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Pictured (L-R) are the 1949 Fair and Rodeo Court. Dorothy Wigglesworth Graham, Faye Cutsforth, Shirley Rugg, Betty Walker Edwards, and Ingrid Hermen Crawford.

were "pleased as punch to represent our county and our town." She said the girls were 16 to 18 years old. Among the rodeos and parades they attended were Round-up, and Elgin and Fossil rodeos. "We provided our own transportation for ourselves and our horses," she said. She remembers the girls going to a luncheon at the Catholic Parish Hall where they all introduced themselves.

The court got together five years ago and rode in the Morrow County parade and also in the Pendleton Round-up parade.

Rugg said the group had planned to get together this year to ride in the Morrow County parade, but when it was discovered there was no court this year, the group agreed to step in and assume the honorary court duties. The youngest of the group is 75 and Rugg herself is 80, but she is still going strong and rides on a regular basis working cattle for a local ranch. She said this may be the last year the court gets together.

Rugg's four princesses, Fay Cutsforth, Betty Walker Edwards, Ingrid Hermen Crawford and Dorothy Wigglesworth Graham, are coming from the Tri-Cities, Pendleton, Weiser and Sun City, AZ, respectively. When on the court, all the girls were from the Heppner area except Dorothy Graham, who came from Echo.

Back in the saddle again 1949 court rides in to take up court duties

By David Sykes

With no local young women applying for the Fair & Rodeo Court this year, the 1949 court is coming back together to pick up the slack.

When 1949 Queen and local rancher Shirley Rugg heard there would be no court this year, she called the fair and offered the services of the court that reigned 60 years ago. "I like it," say Rugg about coming back as a group. "It is our last hurrah," she says with a smile.

Recalling the time she spent on the court all those years ago Rugg said the five girls

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