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Oregon senators, representative speak at school board meeting



Left to right: Linda Harrington, Senator Ted Ferrioli and Greg Smith at Morrow County School Board meeting Monday.

Two state senators and a state representative who spoke prior to the regular meeting at the Morrow County School Board meeting on Monday in Heppner didn't seem to have any specific solutions for fixing a shortfall in the school district budget.

When Morrow County School District Board Chairman Gary Frederickson asked State Senators David Nelson and Ted Ferrioli and Representative Bob Jensen what they could do to get the district more funding, the legislators asked for support and replied that the best thing they could do was "to listen."

The senators and representative spoke of their frustration, their expansive districts and the power of the Portland area in disbursement of school funds, criticized the governor's priorities in disbursing funds, remarked on the limited amount of money available and the time it takes to make changes in the legislature, stressed that school funding also includes higher education, expressed sympathy and support for small rural schools, and vowed to "continue to work very hard to try to find funding," but offered few specific solutions. The representatives told the board and an audience of around 25-30 that they considered school funding their first priority.

Senator Ferrioli said that he would work to change the funding formula to increase monies for small, rural schools, but said he could not pledge to increase school funding by 20 percent as requested by local

attorney Bill Kuhn. Nelson said he would agree to Kuhn's request.

Local candidate for state representative, Greg Smith, Heppner, also on the panel, pledged to represent Morrow County Schools if he were elected.

Linda Harrington, candidate for representative opposing Smith, however, listed some specific measures she would have taken to increase school funding and criticized the legislature.

Harrington, a teacher from Prairie City, recommended using the kicker tax for schools. She also criticized Oregon for giving Tobacco Settlement monies to Oregon Health Sciences University, which, she says is a private university, not a public institution. Instead, she said the monies should have been given to the legislature for education.

Harrington also criticized the legislature for "giving away money to corporations." She said that corporations, which are allowed to donate equipment to schools, want to seek a return on those donations and are more likely to benefit high profile schools in the valley with more affluent students. Those students, in turn, would be more apt to purchase products by the same company, than are students in small, rural schools with less access to those goods and less money to spend.

In other business, the board: -adopted the District Goals 2000-2001.

-discussed district changes in a proposed contract with the Willow Creek Park District concerning operation of the lone swimming pool.

-discussed rate increases in health insurance which increase out-of-pocket costs for employees.

-changed the November 13 regular meeting from the district office to lone to allow additional dialogue about district facilities and the bond measure.

-tabled an appointment to the budget committee.

-heard a report from Superintendent Bruce Anderson who discussed proposed ballot measures and made voting recommendations.

-approved suspension of Melanie Bejtane's teaching license because she did not give the required 60 days notice.

-approved hiring an additional kindergarten teacher for A.C. Houghton Elementary.

-set a work session for Monday, October 9, at 5 p.m. at Riverside High School to discuss recommendations for the proposed bond issue. The regular board meeting will be held that day at 7 p.m. at RHS.

-accepted resignations for: Poul Murtha, Columbia Middle School assistant track coach; Lupe Colin, Sam Boardman Elementary English-as-a-second-language educational assistant; Laura Cotter, A.C. Houghton Elementary part-time ed

Home town girl shines as Round-Up Princess

Morrow County has been watching Annie Hisler for a long time--first as a youngster involved in activities at Heppner Elementary and Junior High schools, on the Wranglers Riding Club and in 4-H; as an all-star athlete who excelled at Heppner High School in volleyball, basketball, track and rodeo, and stood out in student government; and then as a college athlete playing volleyball and basketball at Mount Hood Community College.

Now the community has another chance to watch their home-town girl as she winds up her reign as a princess for the 2000 Pendleton Round-Up. Annie will not only take part in the Round-Up Court's traditional activities September 13-16, but also plans to enter the Round-Up's newest event--barrel racing.

Annie, the 20-year-old daughter of Susan and Paul Hisler, was raised on the family's cattle ranch, a century farm on Little Butter Creek, along with her brothers, Shaun, 22, and the late Shad Hisler.

Annie, active on the family ranch even as a child, follows another family tradition--involvement in the Round-Up.

Annie's grandmother Kathryn Lazinka Healy-Thorne, was queen of the 1950 Pendleton Round-Up. That same year, her aunt, Francine Hisler Bristow, was a Round-Up princess and Francine's sister, Joan Hisler Sumner, was queen of the Heppner rodeo. The following year, her great aunt Jean Lazinka Barbouletos was a Round-Up princess. Great aunt Judy Lazinka Currin was the 1959 Round-Up Queen and great aunt Mary Lou Lazinka O'Rourke was the 1961 queen.

Aunt Patti Healy Adair was queen in 1971; aunt Janice Healy Davis was queen in 1980 and then went on to become Miss Rodeo Oregon in 1981; and cousin Jennifer Currin Gutridge was queen in 1991.

Annie's aunts, Janice Healy Davis, Maureen Healy Crossley and Mary Healy Knowles were all collegiate rodeo champions and then rodeoed professionally in barrel racing. Aunts Joan Healy Hays and Patti Healy Adair also rodeoed professionally.

Great aunts Ella Lazinka Ganger and Rhoda Lazinka Leslie, daughters of Annie's great-great-grandfather, Henry Lazinka Sr., rode in the first Round-Up relay and pony races in 1910, while Annie's great-grandfather, Henry Lazinka, helped out with the oxen teams. Ella, who was a winner in the relay, was also grand marshal of the 1963 Westward Ho! Parade. Kathryn Lazinka Healy-Thorne, Judy Lazinka Currin and Mary Lou Lazinka Barbouletos rodeo as escorts for their aunt Ella, who was inducted into the Round-Up and Happy Canyon Hall of Fame in 1987.

Cousins Ron, Tony, Steve and the late Mike Currin have all won Round-Up titles.

Butch Knowles, a KUMA Round-Up and ESPN commentator, is Annie's uncle, as are Shane Crossley and Russell Davis, who set the Round-Up steer wrestling record of 4.0 in 1992.

Annie's dad Paul rode bulls in the Northwest Rodeo Association. Her grandfather Paul Hisler, Sr., was a member of the Morrow County Fair Board and was grand marshal of the Morrow County Parade in Heppner. At this year's Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Parade, Annie and the other members of the Round-Up Court stopped along the parade route to visit with her grandparents Paul and Kathleen Hisler, now 92 years old.

Annie also follows in the footsteps of her mother, Susan.



Round-Up Princess Annie Hisler with President Bill Clinton

who was an outstanding athlete. Playing for Heppner High School, Annie earned Columbia Basin Conference first team honors in volleyball, was named an all-star at the state 2A tournament and was a selection for all-state and senior series. At her graduation in 1998 she received both the Jim Barratt Student Athlete award and the Mike Currin Memorial scholarship and trophy.

After graduation she attended Mount Hood Community College for two years on volleyball and basketball scholarships. She plans to continue at Mount Hood to earn her cosmetology degree.

Annie won the junior barrel racing championship at the Morrow County Rodeo for three successive years, from 1995-1997. She won pole bending, barrel racing, cutting and all-around titles at numerous rodeos all over the state. She qualified for the Silver State High School Rodeo Finals in 1995 and 1997, winning the short go barrels and poles in 1995. She also qualified for the National High School Rodeo Finals in 1996. That year

she was also the reserve champion high school pole bender and barrel racer and a member of the champion high school rodeo team.

She was selected as a Wrangler sponsor high school rodeo athlete for the 1997-98 season. She rode in the Hermiston Farm-city Pro Rodeo grand entry in 1998 and 1999 and traveled the Columbia River Pro Rodeo Circuit in 1998 with her aunt Janice Davis. That year she won more than \$1,000 to earn a Women's Professional Rodeo Association card.

At the Round-Up Annie will ride an eight-year-old gelding, Duke, loaned by aunt and uncle Janice and Russell Davis. Her back-up is Rascal, her pole and barrel horse. He suffered an injury at the first part of the summer, but she hopes to be able to ride him in the first barrel racing competition at the Round-Up this year.

One of the most exciting activities for Annie during her stint as Round-Up emissary was a trip to Washington, D.C., where she met President Bill Clinton.

Jewelry stolen from broken window at Peterson's

A burglar threw a rock into the window at Peterson's Jewelers in Heppner, probably Sunday morning, stuck his hand through the window and took one ring, two bracelets, a necklace and other items from the store's window display, according to Heppner Police.

Heppner Police Chief Doug

Rathbun said that jewelry boxes had been discovered thrown along Heppner Hill were connected with the burglary.

He said that the theft of 20 cases of pop from the Heppner Fire Hall was at a different time and did not appear to be related.

The estimated value of the stolen jewelry was not disclosed.

Heppner-Lexington advisory to discuss schools

A special meeting of the Heppner-Lexington Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, September 20, at the Heppner Elementary School library at 7 p.m.

City dog ordinance in effect

The Heppner City Council, at their August 14 council meeting, amended the city's dog control ordinance.

The city will now require that all dogs, six months and older, be licensed and wear the license at all times.

After March 31, owners of non-licensed dogs will pay a penalty if the dog is discovered running loose.

The Heppner City Budget Committee has budgeted \$2,300 to purchase dog kennels, which will be put up by the Heppner waste treatment facility. The kennels will be used to house dogs that are discovered running loose.

The remainder of the money

The advisory committee is seeking community input concerning building plans and needs for recommendation to the Morrow County School Board for the proposed school bond.

will come from license and release fees.

Public hearings will be held before the ordinance goes into effect.

Hardman plans oyster feed

The Hardman Community Center's annual Oyster Feed, Salmon Bake and Ham Dinner will be on Saturday, September 30, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. at the center, 25 miles south of Heppner on Highway 207.

Cost for the dinner, which includes salad and dessert, is \$12 for adults and \$4.50 for children 12 and under. Preschool children will be admitted free.

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