received a report of prowlers in Boardman.

July 26: MCSO received a report of a lab missing in Irrigon. MCSO deputy arrested Harvey Gene Howell, 43, Lexington, for DUII. His blood alcohol was .19.

Boardman Police Dept. received a report of a neighbor dog barking which was unusual. An officer was unable to discover anything amiss.

MCSO received a report of gear thrown off a roof at the MCGM, Patterson Ferry Elevator. Lumber and other things were scattered around.

Heppner ambulance received a request for an ambulance for a Heppner woman. The patient was transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.

MCSO, Heppner ambulance, Heppner Rescue received a report of a motor vehicle accident south of Heppner on Highway 207. Two patients were transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner and onto Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston. James G. Doherty, 45, was cited for Unsafe Passing and Careless Driving in Connection with a Motor Vehicle Accident.

Boardman Police received a report of a possible dispute concerning a horse.

MCSO received a report of a lock broken off a shop on Highway 207.

Heppner city crew, Heppner ambulance received a report of a motor vehicle accident on Main and Baltimore in Heppner. One male was transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.

MCSO received a report of loose horses in Irrigon.

MCSO received a request for an extra patrol in Heppner.

MCSO received a report of theft of a compressor and other items in Irrigon.

Heppner and Ione Fire chiefs, Boardman and Lexington Fire depts., Hermiston Police Dept. received a report of lots of smoke. It was a large controlled burn at a ranch west of Ione on Baseline and a large barn south of Hermiston.

MCSO received a report of a theft of a green International in Boardman. It was repossessed.

MCSO received information about two runaway juveniles from Boardman.

MCSO received a report of a car running with its lights on for almost three hours with no one around. The owner was located.

## Heppner preschool underway Sept. 13

The Heppner Preschool will get its new school year underway Monday, Sept. 13. Hours will now be from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Three-year-old preschool will meet on Wednesdays, beginning Wednesday, Sept. 15, and four-year-old preschool will meet on Mondays and Tuesdays, beginning on Monday, Sept. 13.

Parents are reminded that their children must be immunized and pre-registered to attend.

There is a \$10 registration fee. For more information, contact Merry Brannon, 676-5429.

## Boardman Chamber examine Internet

Deciding to go online is not an easy choice. The Boardman Chamber of Commerce will examine the pros and cons of being on the Internet at the September 15 Chamber meeting.

Lee Curtis, director of the Eastern Oregon University Regional Services Institute, will explain the capabilities of the Internet to gain new customers; increase sales; position products; provide information; and understand the cyber marketplace.

The Boardman Chamber of Commerce meets the third Wednesday of each month. The September 15 meeting will be at Dodge City Inn Restaurant from 12 noon to 1 p.m.

Chamber meetings are free and open to all interested persons. Those wishing to purchase a lunch must RSVP by 4 p.m. Monday, September 13, 481-2571 or 481-3014.

We Print BUSINESS CARDS  
Heppner Gazette-Times

**September 2nd - Thursday**  
We Took The Summer Off... Now We're Back! Ladies' Night: Sally Walker and Crew preparing Cannelloni, Salad, Bread Sticks, Fruit and Dessert. Dinner starts at 6 p.m.

**September 16 - Thursday**  
Northeast District Deputy Leonard Spears Visitation. Dinner starts at 6 p.m.; Initiation at 8 p.m.



**HEPPNER ELKS 358**  
676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 North Main

## SEPTEMBER 1999

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 HEDC Mo Co Court	2 School Pix WV Val Serv Club BPOE - Ladies Nite	3 FB here	4
5	6 LAIRBIRWAY Heppner Planning Med Dist Bnd	7 Merchants WCCO Ladies Champ Chamber Masons SWCD Bnd Library Story Time	8 Mo Co Court Assisted Living Town Hall Mtg Site Council Dob/follows	9 WV Val Serv Club WCVL Bnd BPOE	10 FB at Umatilla	11 VB at Boardman
12 Men's Int. Golf Tour	13 JVB here Garden Club Hep City Council Mo Co Sor Bnd QTRB / Fair Bnd	14 HCC Chamber "Old" Swim Pool Mtg Comm on Chkr & Fam Bnd VB at Pendleton Library Story Time	15 HEDC Mo Co Court Neigh. Can Bnd	16 WV Val Serv Club VB at Condon BPOE	17 JVB FBVB @ Athena FB here FB here	18 VB at Moro
19 Men's CC Golf Tour OR Barrel Racing	20 School Levels Test this week JV FB here	21 Chamber VB at Ione Museum Bnd Library Story Time	22 Mo Co Court Enterprise Zone Hearing	23 WV Serv Club Bnd WCVL Bnd BPOE	24 FB at The Dalles JVB FBVB here	25 JV VB here
26 Last Gasp Golf Tour & BBQ	27 JV FB here Hous. Auth Bnd	28 HCC Chamber VB here Library Story Time	29 Chamber Board	30 BPOE		

COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS  
BROUGHT TO YOU BY:  
**Twice Upon a Time...**  
Color Copies • Used Books • Word Processing  
Next to City Hall on Willow St. in Heppner

To have your activity listed in the community calendar of events, contact Doris Brosnan at Twice Upon a Time... 676-5886

*Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Padberg & Mr. and Mrs. David Mitchell request the honour of your presence at the marriage of their children Darcee Lynn & Slater Dale on Saturday, September 4, 1999 at 4:00 in the afternoon Christian Life Center 535 West Morgan Street, Heppner Reception following ceremony at Ione Legion Hall*

**GARDEN GATE ANTIQUES**  
is having a 15% OFF SALE now thru Sept. 15th. Watch for our tags at The Shoe Box.