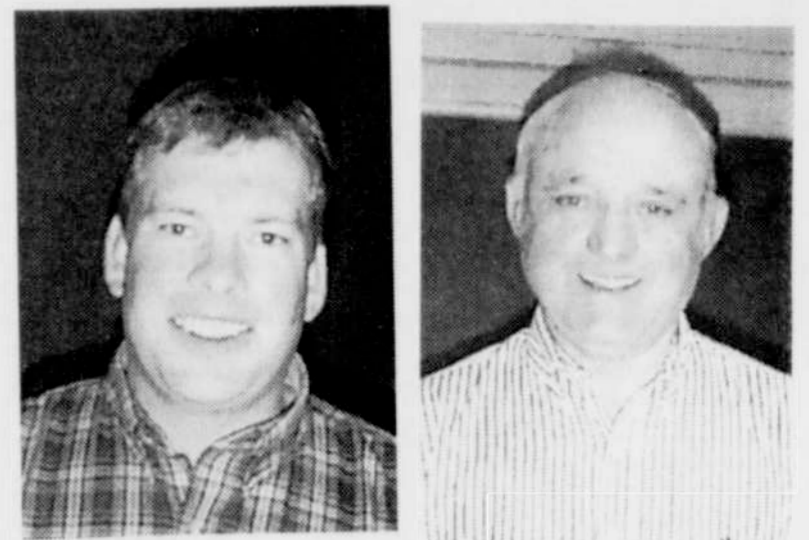


A look back to 2001



Megan Orr of Heppner takes first place in the state Elks Hoop Shoot Contest.

A mural, depicting early scenes of farming in Morrow County, was completed at the recently opened Agricultural Museum in Heppner. The mural was painted by artist Robert Thomas, with the assistance of his daughters.



Morrow County School Board members Barney Lindsay (left) and Keith Lewis found themselves embroiled in school district zone residency disputes.



Bill Lowe of Heppner celebrates his 102nd birthday by giving a harmonica concert. He was honored with a party and birthday cake at Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home where he resides.



Long-time Heppner Police Chief Doug Rathbun retires this year.



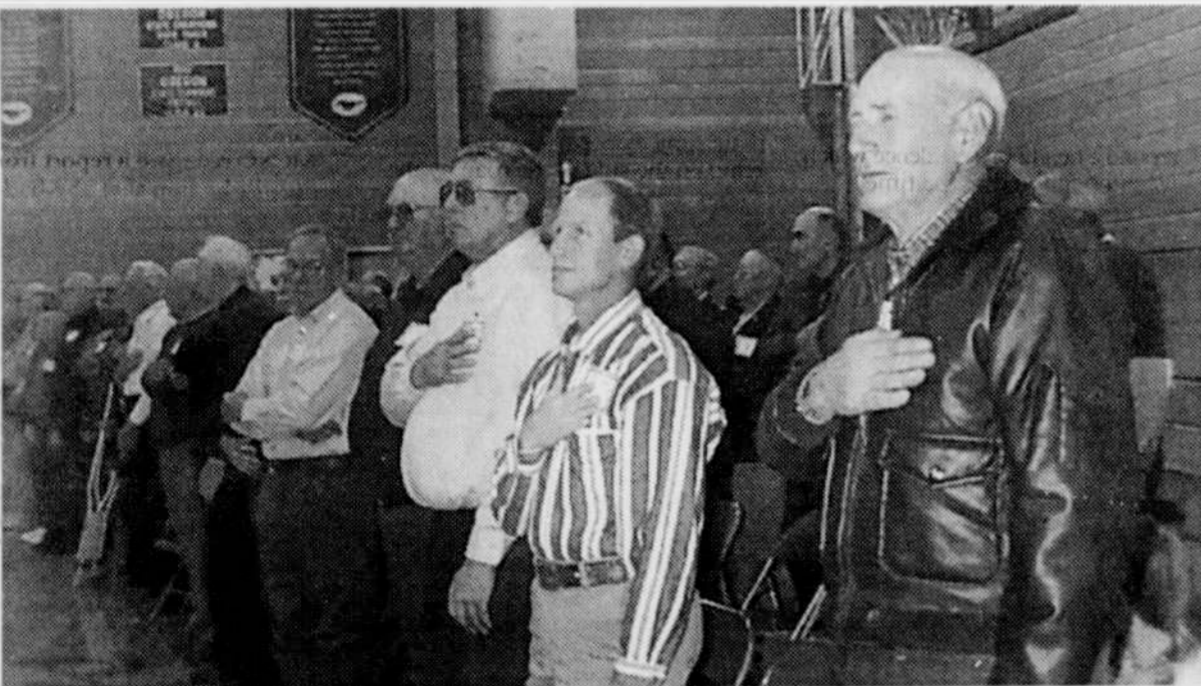
Brent Eckman of Lexington deposits the cash from the Halloween candy he sold to benefit injured local rancher Dave Matheny and his family. Many local groups raised funds for the Matheny family and numerous others raised monies for those impacted by the Sept. 11 tragedy.



Jeff Hunt of Ione earns the rank of Eagle Scout.



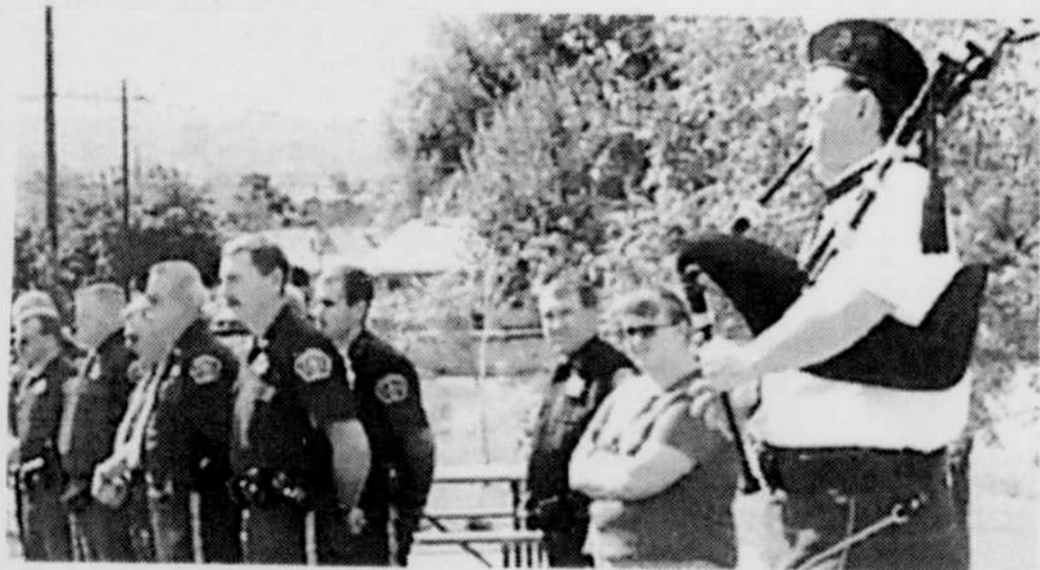
Young members of the Pathfinder Club, chaperoned by Dr. Kenneth Wenberg and his daughter, Heidi Wenberg, of Heppner drift down the John Day River on a raft they made.



Veterans stand solemnly for the Star Spangled Banner at a ceremony in recognition of their service at Heppner High School November 7.



Tass Morrison from the Oregon Department of Education presents the state school excellence award flag to (left to right) Ione Elementary School Representative Beth Morter, Ione Middle School Student Body President Jennifer Griffith and Ione High School Student Body President Salli McElligott.



Troy Jameson of the Tri Cities plays "Amazing Grace" on his bagpipes during a ceremony held in Heppner commemorating the police, fire fighters and other emergency personnel killed or injured during the Sept. 11 attack on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon. Similar ceremonies were held in each community in Morrow County.



Brendan McElligott of Heppner will compete in the national Geography Bee.



Santa Claus (alias John Padberg, Hermiston), looking very much like the real thing, drew a horde of tiny admirers at his Heppner debut at the Artfactory held at the Morrow County Fairgrounds Nov. 17. The annual craft fair, sponsored by the Willow Creek Service Club, heralds the holiday season to the area. Padberg is the son of Archie and Jeanette Padberg of Heppner.



Heppner Elementary staff members made brightly colored pillow cases to send to the children of fire fighters lost in the Sept. 11 terrorist attack. A paper star saying "Sweet Dreams" accompanied the gifts.

*Have a Safe and Happy New Year
from the Gazette-Times Staff*