

Sturza takes home rodeo prizes



Former Heppner resident Ty Sturza takes home the Mike Curran Memorial Buckle (Top Photo) and the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo All Around Championship Saddle (Bottom Photo). —Photos by Sandy Matthews

Ione football camp hosts guest speaker

Kenzie Hansell, the head football coach for the Athena-Weston Tigerscots, was the guest speaker for the Ione Community School football camp for grades 6-12 this past week.

Hansell, a farmer in the Athena area, graduated from Hermiston High School as the Umatilla County Athlete of the year in 1999. He attended Walla Walla Community College, lying out of football for one year before transferring the Washington State University to become one of only five walk-on's out of 60 athletes. He played for the Cougars for four years and attending four bowl games, including an appearance at the Rose Bowl, and was a member of the Pac-10 Championship team during his time at WSU. He was also selected as the male athlete of the year for 2004.

A very modest Han-



Ione football coach, Dennis Stefani, on left introduces guest speaker, Kenzie Hansell, during Ione's football camp last week. —Contributed Photo

sell talked about what dedication it took to play at a Pac-10 college level, the intensity of performance athletes must maintain and how even a small town farm boy could rise to the occasion. His motto is: "Do what's asked of you, when you're asked to do it." Ken-

zie followed his dad and older brother, TJ, in the Cougar football program. Younger brother, Luke, is currently a defensive tackle for WSU.

The Ione Cardinals take on Joseph for their opening game on August 30 in Dufur.

Ladies Play Day results

Ladies Play Day was held on Tuesday, August 12, at the Willow Creek Country Club. Results are as follows:

August 12

Low gross of the field was Virginia Grant and Sandi Hanna. Low net of the field was Suzanne Jepsen. Least putts of the field was Luvilla Sonstegard and Lynnea Sargent.

Flight A winners were: Eva Kilkenny, low gross.

Flight B winners were: Betty Christman, low gross; and Joanne Barbee, low net.

Long drive: Flight B — Sandi Hanna.

Long Putt: Flight B — Eva Kilkenny.

K.P.: Joanne Barbee, second shot.

Taking care of business



Picture are some of Ione High School's ASB officers as pooperscoopers in the fair parade this past Saturday. Pictured L-R: Eric Jepsen, Tyree Svetich and Clay Morter. —Contributed Photo

Construction to begin on highway bridges in region

Contractors for the Oregon Department of Transportation will begin construction in September and October to repair or replace three bridges along the U.S. Highway 395 corridor. The bridges, built between 1940 and 1971, are structurally safe but do not meet modern standards for traffic loads.

This work is part of the ODOT's McKay Creek to Silvies Slough Project, which will ensure continued safety and mobility by repairing or replacing eight bridges in Umatilla, Grant and Harney counties. Wildish Standard Paving Co., based in Eugene, is the lead contractor. Construction for the \$37.5 million project will be finished by fall 2011.

Construction begins on three of the eight bridges in the project this fall.

* Replacement of the Silvies Slough Bridge begins Sept. 17. The bridge is located on Highway 78 at mile post 0.7 just east of Burns.

* Improvements to the Birch Creek Bridge begin Sept. 19. The bridge is located on U.S. 395 at mile post 15.3 in Pilot Rock.

* Replacement of the McKay Creek Bridge begins Oct. 15. The bridge is located on U.S. 395 at mile post 5.8 south of Pendleton.

Work on the Silvies Slough and Birch Creek bridges is scheduled for completion in October. Construction of the McKay Creek structure will continue until spring 2010. Work to replace five additional bridges in Harney, Grant and Umatilla counties begins next spring.

The contractor expects work on the Birch Creek and McKay Creek structures will have minimal impact on traffic. To replace the Silvies Slough Bridge, construction crews require a full seven-day closure of Highway 78, as well as a single-lane closure for up to 14 days. The 14 days could be split, occurring

just prior to and following the seven-day closure. Flaggers will control alternating single-lane traffic during this time; the total width between barriers will be 16 feet. The seven-day closure is tentatively scheduled for the last week in September. Signs will be posted to alert drivers about actual closure dates and detours.

ODOT is offering information about upcoming U.S. 395 bridge construction projects at the Grant County Fair Aug. 20-23. ODOT's information booth can be found inside The Center, an indoor pavilion at the fair. An open house will also be held at Sunridge Middle School in Pendleton Oct. 7 at 6:30 p.m.

"One of the major issues with these bridges is weight restrictions for trucking," said Red Gilliland, Wildish project manager. "Restricted load limits reduce the ability of local mills, farmers and other businesses to compete in their respective market-

places. The new bridges will reinforce the health of local industries, which ultimately affects most, if not all, businesses and residents in the region."

The bridge replacements and repairs are part of the Oregon Department of Transportation's 10-year, \$3 billion Oregon Transportation Investment Act program. OTIA funds will repair or replace hundreds of bridges, pave and maintain city and county roads, improve and expand interchanges, add new capacity to Oregon's highway system, and remove freight bottlenecks statewide. About 17 family-wage jobs are sustained for every \$1 million spent on transportation construction in Oregon. Each year during the OTIA program, construction projects will sustain about 5,000 family-wage jobs.

For current state highway traffic advisories, motorists should visit www.TripCheck.com, or call 511 or (800) 977-6368.

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office reports handling the following business:

June 19: -MCSO arrested Dustin Andrew Spears, 22, for probation violation/possession of a controlled substance, Theft I, failure to pay fine/Theft III. Subject lodged Umatilla County Jail.

-MCSO received a report from a caller in Irrigon that her house smelled like burning plastic and was filled with smoke.

-BPD received a re-

port from a caller saying there was an overturned trailer, driver was ok and walking around.

-MCSO issued a citation to Mary Elizabeth Ruesch, 64, for violation of the basic rule of 75 mph in a 55 mph speed zone.

-BPD received a report from a caller that there were four subjects were at the residence possibly scavenging scrap metal. It was determined that the subjects were just cleaning up the debris from the fire and hauling off garbage.

-BPD received a report from a caller that there were six horses on one acre of property. City ordinance

states there are to only be two horses per acre.

-MCSO received a report from a caller in Irrigon that a 93 year old female had fallen from a standing position.

-BPD received a report from a caller that there was a male subject driving around going door to door blaming people because someone had turned him in for having too many horses on his property; subject is reported to be intoxicated.

-BPD arrested Joel Murillo, 23, for Probation Violation/DUII. Subject was lodged at Umatilla county Jail.

-MCSO received a

report from a juvenile that there was a vehicle at his residence with the door open and had seen shadows in the basement.

-BPD issued a citation to Joaquin Madrigal Tapia, 62, for an expired registration.

-BPD received a report from a caller that the hose was missing from a pump.

-Boardman Ambulance responded to a call requesting an ambulance for a 60 year old female with swollen legs.

Bailey wins Championship Calf Roping saddle



Lane Bailey of Heppner was the winner of the Championship Calf Roping Saddle donated by Kinzua Resources, LLC. —Photo by Sandy Matthews

Robinson wins Lion's Club Rifle Raffle.



Kirk Robinson shows off the rifle he won from the Heppner Lion's Club. —Contributed Photo

Kirk Robinson was the winner of the annual Heppner Lion's Club Rifle Raffle.

Raffle tickets are sold March through July each year. Proceeds from the raffle are put towards community service scholarships that the club awards to graduating high school seniors, and towards eyeglasses and hearing aids for adults and children.

Tractor driving held at MC fair



Heppner FFA held its tractor driving contest last Wednesday at the Morrow County Fair. Morrow County Grain Growers provided the tractor for the contests. —Photo by David Sykes

Host an Exchange Student Today!

Make a lifelong friend from abroad.

Enrich your family with another culture. Now you can host a high school exchange student (girl or boy) from France, Germany, Scandinavia, Spain, Australia, Japan, Brazil, Italy or other countries. Single parents, as well as couples with or without children, may host. Contact us for more information or to select your student today!

Cathy at 1-541-422-7107
Amy at 1-800-733-2773 (Toll Free)
www.asse.com/host or email us at hostinfo@asse.com.

asse
 Founded in 1976
 ASSE International Student Exchange Program is a Non-Profit, Public Benefit Organization.

SALE! 40% OFF

ON ALL SUMMER AND BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Murray's Drug INC.

217 North Main • Heppner
 Phone 676-9158 • Floral 676-9426

Serving the Willow Creek Valley: Heppner, Lexington, & Ione