

HES holds annual geography bee



Back Row L-R): Lane Wright, Justin Gutierrez, Jodessa Chapa, Ashley Wolff, Kellee Jones and Lacie Wagoner; (Front Row L-R): Curtis Harper, Forrest Reed, Zach Hintz, Brent Eckman, Jared Huddleston and Ian Murray. Not pictured: Araceli Zavala and Emily Thompson.

A country just east of Calcutta, India, is one of the world's largest exporters of jute, which is used in making burlap. Name the country. (Bangladesh)

Tea and coffee are major crops grown in the highlands near Nairobi in which African country? (Kenya)

Those were the types of questions young geographers faced on Jan. 12 at Heppner Elementary School as they participated in the annual Geography Bee.

Sponsored by the National Geographic Society, geography bees are held each year to encourage interest among youth in the geography and people of the world.

Written qualifying tests were given to students in fourth, fifth and sixth grades. The top scorers then competed "spelling bee style," answering questions about geography.

HES Social Studies teacher Karen Smith-Griffith served as reader and moderator of the HES contest and Jannie Allen, also an HES teacher, was scorekeeper.

The competition was to begin with 14 students, but only 13 participated as Emily Thompson was out of town. Students in the Bee were: Ashley Wolff, Ian Murray, Brent Eckman, Lacie Wagoner, Justin Gutierrez, Curtis Harper, Jared Huddleston, Forrest Reed, Araceli Zavala, Jodessa Chapa, Zach Hintz, Kellee Jones and Lane Wright.

After the preliminary round, six contestants: Wolff, Eckman, Gutierrez, Zavala, Wright and Jones remained to enter the final round of



Kellee Jones and Karen Smith-Griffith

questioning, two finalists, Wolff and Jones, entered the championship round.

In the championship round, Jones correctly identified North Carolina as the state where the Wright Brothers completed the first successful airplane flight. Jones received a medal and calendar of the world.

Jones took a written test the following day to determine if she will move to the next level of competition, which is the State Geography Bee held in April. Last year, HES student Spencer Palmer represented his school at the state bee.

Following the competition, contestants and their families enjoyed refreshments in the flavor of the event. They tasted German chocolate cake, Scottish

shortbread, Swedish cinnamon cookies, Chinese fortune cookies and American chocolate chip cookies. It was a geographic day from beginning to end.

WVSC announces 2004 officers

The Willow Valley Service Club elected officers for 2004 at their Jan. 15 meeting.

The new officers are: Ann Spicer, president; Marcia Kemp, vice-president; Ginger Keithley, secretary; and Margo Sherer, treasurer.

Annual dues of \$24 may be mailed to WVSC, P.O. Box 102, Heppner, OR 97836.

The next meeting is a business meeting on Thursday, Feb. 5, at John's Place in Heppner from 12-1 p.m.

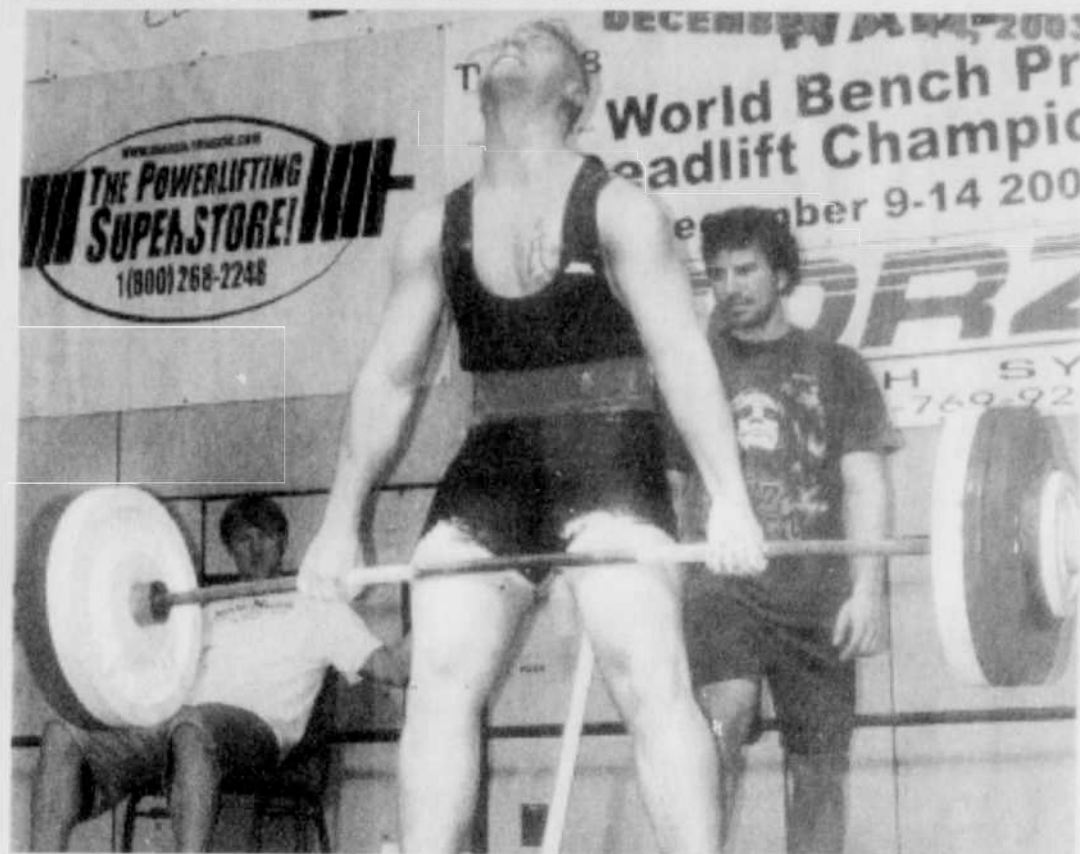
Anyone interested in learning about WVSC or wishing to join is invited to this no-host lunch.

Senior Class to hold Taco Feed

The Heppner High School senior class will be holding a Taco Feed on Friday, Jan. 23 from 4-6:30 p.m. at the HHS Home Ec room.

The menu includes tacos, beans, rice, dessert and a drink. The price will be \$5 per plate.

Roberts takes dead lift title



Ashley Roberts

Ashley Roberts now holds the under 19 title in the dead lift. He earned this title in December after competing at the world power-lifting championships held in Las Vegas. He began his weight lifting training under the Better Faster Stronger program introduced and taught by Dale Holland of Lone.

Roberts' life in the United States started with his junior year under the ASSE

Cardinal Booster Club

Cardinal Booster Club met Monday, Jan. 12 at the Lone School library. Eleven members were present. Letters have been sent out to all businesses who supported Lone Schools this past year. They will all be honored at home basketball games.

Karen Padberg is still organizing a community band. Practices will be every Monday night at 7 p.m. at the high school. All interested individuals should plan to attend or call Padberg at 422-7326.

The club will be reimbursed by the student body for \$1000 toward the cost of building the new trophy case. Club members voted to pay the \$340 balance due on the 2003 yearbook.

President Lynn Dee Ramos noted Morrow County Grain Growers is starting the process of organizing a dinner to benefit the Heppner and Lone booster clubs. Members were very supportive of the plan, which will be implemented some time next year.

The club voted to provide salads for Erin Crowell's wedding on April 24.

Wheatland Insurance donated \$800 to the club. The money will be used in part to make a new score table for the elementary gym, to make a Wheatland sign for the high school gym where they will match points scored with dollars and to custom make mats and make baseboards for the north wall of the gym.

The club will provide a sandwich meal for players from visiting teams when they board their bus to return home.

The next meeting of Cardinal Booster Club will be Monday, Feb. 2 at 7 p.m. at the high school library.

foreign exchange program. He returned to Lone his senior year and graduated in June of 2003. His first competition was at Buzz's Fitness Center in Boardman. He was an instant success and it was not long before a chance of capturing a place in the world rankings was beckoning. At the glittering Riviera Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Roberts lifted 540 pounds to take the title. Preparing himself mentally played a major part. "I just convinced myself that I was going to do it and I felt good," said Roberts.

As well as the world crown, he holds the Oregon state records for two different organizations: the American Powerlifting Association and the World Association of Bench Press and Deadlift. Roberts has already booked a place in the 2004 world finals but his ultimate ambition is to take part in the world's strongest man contest.

Roberts now attends Idaho University where he is studying for a degree in physical education.

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