

HEPPNER

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# Gazette Times

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## First events held at OHV park



Chance Raver, 10, makes a jump at the Morrow County OHV park Saturday. Over 130 people participated in the poker run. The Opal Butte 100 race on Sunday drew 60 participants. OHV officials said between 400 and 500 were at the park over the weekend. The race was 37 miles long and the poker run was 25 miles. The next event at the park is June 12.

## Ione student instrumental in Italian drug bust

While on a recent trip in Italy, Ione High School senior Tim Doherty was instrumental in stopping a man stealing drugs.

It is a common thing in Italy to see pickpockets, said Doherty, however, he was beginning to get tired of it. Then one day, while coming out of a hat shop in Rome, he saw a man with a

bag of pink elephants. The man was standing there as if he was going to sell them, when all of the sudden another man came running up and stole the bag. Deciding he really was tired of pickpockets, Doherty threw his shopping bags to his friend, Billy Ross, also an IHS senior and went chasing after the guy. He

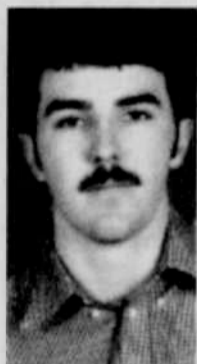
was able to catch the guy by the back of his collar and then pinned his arms down so that he couldn't run away.

Italian police came to the commotion and arrested the pickpocket. In talking to the police about what had happened, they told him that the

elephants were actually filled with cocaine and he had just stopped one drug dealer from stealing drugs from another dealer's turf.

He also learned that it is highly uncommon for anyone to stop a pickpocket because they are usually carrying knives and try to stab anyone who tries to stop them.

Thankfully for Doherty, he did not get stabbed and returned safely back to Ione.



IHS senior Tim Doherty

## Sheriff clarifies city police contract

Injuries to two Morrow County deputies have not impacted the number of patrol officers on duty in Heppner, the county sheriff said last week.

Sheriff Verlin Denton said injuries to two deputies in a domestic dispute last month "Doesn't have anything to do with what happened up North," Denton told the Gazette-Times.

The sheriff contracts with the city of Heppner to provide police protection. Denton took exception with a news report in last week's Gazette about a May 10 city council meeting, that said the city-county contract called for three deputies on

duty at all times.

Currently one of the deputies that will be assigned to Heppner is at the police academy for training. Subsequently Heppner has only two deputies covering the city.

The contract does call for three deputies to be assigned to Heppner, but also states that "With a three-man police force, the City experienced and expected impacts on patrol time when officers were at training. The impact on patrol time under this contract due to training of deputies will be no greater than the city experience in the past with its three man police force."

## Local youth participate in Bike Rodeo



Patrick Burch (front) with new bike won at bicycle safety program, with MCSO Deputy John Bowles.

Patrick Burch, 5, Heppner, was the winner of a bike awarded at the bicycle rodeo held in Heppner on May 14. He is the son of Dee and David Burch of Heppner.

The bicycle safety program, put on by the Ride and Glide Stunt Team and sponsored by Red Lion and the Morrow County Sheriff's Office (Verlin Denton, Sheriff) featured demonstrations and encouraged bike safety and the use of bike helmets. Local organizer was MCSO Deputy John Bowles, with assistance from MCSO Deputies Justin Slinger and Colleen Neubert.

The Ride and Glide MCSO, also traveled to Stunt team, sponsored by Ione, Boardman and Irrigon.



(Back Row L-R): Ride and Glide Stunt Team Brent Sprute, Jake Schuster and Fish Johnson; and (Front Row L-R): Morrow County Sheriff's Office Deputies Justin Slinger, Colleen Neubert and John Bowles.

## ISD expects over \$400,000 in cash carryover

The Ione School District Board learned at their regular meeting Monday night that the district's cash carryover for this fiscal year is expected to be over \$400,000, rather than the \$200,000 figure initially budgeted.

Acting superintendent George Murdock told the board that unanticipated revenues include a state facility grant of \$110,000 for the capital reserve fund and \$116,241 for the general fund from the settlement between ISD and Morrow County School District. He said that the additional monies will help assure the continued success of the district, especially in the event of lean times ahead, and cautioned the board that they should not expect such additional revenues in the years to come.

Of special concern is the projected reduction in revenues of the Morrow County Unified Recreation District which funds extracurricular activities for schools in Morrow County. ISD could receive in the neighborhood of \$30,000 less than required to maintain existing extracurricular activities for the 2005-06 school year.

ISD Principal Dick Allen told the board that MCURD is projecting that the assessed value for Morrow County will decrease by \$83 million by

the 2006-07 school year, with utilities the biggest cause for the decrease. Allen said that would result in MCURD's contributions to schools decreasing from \$420,000 to \$362,000. An added factor is the additional money required for athletic programs for the new Irrigon High School. Allen suggested that ISD may want to consider increasing gate fees and pay to participate fees to increase revenue. He also added, however, "Please note that the athletic programs in Morrow County will still be better off than most school districts because of the Morrow County Recreation District."

ISD is currently receiving \$94,000 from MCURD to run athletic programs. Murdock told the board that MCURD "was kind enough to spend another \$13,000" from its reserve funds for ISD athletic programs for the 2004-05 school year.

ISD approved budget changes, adopted the supplemental budget authorizing the unanticipated monies and made appropriations. The adjusted capital reserve appropriation is \$117,716 and the adjusted general fund appropriation is \$1,810,396.

Also at the meeting, Murdock told the board that

the construction project and transactions with the Morrow County School Board have been completed. He said ISD is still working on solutions to the Lexington-Pine City issue. When Ione was still a part of MCSO, those students living in the Lexington-Pine City area could choose between Ione and Heppner Schools. However since Ione's secession, those students are within MCSO and the MCSO Board has not released those students to attend Ione schools.

Board member Debbie Radie has announced her resignation from the board, as she will be moving out of the Ione district. ISD will advertise the position and plans to interview candidates at the June meeting and appoint a new board member at the July meeting.

In other business, the ISD Board unanimously approved new graduation requirements. The newly approved standard diploma would begin with the graduating class of 2008, while an enhanced diploma would begin with the graduating class of 2005.

The standard diploma to take effect in 2008 will require four language arts classes, three mathematics, two science, three social science, one applied or fine art or second

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