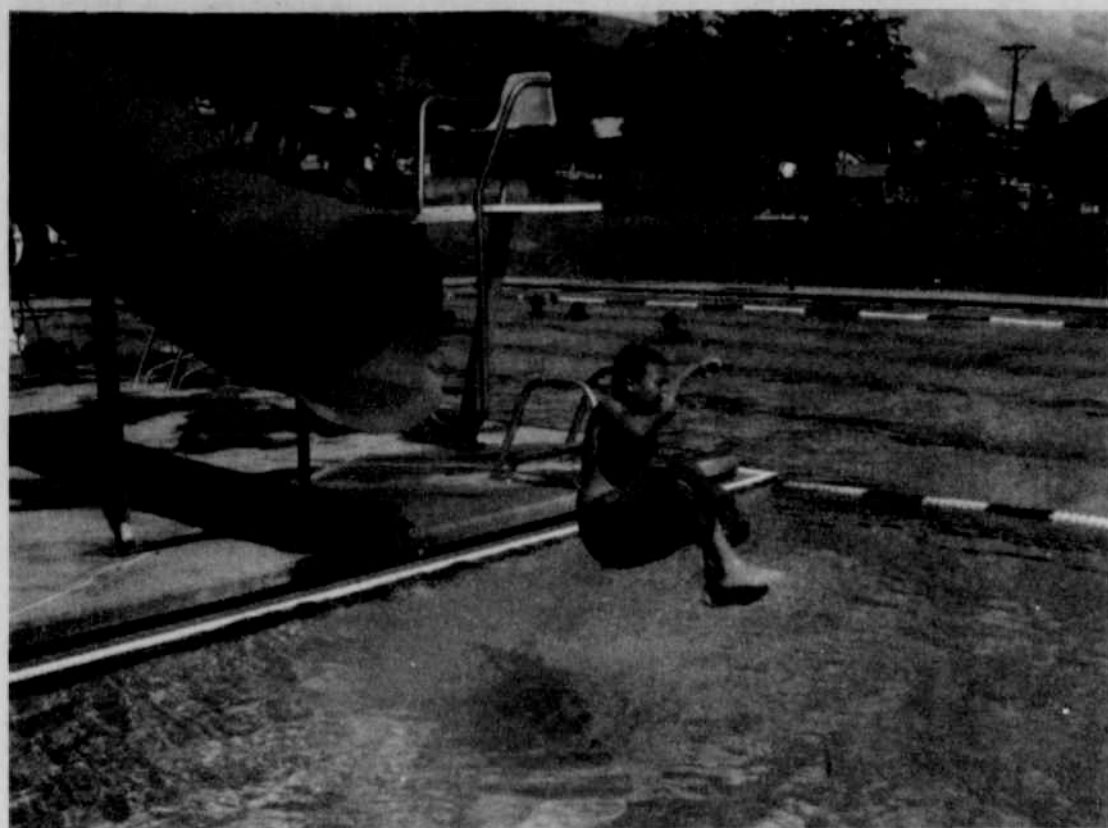


**Pool time**



The Willow Creek Water Park in Heppner opened for the summer on Saturday, June 11. Pool hours are Monday through Friday, 1-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Cost is \$1.50 for children up to age four; \$2 for children 5-17; and \$2.50 for those 18 and over. A family pass is \$125 and an individual pass is \$70.

The first session of swimming lessons will be held June 20-30; the second session, July 11-21; and the third, August 1-11. Cost is \$30 a session. For more information, call manager Marissa McCabe, 676-5752

Private pool parties are \$75 for the first hour and \$50 for each additional hour.

**Over the Tee Cup**

Willow Creek ladies held their 18 Hole Invitational Tournament on June 7. Five area clubs joined Heppner for a day of competition, following by a salad luncheon and prizes.

Low Gross of the Field—Kathy Schuler; Umatilla Low Net of the Field—Loa Henderson, Heppner.

Other winners:

China Creek: Low Gross—Alene Rucker, Low Net—Kay West.

Kinzua/Condon: Low Gross—June Kamerrer, First Low Net—Linda Dunn, Second Low Net—Marilyn Mabe.

Umatilla: Low Gross—Carolyn Peterson, Low Net—Anna Carpenter.

Willow Run: Low Gross—Karyl Meagley, Low Net—Barb Swan.

Willow Creek: Low Gross 1. Pat Edmundson, Carol Mitchell (tie), 2. Karen Bishop, 3. Carole Hamilton, Low Net 1. Jackie Allston, 2. Lorrene Montgomery, 3. Lynnea Sargent.

Chip-ins: Carole Hamilton, Pat Edmundson, Barb Swan, Carol West. Birdies: Carolyn Peterson, Kathy Schuler.

Long Drive—Guest, Kathy Schuler, Home, Virginia Grant.

K.P.—Guest, Kathy Schuler Home, Lynnea Sargent.

Long Putt—Guest, Karyl Meagley, Home, Loa Henderson.

**OSAA/Oregonian Cup final standings announced**

Ione High School finished in eighth place statewide with 1275 points in the final OSAA/Oregonian Cup 2005 1A standings. The award is based on athletic team scholarship.

First place in the 1A division went to Damascus Christian with 1975 points. Dufur High School was in 11<sup>th</sup> place with 1155 points; Arlington and Condon high schools tied for 28<sup>th</sup> place with 895 points; Echo High School was 30<sup>th</sup> place with 865 points and Spray was 32<sup>nd</sup> with 845. The 1A division had 82 spots with numerous ties.

Last year Ione took seventh place with 1305 points.

Heppner High School was 47<sup>th</sup> among 2A schools statewide with 885 points.

First place went to Santiam Christian with 2660 points. Sherman was 24<sup>th</sup> with 1345 points, Pilot Rock was 49<sup>th</sup> with 870 points and Stanfield was 54<sup>th</sup> with 800. The 2A division had 72 spots, also with numerous ties.

Last year Heppner was in 35<sup>th</sup> place with 1045 points.

**Magnetic Door Signs**  
Heppner Gazette-Times  
676-9228

**Danielle McDowell earns degree**

Danielle McDowell, Eugene, received a bachelor of arts degree in psychology with a minor in business during commencement ceremonies at the University of Oregon Saturday, June 11. During the last two years she has also volunteered at the Child Advocacy Center in Eugene. She plans to pursue a master's degree in psychology in the future.

Family and friends attended the ceremony and a reception at her home following.

Danielle, the daughter of Bill and Merilee McDowell of Heppner, is a 2001 graduate of Heppner High School.

**Randall Martin to celebrate 90th**

A 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party for Randall Martin, former Morrow County resident, will be held on Saturday, June 25, at the Martin Bar MX Ranch on McKay Creek, 68001 North Fork McKay Creek Road, Pilot Rock, beginning with a potluck at 1 p.m.

Hamburgers, hot dogs, birthday cake, plates, silverware, cups and soft drinks will be provided. Those attending are asked to bring a potluck dish, and something representing a fun memory, such as a memento, a snapshot, a story or joke from over the years.

Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP to Randall's granddaughter, Karen Wheelhouse, 425-890-5905, or e-mail her at Karen\_wheelhouse@jeffersonwells.com.

**Boardman Speedway? Remove question mark, backers say**

By Hal McCune of the East Oregonian

Here's what it says at the top of the www.boardmanspeedway.com webpage:

"This site has been created to help bring a race track to Oregon. We need your support to help Boardman get a race date."

Just below that is a handy link for e-mailing International Speedway Corp. - known simply as the ISC in the racing world - to promote Boardman as a future site for NASCAR races.

The creators of the website, which describe themselves as a group of prominent Portland-area businessmen, insist they aren't going to wait around for the ISC.

It doesn't work that way, says Bruce Brunette, a member of that group, which calls itself BOJV, LCC.

"You have to build it," he says. Then the ISC will consider a NASCAR (National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing) race date.

Brunette believes construction will begin on the Boardman speedway this

**Local students graduate from OSU**

Oregon State University officials conferred a record number of degrees during the university's 2005 commencement ceremony at 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 12, in Reser Stadium.

OSU is returned to a single ceremony this year after several years of splitting commencement into a graduate ceremony in the morning and the undergraduate ceremony in the afternoon.

Chris Johns, editor-in-chief of National Geographic magazine, gave the commencement address to the 2005 graduates. He is a 1975 graduate of OSU, earning a degree in technical journalism. Two years ago, he was named one of the 25 most important photographers in the world by American Photo magazine. He is only the ninth full-time editor of National Geographic since 1888.

Johns received the university's Distinguished Service Award.

OSU presented an honorary doctorate degree to Ann Roth Streissguth, who is credited with leading the effort to identify and focus attention on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. Streissguth, who graduated from OSU in 1954 with a degree in home economics, led an interdisciplinary team that in 1973 first identified the harmful effects of alcohol use during pregnancy.

The names of local students graduating include:

**Boardman:** Lara E. Fritz, Master of Science, Science Education; Alan C. Marston, Bachelor of Science, Biology; Rosa M. Munoz-Sanguino, Bachelor of Science, Human Development and Family Sciences.

**Heppner:** Leah E. Denton, Bachelor of Science, Psychology; Amy N. Drake, Bachelor of Science, Merchandising Management; Kyle D. McDaniel, Bachelor of Arts, History.

**Ione:** Corey W. Morgan, Bachelor of Science, Agricultural Business Management; Jacob N. Neiffer, Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering; Niki M. Sullivan, Bachelor of Arts, Speech Communication.

**Irrigon:** Robert J. Brown, Bachelor of Science, Magna Cum Laude, Biochemistry and Biophysics; Samantha M. Henry, Bachelor of Science, Merchandising Management; Jacob D. Johnson, Bachelor of Science, Cum Laude, Microbiology.

year, and sooner rather than later. By breaking ground this year, the facility could be operational by August of 2007, he says.

He favors one of the most famous sports movie quotes of all time when talking about the Boardman Speedway: "If you build it, they will come."

That absolutely applies in this case, he insists. "We are going to build this track and get ready to race."

BOJV and earlier developers of the Boardman Speedway proposal will likely fade away once a couple of major financiers are secured, Brunette says, adding that talks are under way with some major corporations.

But Brunette says the Boardman Speedway will work because the stars are aligned - demand is growing in the Northwest for a NASCAR track and Boardman offers an ideal site.

"Pressure is growing on the ISC," says Jim Schilling, another BOJV member from Portland. "A lot of potential viewers in the Northwest want a track, and Boardman is the only

permitted track."

The site a few miles southwest of Boardman fits all the ICS requirements, Brunette says.

**Population** - NASCAR sites figure on drawing fans from a 400-mile radius, which for Boardman includes Portland, Seattle, Spokane, Tri-Cities and Boise - millions of people.

**Location** - Like all the most popular NASCAR tracks in the country, it's rural (Brunette points out that ChicagoLand is 100 miles from Chicago and Michigan Speedway is an hour and a half from Detroit).

**Transportation** - Interstate freeways 84 and 82 intersect a few miles east of the site, which is adjacent to the Boardman Airport, which can handle 737s.

**Weather** - "It's perfect," Brunette says, well under 10 inches of rain annually compared to 30-plus inches in the Portland and Seattle areas. "Rainouts cost time and money," Brunette notes.

Rural sites also mean less traffic congestion and objections to noise and crowds.

"If 75,000 fans want to race, it's not going to happen in Troutdale or Bellevue," Brunette says. "And the public is never going to allow one of these sites near downtown Portland or Seattle."

That supports the problems a proposed site in Snohomish County, Washington, has faced, with groups forming to oppose it.

On the other hand, BOJV and the Port of Morrow have 1,100 acres in escrow, he says, just waiting for the people with the money to build.

Carla McLane, Morrow County planning director, said construction could conceivably begin in 60 to 120 days, since the county and state have OK'd the conceptual plan. A site development review would still be necessary, along with a review for widening the freeway on both sides of the project and another public hearing.

Brunette expects those plans to be announced soon.

Tentative plans for the Boardman Speedway include:

-A NASCAR-style three-quarter mile track with seating for more than 75,000.

-A drag strip with 15,000 seats.

-Three other tracks - a dirt track for World of Outlaws, a road course and a go-cart track.

-7,500 RV spaces and 50,000 parking spaces.

-Other amenities could include restaurants, movie theater, truck stop, outlet mall and industrial space.

**Real Estate**  
By DAVID SYKES REALTOR

**COUNTER OFFERS**

As a home buyer, you have made an offer to the seller which was much lower than the asking price. If the seller has countered the offer you made, you are now in the same position the seller was in when he received your offer. As the saying goes, "You are now walking in his moccasins."

You may accept, counter, or reject the counter offer. The seller will give a prescribed amount of time to respond. If you accept the counter offer, then you have agreed to buy the home on the new counter offered terms. If you decide to counter back, then you are again making an offer back to the seller as you previously did.

A word of caution: There is a point of diminishing return reached very quickly when too many counter offers are shot back and forth. Primarily due to exasperation and the fact that the process is so emotional for both, more than one or two counter offers generally result in a failed attempt to reach an agreement.

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**Heritage Land Co.** REALTOR  
541-676-9228

Past Real Estate columns and property listings are available at www.heppner.net/heritage

**Wedding Tables**  
Melissa Cutsforth and Olaf Pedersen  
Wedding - Saturday, June 18th

Tricia Coe & Jon Lorence  
Wedding - Saturday, June 25th

Kari Morgan and Chad Robie  
Wedding - Saturday, June 25th

Bobbie Rankin & David Bates  
Wedding - Saturday, July 2nd

Cheyenne Rogers & Daniel DeClue  
Wedding - Saturday, July 9th

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