

Heppner cross still stands after 10 years



(L-R): Bob and Aloha DeSpain, Bill and Merilee McDowell and Bob and Suzanne Jepsen enjoy completion of cross.



George Jefferies of Heppner helps place the cross on March 26, 1994.

Friday, March 26 marks the 10th anniversary of the placing of a new steel cross on Cross Hill overlooking Heppner. The cross was placed on March 26, 1994.

A wooden cross was originally placed on the hill in the 1930s by youth in the Episcopal, Methodist and Church of Christ churches.

Back in 1994, Bob Jepsen noticed that the cross wasn't on the hill and took Bob DeSpain with him to investigate. They found that the wooden cross was rotted and had fallen down. So they put their heads together and decided to build a steel cross.

From this idea, Jepsen and DeSpain and many volunteers took two old "reaches," coupling poles from log trucks, and welded them together to form the cross. They then placed the cross five feet down into the solid rock and poured cement around it to give it added stability.

"It is an old rugged cross," said Jepsen. Explaining that the reaches had become unusable for the log trucks due to bending and wear.

In the beginning, electricity to light the cross came from a generator and the first time the cross was lit was Easter 1994. Once AT&T moved a tower onto the hill, they offered to dig a ditch and lay buried lines to the cross so that there could be permanent lighting. AT&T also set up a circuit breaker on the outside of their fence that could be accessed by those in charge of the cross.

Charge of the cross was once again bestowed upon the members of the Episcopal Church in Heppner. Whenever a light needs changing or maintenance is needed, you will see a member of the church up there fixing it.

Mustangs, Pirates play to 9-9 tie

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang baseball team kicked off their season with a 9-9 tie after eight innings at Riverside on a windy Tuesday, March 16. The Mustangs are off until Thursday, April 1 when Wahtonka will be here for a non-league game then they take to the road at Colfax, WA for a game on Friday and another one on Saturday.

The game was scoreless until the top of the third when Chuy Elguezabal reached first on a two-out single and scored on a wind-blown double by Jode Coil. Josh Gutierrez reached on an error to move Coil to third and he scored as Kory Paullus reached on another error.

The Mustangs added three more in the fourth when with two outs, Cody Walton, Elguezabal and Coil walked. Walton scored on a passed ball and Gutierrez had a two-RBI single to make it 5-0.

The Pirates came back with a run in the bottom half then added four more in the fifth to tie it at 5-5.

In the sixth, Elguezabal walked, went to third on a sacrifice bunt by Coil and scored on a passed ball, but the lead was short-lived as the Pirates came back with three runs in the bottom half to take an 8-6 lead into the seventh.

The Mustangs came right back though when Kyler Lovgren walked, Kiel Nairns and Walton singled, Elguezabal

walked to force in a run and Nairns scored on a wild pitch to tie it at 8-8.

In the eighth, Paullus reached on an infield single and went to third when Nick Christman reached on an error and later scored on a wild pitch.

The Pirates came back with a run to tie it in the bottom half and the game was called on account of darkness.

Elguezabal went four innings striking out nine while walking none, giving up three hits and one run. He also went two for three scoring three runs with an RBI. Gutierrez had two RBI and Coil scored twice going one for one.

Heppner 002 301
21-9 8 5

Riverside 000 143
01-9 7 5

Chuy Elguezabal, Nick Christman (5), Jode Coil (7) and Coil, Elguezabal (7); Roy Nunez, Shawn Dirksen (5), A.J. Phipps (6), Dirksen (6), Nunez (8) and Derek Hancock. 2B- Coil (H); Cody Nailor (R). 3B- none. HR- none.

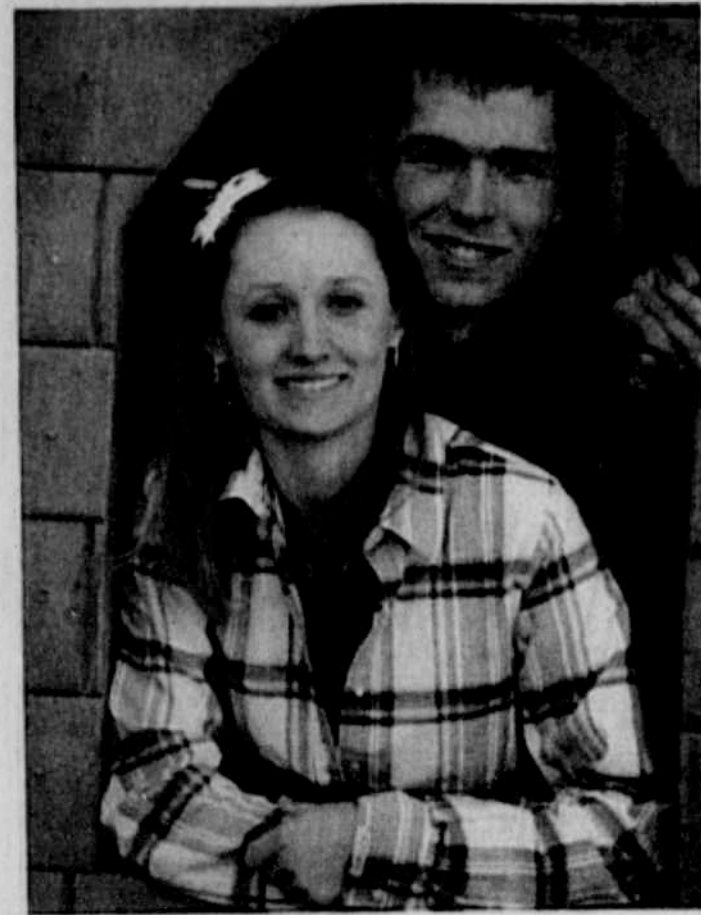
Justice Court

Shelia Piper, 33, Heppner, Maintaining Dog as Nuisance, fine \$73.

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Engagements

Emmel-Thompson



Sheryl Emmel and Jared Thompson

Sheryl Emmel and Jared Scot Thompson wish to announce their engagement.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Paula Elaine and Darrell Romaine Emmel of Echo. She was home schooled and graduated in 2001. She is currently employed by Emmel Brothers' Ranch.

The groom-elect is the son of Kimber Lee and Leslie Lee Thompson of Ione. He was home schooled and graduated in 2000. He is currently employed by Don McElligott Ranches.

The wedding has been set for Saturday, May 1, 2004, at Emmel Brothers' Ranch in Prairie City.

Wall-Nelson



Christina Wall and Nick Nelson

Dennis and Babette Wall of Heppner announce the engagement of their daughter, Christina Michelle to Nick Reed Nelson.

The bride-elect graduated from Molalla High School in Molalla. She received a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Business Management from Montana State University-Bozeman in 1999. She works as a credit analyst for Columbia River Bank.

Nelson is the son of Veril and Barbie Nelson of Oakland. He graduated from Oakland High School and earned a bachelor of science in agriculture from California State University-Chico and an MAT from Oregon State University. He is an Agriculture Science and Technology instructor at Hermiston High School.

The couple will be married July 2 at The Cottage in Hermiston.

Benefit Spaghetti Feed to be held

A benefit Spaghetti Feed for Carol Ford of Irrigon will be held Thursday, March 25, 2004 from 4-8 p.m. at Riverfront Lodge in Boardman. The evening will

Ione Site Council

The Ione Site Council met Monday, March 15, in the school staff room. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Under old business the council discussed the test results of students in grades 3, 5, 8 and 10 over the past three years. It was agreed the scores are misleading due to the numbers taking the tests and the fact that a new set of students take the test every year. It was discovered the eighth grade students taking the tenth grade math benchmark test were not counted at the state level. The council came up with the following suggestions:

-Set the testing calendar at the beginning of the school year. The initial test should be given in February and the second test at the end of April or the first of May.

-Have off-grade testing, preferably state designed.

-Have an administrator conference with students and parents of students who do not pass the benchmark tests.

-On text adoption years the adoption committee should consider texts that meet state requirements.

-Individuals should work with the ESD and school system to fix the rating system.

Chairman Dean Robinson announced the second inservice for the three elementary teachers were approved, with funding from the foundation.

The Cardinal boys and girls basketball teams were commended for making it to the district tournament. Del LaRue was recognized as National Coach of the Year. Winners of the Elk's eye poster contest were 1st- Jake Trahan, 2nd- Shelby Wiggers and 3rd- RJ Ramos.

The next meeting of the Ione Site Council will be Monday, April 19 at 5 p.m. in the staff room.

also include musical entertainment. The cost will be \$7.95 a plate, beverage extra, and a 111 proceeds will go to a fund for Ford. Ford was diagnosed with a rare kind of leukemia and has had two stem cell transplants.



Carol Ford

The event is sponsored by Riverfront Lodge and Sysco Foods.

For more information contact Gracie at 922-5788, Diane at 571-3745 or David at 481-6800.

DA's Report

Julie Lee Buckles was convicted of Possession of a Controlled Substance 2, a Class-C felony. Buckles was sentenced to 18 months supervised probation, 30 days in jail, 80 hours of community service and payment of \$914 in fines and fees.

Travis Justin Copenhaver was convicted of Attempting to Elude Police/Vehicle, a Class-C felony reduced to a Class-A misdemeanor. Copenhaver's license was suspended for 90 days, and he was sentenced to 180 suspended days in jail, 24 months bench probation, 40 hours of community service and payment of \$876 in fines and fees.

Diana Hernandez admitted to violation of probation allegation for Possession of a Controlled Substance. Hernandez' probation was revoked and reinstated and she was sentenced to 15 days in jail, a one year probation extension from date of original expiration and completion of an inpatient drug treatment program.

Ricardo Lepez-Mendoza pled guilty to Possession of a Controlled Substance, a Class-C felony. Lepez-Mendoza was sentenced to 18 months formal probation, 80 hours of community service, completion of a drug treatment package and payment of \$921 in fines and fees.

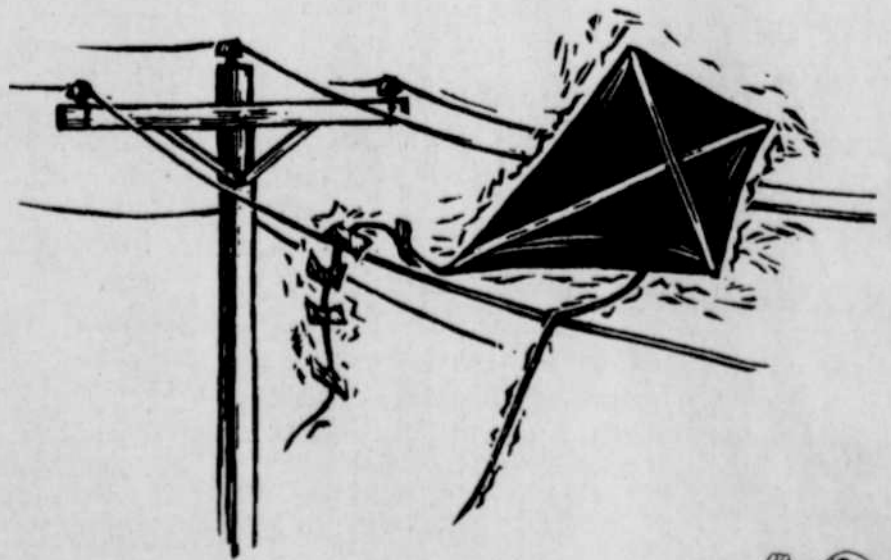
Happy 18th Birthday Emily!

We Love You!
Gram & Grampa Joe

Happy Birthday!

Leave This to the Experts!

Removing a kite tangled in power lines is a job best left to utility workers wearing protective gear. If you try to remove it, you run the risk of being electrocuted. When flying a kite, stay away from power lines. Use dry string, and make sure your kite contains absolutely no metal. Never fly a kite in stormy or wet weather.



COLUMBIA BASIN ELECTRIC CO-OP