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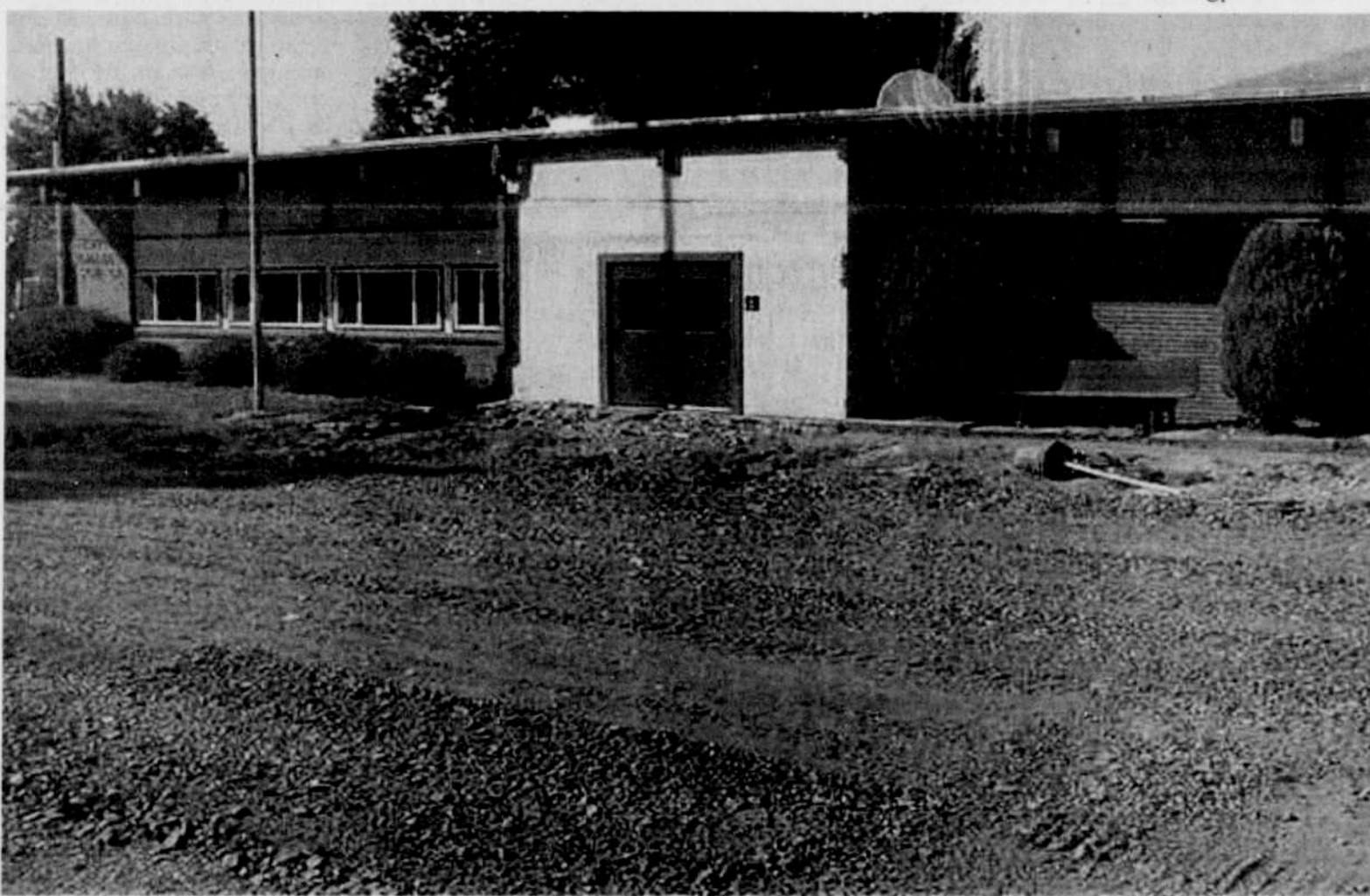
HEPPNER 50¢

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VOL. 121 NO. 35 8 Pages Wednesday, August 28, 2002 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

Caution urged as students return to school



School construction will make getting around more difficult for parents and students alike

by Debbie Harper

Heppner schools resume classes next Tuesday. For students, parents, and townspeople getting to or around the elementary school will be very different this year. There won't be sidewalks or parking places in front of the school. Construction machinery and trucks will be coming and going on Stansbury and Elder Streets.

Wade Smith, the new principal for Heppner schools, says the only parking for staff and visitors will be the gravelled lot used for rodeo contestant parking during the fair. The few spots in front of the school must be kept open for handicapped parking and lunch loading and unloading he said.

To get to the staff and visitor parking lot people will need to drive down Highway 74 to the fairgrounds entrance, drive all the way to the back, past the football field and rodeo arena, turn left before the shop and drive down the gravelled road to the parking lot. The road just past the school will be used as an exit only.

Buses will use the gravelled lot behind the school as a loading and unloading zone.

Smith asked all students, walkers, drop-offs or busers, to use the doors at the end of the building nearest the visitors' lot, and at the back of the building nearest the bus lot.

Smith is urging parents who pick up or drop off children to do so in the visitors' lot. From there students can walk across the one-way lane, into the schoolyard and use the doors at the rear of the school.

For walkers things may be especially challenging. The construction site will be off limits. The walkway over the bridge from Main Street and past the lower field will not be off limits, but because of on-going construction work, students are asked to be extremely careful if they use this route. Smith recommends having the students walk down Main Street and up Quaid Street to the school if at all possible.

Drivers are asked to be especially careful. Students that

used to walk past the old buildings will probably be walking on Court Street itself. Because of the congestion by the lower field, there may be many more students walking on Main and Quaid Streets than usual.

Smith says that the school is working closely with the construction company, Mid-Columbia Bus Company, the City of Heppner, and the Rodeo Board to ensure safety. The school is currently negotiating with the rodeo board on the grounds upkeep for the visitor and staff parking lot.

G-T deadline Friday

The Heppner Gazette-Times will be closed Monday, Sept. 2, for the Memorial Day holiday.

The deadline for news and advertisements for next week's newspaper will be this Friday, August 30, at 5 p.m.

The newspaper will be published on schedule, Wednesday, Sept. 4.



Who's having fun?
Macy Gibbs, 5, of Heppner, right, competes in the stick horse race at the Morrow County Rodeo at the Morrow County Fairgrounds Sunday August 18th, 2002 in Heppner. See all the Morrow County rodeo results pictures on page 5.

Photos by Mitchell Zachs

Prayer service set on 9-11

A prayer service in honor of the victims of 9-11 and their families has been planned for Wednesday, Sept. 11, from 7-8 p.m., at the Seventh-day Adventist Church, 560 N. Minor in Heppner.

The service will include special music, prayers and group singing. Everyone is welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Local student makes dean's list

Danielle McDowell, Heppner, was named to the dean's list for spring term in the college of arts and sciences at Seattle University, Seattle, Washington. She earned a 3.9 gpa.



Justin Matteson, of Heppner, competes in the Calf Roping event at the Morrow County Rodeo Sunday August 18th. Justin won the saddle for the best Morrow County calf roper this year. More pictures page 5.



Meanwhile brother Ryan, shown here in the steer wrestling, won this year's Morrow County all-around title. See more awards pictures page 5.

Assisted living grand opening Sept. 15

The Willow Creek Terrace assisted living facility plans its grand opening on Sunday, Sept. 15, from 1-3 p.m., at 400 Frank Gilliam Drive in the Lakeview subdivision in Heppner.

Music will be provided by Amy Jepsen and a group of local fiddlers and violinists.

Refreshments will be served.

Local man bags season's first cougar

photo by Debbie Harper



Joe VanDoorn with his recently bagged cat photo by Debbie Harper

by Debbie Harper

The cougar was so intent on the deer he was stalking he

didn't notice he was being stalked himself.

Joe VanDoorn saw the cougar stalking the deer about

eight miles up Willow Creek from Heppner. It was early on Aug. 16, while he was on his way to work. The pair didn't notice him as he got out of his truck, crossed the fence and got within shot range.

The cougar was the first one tagged this season, which began Aug. 1. It is still the only one tagged so far, according to Steve Cherry, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The cat was a two-year-old male, 6 feet 2 inches long and weighing 110 pounds.

This is VanDoorn's second cougar. He also tagged one several years ago, so this one he gave to his long-time employer Dick Wilkenson. Wilkenson is having it stuffed in a full body mount.

**ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE:
MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.**

KEY BLUE JEANS -- \$12⁰⁰ EACH
Sale through August 31st Lot # 4874.41, 4874.48, 4874.49
Some sizes may not be in stock. Orders are welcome!

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