

Princess Heather at home on the ranch

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busy. She plays volleyball and softball at Heppner High School where she will be a senior this year. She especially loves softball and has been playing "since forever," hoping to get a softball scholarship to college. And, to top it off, Heather helps out on the family ranch where she grew up, the Triple L Cattle Company, and has a summer job working for the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps at Cutsforth and Anson Wright parks and the OHV park.

Heather aspires to become a vet tech and her first choice in colleges is to attend Eastern Oregon University at LaGrande next fall. She is also considering Ontario Community College at Ontario.

Heather's queen this year is Jessica Wainwright. Heather and Jessica live only 10 miles from each other and have been friends since they were little.

Heather's court horse is a big 13-year-old paint horse named "Billy Bob," owned by Tom and Judy Lentz, Buttercreek. "He's a lot of personality. He's a character," laughs Heather. "He's quite the pig. He loves to roll and I have to keep him clean and that's an issue."

"He acts like he's been doing the parade thing forever, but it's just his first year," adds Heather. Heather has been riding Billy Bob, who is unusually tall at 16-1/2 hands, for the past three years.

Besides Billy Bob, Heather has a Jack Russell Terrier, Roscoe, who is 11 weeks old. She also has a regular cow dog, Timmy, who is three years old.

Easy going Heather says that "everything" has been fun this year and doesn't even seem to mind the good-natured teasing she gets. "Everyone's sarcastic," she laughs. "And I, being a blonde, don't really get it until about five minutes later." Her favorite experience so far has been the first run-in at Prineville. "It was a rush," exclaims Heather. "My heart was thumping. It was awesome." Besides Prineville, the court has been to the Heppner St. Patrick's parade, the Heppner Light Parade, Umatilla Landing Days, Athena, the Elgin Stampede, Ione and Condon Fourth of July parades and the Irrigon Watermelon Festival and will attend the Hermiston Farm City Rodeo, the Pendleton Round-Up and, of course, the Morrow County Fair and Northwest Pro Rodeo. "The N.W. Pro Rodeo in Heppner is the third highest paid rodeo in the N.W. Pro Rodeo Association. They expect to double or triple the rough stock contestants," says Princess Heather. "It's going to be really good. We need a lot of fans and I want to get the crowd more involved than in the past."

She invites everyone to come out and enjoy the festivities. Look for a smiling Princess Heather at the fair and rodeo in her favorite outfit—black pants with chaps and a plaid shirt with rhinestones, accessorized with cowboy boots, a black hat and barbed wire jewelry (which she insists doesn't hurt).

WindWave proposes Heppner TV purchase

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- WindWave would commit to upgrading all current Heppner TV customers cable TV service by installing fiber optic lines to residences, while waiving the nonrecurring charge for this type of service (this would only cover existing members currently receiving services). The committed timeframe for this upgrade would be over the next five years.

- WindWave would maintain existing pricing and service levels for at least the next 12 months.

- Using upgraded capabilities, WindWave would expand the quality of services, to better compete with satellite offerings. This might include HDTV channels, local programming, pay-per-view, video on demand, and additional local educational content.

- WindWave would attempt to expand the footprint of TV services which might include future services to the communities of Ione and Lexington.

- WindWave would maintain the existing employee base at Heppner TV, including the addition of company benefit packages identical to that of its existing employees.

- WindWave would also commit to keeping the current headquarters for all cable TV service local to Heppner, with no changes to current staffing.

- WindWave would assume all liabilities and assets of Heppner TV, with the exception of any patronage capital or membership certificates (in lieu of upgraded facilities to member's residences).

WindWave believes it is important to continue providing a cost effective local cable TV solution to compete with continued consolidation of satellite services nationally. Maintaining and improving cable TV services locally is complimentary to WindWave's mission to improve and provide cost effective advanced telecommunication services in Morrow County.

As is required in the by-laws of Heppner TV, the members will need to vote to decide the outcome of this acquisition. A general notice will be made to all current members in the near future, with a vote scheduled to occur during the August board meeting.

Industrial park

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copast four years on the Sweet Home project, and there may be up to 60 jobs created there.

Western States Reliance Trust will soon have about \$275 million in assets part of which will be used to finance the Heppner project. Western States is required to disperse 85 percent of its profits to non-profit organizations. So far the Western States has contributed to eight different charities in the Sweet Home area.

Last Friday Desler, and Stephen Lawn, an environmental services specialist with Bergeson-Boese & Associates of Eugene, were in Heppner to examine the condition of the co-generation plant as well as seek fuel sources to operate the facility, and look over the environmental condition of the industrial park. He and Lawn talked to former Kinzua employees and also met with David Sykes and George Koffler of the Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group.

A final announcement on whether the purchase will go through is expected to be announced within a couple of months.

The co-generation facility has been shut down since a Canadian company operated the facility intermittently and then left the area. An effort to sell the plant to another company also recently fell through.

Council okays music at the pool

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once the paving was completed. We just wanted to end it. It is a little bit of aggressiveness on our part, but we have already let it go on for 3 years," he told the council.

In other business the council heard from Bill Ferguson, the engineer on the city water project, who said everything is on schedule and the main project work should be done by the end of September. He said there are 19 people left working in Heppner for the contractor Moore Excavation.

Ferguson said the crew would be working on Balm Fork for one month hanging the main water line under the bridge. The mainline is currently buried under Willow Creek Lake and is being relocated. Other work that needs to be done is hook up the service lines from homes to the mainlines already installed.

Mills told the council that there is about \$80,000 in the contingency fund that may be used to install water line on Baltimore Street, a street not included in the original project. The final amount for additional work has not been determined, however, the council voted to include Baltimore if there is enough money.

In other action the council voted to move ahead with paving of North Main Street and Campbell Way. The council had earlier voted against the paving, but now reconsidered since learning that 75 feet of Main will be paved at no cost to the city. The council did not want to pave a patch in the middle of Main Street with the rest of the street unpaved. Also considered was that the paving could be done at a reasonable price of \$6,600 since the paving company would already be in the area.

The council had a discussion with Nate Arbogast of WindWave a local telecommunications company. The city is negotiating a franchise agreement with both WindWave and CenturyTel. Arbogast told the council the agreement presented to his company was not fair and said that the city charged him

more than CenturyTel. "I think I should only have to pay franchise fees on the same revenue as CenturyTel," Arbogast said. "I don't want to have to pay more than my competitors."

Mills said according to his research no city in Oregon at this time is collecting franchise fees for Internet service. "Heppner should not be out on point on this," Mills recommended. "Let a bigger city pay the lawyer fees to sort this out," he added.

Councilmember George Koffler agreed. "I don't want to be the first one in the state. I don't think we should try to institute a new tax," he said.

The council instructed city attorney Bill Kuhn to spend some time researching the franchise and come back for more discussion at a future meeting.

The council heard from Deputy Randy Rayburn, who requested the council consider adopting an ordinance on cat control. Rayburn said he has had some complaints of cat control problems, but the city has no ordinance to deal with cats. The city does have laws on the books to deal with dogs. Rayburn said the city of Irrigon has a cat ordinance, and if the council wants the police to deal with cat complaints he would need an ordinance, otherwise he would have to tell people he had no authority.

The council took no action, feeling there was not enough of a problem in Heppner.

The council learned that a plan to have Moore Excavating tear down the old swimming pool and haul it off it does not seem feasible. The pool was constructed with lots of rebar which will make tearing out the pool very difficult.

The city's Parks and Lands Committee has held meetings and a public meeting to gather opinion and figure out what to do with the old pool. Since the old pool cannot be removed the options for use are now limited. Consensus of the council is that the pool will be filled in and then covered

with decorative rock and soil and used as a low maintenance area with a Welcome to Heppner sign.

The council also agreed to apply for funds from the Morrow County Tipping Fee fund to pay for the project. "This town has more parks than most towns our size," said councilmember Baker in support of the plan instead of another city park.

A report was given on the search for a new city manager. The League of Oregon Cities has been contracted by the city to help find a new manager. A representative of the League will be in Heppner August 24 to go over resumes. A certain number of resumes will be picked out for background checks before the council begins face to face interviews.

The council then heard a report on the troubles with the Senior Meal Site held every Wednesday at the St. Patrick's Senior Center in Heppner.

Councilmember Judy Buschke said the two cooks, Cindy Kennedy and Debbie Basile have quit after having a dispute with Eva Mabbott, executive officer of the senior services at CAPECO, which provides the meal site.

Buschke said there have been on-going problems between many of the staff and Mabbott, and added that she did not now if there would even be a meal site on Wednesday (August 10).

She also reported there are now five vacancies at the Senior Housing Center.

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ENTRIES OPEN ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 2005 BY CALLING 676-9451. ENTRY DEADLINE - 6 p.m. WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2005. NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED. ALL ENTRY FEES MUST BE PAID BY AUGUST 18, 2005 BY 5 p.m. MUST BE MORROW COUNTY ALUMNI OR A MORROW COUNTY RESIDENT FOR ONE YEAR

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PLEASE MAIL COMPLETED ENTRY AND ENTRY FEES TO: MORROW COUNTY RODEO, ATTN. LYNN DEE RAMOS; P.O. BOX 113, HEPPNER, OR 97836
ENTRY FEES NEED TO BE IN BY AUGUST 18TH. QUESTIONS: 422-7559 OR 561-5356, RODEO WEEK: 676-9451. RODEO OFFICE AT GROUNDS OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 14 THROUGH SUNDAY AUGUST 21, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. DURING FAIR & RODEO WEEK. WE WILL BE TAKING CALL-IN ENTRIES FOR THE MORROW COUNTY RODEO STARTING SUNDAY, AUGUST 14 THROUGH WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17. PLEASE CALL 676-9451 TO ENTER BY PHONE. ALL FEES MUST BE PAID BY AUGUST 18 TO BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 21. (OTHER ATTRACTIONS: STICK HORSE RACES: 3 AND UNDER, 4-5 AND 6-7 AGE GROUPS. JUST SHOW UP AT RODEO WITH YOUR STICK HORSE.)

Real Estate

By DAVID SYKES
REALTOR

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

First-time home buyers usually have that first hurdle to overcome - the down payment cash. Since times have not been economically super, building up a savings account has not been easy. So where do you go for financial help? How about parents?

In some families, gifts are easily given and parents are delighted to help their children. For those fortunate enough to have parents who are both financially successful and willing to share, home buying can be greatly simplified.

Actually, such assistance is quite common. A recent study by the National Association of Realtors showed that 16% of all home buyers were aided by parents. However, for first-time buyers, that figure rose almost double to 31%.

One approach is an outright gift from Mom and Dad. In such a case, the lending institution will want a "gift letter" stating that the money is given freely and that all demands for repayment are waived.

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