

The Official Newspaper  
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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**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. The G-T is not responsible for accuracy of statements made in letters.

**School song important**

To the Editor:  
Dear Student Council Members,  
I appreciate the opportunity to speak regarding the new school song. I believe that your actions to include the alumni in the decision making process for the new school song shows a great deal of respect for those who have come before you. I cherish the school song and proudly sing it at all of the football and basketball games. The song represents a great tradition, the pride and the ownership that I feel for Heppner High School, even after graduating 25 years ago. I can tell you that 25 years is not a long time to remember the school song. I know others that graduated long before me that can still sing the school song and the fight song. It was a very important part of our pride and spirit and still is today.  
Having said that, I would like you to know that I am not opposed to having the school song modified. I understand the

need to make it universal for all sports and to also have it be politically correct. The song should represent all the athletes at Heppner Junior-Senior High School. I believe it should be sung at all sporting events, even when the band is not present to play the song.  
I am concerned that the song has been changed for two years and none of the current student body sings it at any of the functions, not even the cheerleaders. I am asking you to consider how important the song is to the alumni and ask yourselves this question: Is it our place to change a tradition if we are not going to take ownership of the new traditions? If the student body votes to keep the new song, I hope to hear their voices loud and strong when the song is played. I know that I will proudly sing whichever version you chose.  
(s) Cyde Marie Estes  
1974 Graduate of HHS  
Heppner

**Consider students' needs**

To the Editor:  
It is necessary that accurate information be given to Morrow County persons for them to make informed decisions concerning our schools. This is an area where an administrator should educate the public as well as the board. When this fails to happen, community members need to go directly to state education departments. These people cannot pass out false or misleading statements under threat of losing their jobs.  
It was recently stated in "Letters to the Editor" that the Morrow County School District would lose \$536,000 if Heppner and Ione High Schools merged. Any interested party can get accurate figures from: Ann Nguyen, research analyst, School Finance and Data Information Services, Oregon Dept. of Education, 255 Capitol St. N.E., Salem, Or. 97310; Fax (503) 373-7968; Phone (503) 378-5965, Extension 694.  
Alarmed at an additional reduction in an already-flawed

curriculum program, I did inquire and found that Heppner was reimbursed this year for 150 students and Ione, 59, in grades 9-12, making a total of 209. But the small school reimbursement is triggered by enrollments of up to 350, not the 200 erroneously reported in the previous letter. The merged schools still qualify for the additional money.  
Using the same enrollment figures, we would still be cut \$192,000 due to a complicated formula the state uses. This loss would be erased or negated by reduced expenditures on facilities, maintenance and duplicated programs.  
This is not the point, however. The important thing to focus on is what best serves the students. They increasingly need an enhanced curriculum to develop successful life skills capable of entitling them to a family wage job. We should not do any less for each and every one of them. I will not support a school system that fails to consider students' needs above all else.  
(s) Meg Murray  
Ione

**St. Patrick's Senior Center Bulletin Board**

Ninety people were present for the senior meal Wednesday, November 10. Members of the Lutheran Church served. Blood pressures were taken before the meal. The Senior Center Board meeting was postponed to Nov. 17.  
The menu for the birthday dinner Nov. 24 will be turkey with wild rice soup, cranberry salad, celery with peanut butter, combread, birthday cake and ice cream. Members of the Methodist Church will serve.  
Exercises were held Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m. Pinochle was played Tuesday and Friday afternoon at 1 p.m. Everyone is invited to join in these activities. Bingo is played every Tuesday at 7 p.m. Proceeds go to support the Senior Center.  
A bus trip to Columbia Center for shopping will be on Dec. 3 with departure time at 8:30 a.m. Ione passengers will also be picked up.

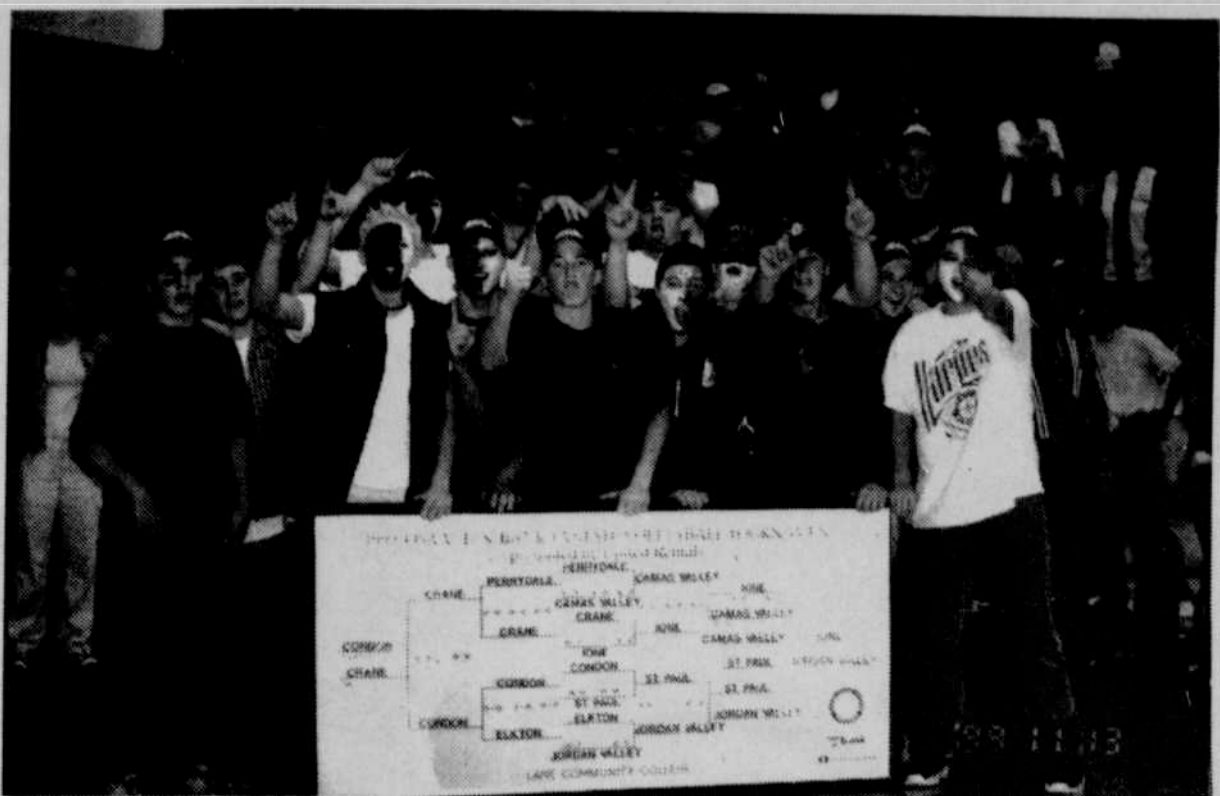
**Pioneer Memorial Clinic and Irrigon Medical Clinic will be CLOSED for the Thanksgiving Holiday, Thursday and Friday, Nov. 25-26 HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

**School board**

continued from page 1  
and departments, April 3-the first budget committee meeting and delivery of the budget message, April 17-second budget committee meeting, April 24-third budget committee meeting with budget approval, May 1-fourth budget committee meeting, if needed, June 12-budget hearing, adoption of budget and appropriations made, July 15-deadline to certify levy to assessor.  
-adopted the School to Careers curriculum;  
-accepted a three-year maintenance plan as a first reading;  
-approved a CMS volleyball trip to the University of Idaho;  
-approved dedication of the ACH library to Terri White-Stiefel;  
-approved a resolution to authorize the district to invest district funds;  
-approved a resolution to expend contingency and increase inter-fund transfers;  
-approved termination of employment of Joshua Tarvin, CMS assistant custodian;  
-approved an extra duty contract for Wendell Kreder, RHS assistant boys' basketball coach;  
-adopted a revision to the head custodian job description;  
-approved the first ready of the maintenance/technology secretary job description revision;  
-heard the following announcements: November 22-special curriculum work session, CMS, 7 p.m.; November 25-26-Thanksgiving holiday; November 29-OSEA bargaining, CMS, 5 p.m.; December 13-next board meeting, CMS, 7:30 p.m.  
At the district's last meeting October 11, the board:  
-heard a report from Anderson concerning the establishment of a charter school. According to Anderson, it was determined not to be a viable option as the Small Schools Adjustment, which allows extra funds for district's with small rural schools, would not transfer over to a new charter school.  
-heard that the Irrigon property sale is nearing the final stages, awaiting final approval from the state;  
-approved a resolution to appropriate a supplemental budget for \$284,600;  
-approved a resolution to accept and appropriate \$6,600 in grants in unanticipated revenues;  
-authorized the district to borrow against lottery funds;  
-approved hiring a political action committee to conduct a public opinion survey for the district;  
-heard an audit report from Bob Armstrong of the Oster Group, which gave the district the highest rating available;  
-heard a report from Nate Arbogast, district technology coordinator, on Y2K issues, the district's technology plan and other issues;  
-approved resignations and retirements for Michelle Miller, CMS half-time dance team advisor, and Shirley Landauer, district business manager.  
-approved employment for: Lynn Poulson, CMS Title I educational assistant, replacing Janice Babcock; Tracy Kremer, ACH ed assistant, replacing Lori McCombs;  
-approved an interim agreement for Landauer;  
-approved transfers for: Pat Quarisa, from RHS special ed assistant to RHS Title I/food service clerical assistant, replacing Carolyn Miller; Brenda Newport, from ACH special ed assistant to CMS Title I ed assistant, replacing Robbie Naser.  
-approved extra duty contracts for: Jon Coleman, CMS assistant boys' basketball coach; Colleen Cunningham, ACH computer coordinator, replacing Rod Luce; Tony Pupo, HHS head baseball coach, replacing Robin Graff; Donna Neighbors, from half-time to full time dance team contract, replacing Michelle Miller; Ray Murphy, RHS assistant girls' basketball coach; Keelie Keown, HHS DART coordinator at HHS, replacing Val Campbell.  
-accepted donations of \$1,100 from PGE to the district reading program; \$200 from Cinco de Mayo in Boardman to SBE student body funds; donation of services to HHS ag department from Kyle Robinson;  
-declared as surplus computers and other technology equipment;  
-approved co-sponsorship of softball at HHS and IHS.

**Ione takes state championships**

story and photos page 1



Bracket board presented to Ione fans

photos by Debbie Radie



Ione Cardinal players Camie Burrigt (second from left) and Nikki McElligott (right) were named 1A state volleyball tournament first team selections

**4-H Achievement and Recognition Night held**

The annual 4-H recognition dinner was held Sunday, Nov. 14, at the Morrow County Fairgrounds with a large number of friends of 4-H in attendance.  
Macy Rhea of Heppner hosted the event. Stacy Waitwright was the event organizer. Honored guests were Morrow County Fair and Rodeo Court members, Queen Tracy Rankin and Princess Rachel Faber. Princess Salli McElligott was unable to attend.  
Record book awards were as follows: Beginner: Livestock-Chelsey Foster; Small Animal-William Wehrli.  
Junior: Expressive Arts-Robert Worden; Home Economics-Jace Jones and Madison Bailey; Horse-Amy Jepsen; Livestock-Shanna Rietmann.  
Intermediate: Expressive Arts-Emily Unruh; Home Economics-Cameron Krebs; Livestock-Julie Proctor; Small Animal-Jannica McGuire.  
Senior: Expressive Arts-Erin Crowell; Home Economics-Shelby Krebs; Livestock-Jessica Krebs.  
County 4-H medals were given to the following: Intermediate: Achievement-Shelley Rietmann; Agriculture-Daniel Jepsen, Arts and Crafts-Meaghan Unruh; Beef, Meat Animal-Kristi Danielson; Citizenship-Meghan Bailey; Fashion Revue-Kristi Danielson; Food and Nutrition-Jannica McGuire; Horse-Brian Bunch; Individual Community Service-Cody Walton; Leadership-Julie Proctor; Pet Care-Brian Rust; Poultry-Jeff Hunt; Public Speaking-Cameron Krebs; Rabbits - Emily Unruh; Recreation/Camp-Katie Walton; Sheep-Samuel Van Liew; Sheep, Meat Animal-Lacey Davis; Swine, Meat Animal-Leland Rill.  
Seniors: Achievement - Shelby Krebs; Beef, Meat Animal-Jessica Krebs; Bread-Trisha Adams; Citizenship-Macy Rhea; Fashion Revue-Adrienne Swanson; Health-Danielle McDowell; Horse-Ann Shear; Individual Community Service-Jimmy Walton; Leadership-Keith Baker; Photography-Erin Crowell; Swine, Meat Animal-Katie Sherritt.  
A special recognition plaque was presented to the Morrow County Fair Board for their assistance with 4-H projects. Glaya Baker of Boardman received the Morrow County Leader of the Year award for her contributions to the 4-H program.  
Certificates were awarded to

members of the North Lex Livestock Club for their beautification efforts at the fairgrounds. Shelby Krebs, teen leader of the club, was instrumental in writing the grant to obtain funds for placement of sod and underground sprinklers.  
Adrienne Swanson is president of the club.  
The Willow Creek Fiddlers were on hand to entertain the diners. Alex Carlson, Eric Jepsen, Kate Kendrick, Seth Morgan and Brynna Rust are members of the group and Peg Willis is their teacher.

**"An interest-free loan for Christmas shopping?"**



Bank of Eastern Oregon's  
**CHRISTMAS CASH™**

That's right! From now until December 17th, you can get a loan of up to \$1,000 in interest-free **CHRISTMAS CASH™** to use for Christmas shopping in the local area. You have until January 31st of next year to spend it. And you have 10 full months to pay it back--with no interest and no fees, period!

You can use your "cash" at the participating merchants in Heppner, Lexington and Condon.

Stop in today at any Bank of EO branch and sign up for your **CHRISTMAS CASH™**. It only takes about 30 minutes for approval. Then your Christmas shopping can begin!

**Bank of Eastern Oregon**  
"Around the corner, not around the state"

Arlington	Boardman	Condon
454-2636	481-3445	384-3501
Heppner	Ione	Irrigon
676-9125	422-7466	922-2828

Bank of Eastern Oregon is making a total of \$50,000 of Christmas Cash available so don't wait too long to sign up! Details of the program and a list of participating merchants is available at any Bank of Eastern Oregon branch.

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