

Bailey, Robinson win MOCO All-Around

Lane Bailey and Devin Robinson, both of Heppner, tied for the All-Around Cowboy award for the Morrow County Rodeo, held August 19 in Heppner. Because there was only one

All-Around buckle, the cowboys conducted a coin toss for the prize, which Bailey won. Robinson received a donated bit as a consolation prize.

In the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo, Sam McKenzie of Jordan Valley, OR won All-Around Cowboy. The All-Around saddle was donated by the Bank of Eastern Oregon.

Paul Cope won the Mike Currin memorial Calf Roping Buckle. Danna Stovner won the Janice Healy Davis Memorial Buckle for Barrel Racing.

Complete Morrow County Rodeo winners are as follows:

Willy Gentry of Heppner won the Amateur Calf Roping event, taking home the saddle donated by Morrow County Grain Growers.

Open Calf Roping, and the buckle donated by Daly Ranches, was taken by Garrett Robinson of Heppner.



(L-R): Aaron Petzoldt of Les Shwab, Lane Bailey, Queen Maggie Collins and Devin Robinson during the presentation of the Les Shwab-sponsored All-Around buckle during the Morrow County Rodeo on Aug. 19. -Photo by Brett Milligan

Jessica Hughes of Heppner won the Senior Barrels and the buckle donated by GAR Aviation.

Jason Stewart of Lone and Devin Robinson took home the buckles for team roping, donated by Pettyjohn's and Turner Ranch. Devin Robinson also captured the Cow Riding buckle donated by Miller & Sons.

Jace Currin of Heppner won the Breakaway Roping buckle, donated by Styles by Stefanie.

The Junior Barrels buckle, donated by the Healy family in memory of William J. Healy, was won by Jaiden Mahoney of Heppner. Dick Temple donated the Pee Wee Barrels buckle, which was won by Sierra Greenup of Heppner.

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HEPPNER

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Gazette Times

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Heppner girl named Round-Up princess

By Andrea Di Salvo

One of Heppner's own will jump the fence this year at the Pendleton Round-Up.

Jessica Hughes, 20, has been named a princess to the 2012 Round-Up court. Hughes is the daughter of Kevin and Angie Hughes of Heppner.

Hughes was a 2010 graduate from Heppner High School, and now attends Blue Mountain Community College (BMCC) in Pendleton.

Unlike many of the other court royalty this year, neither Hughes nor her family has a long volunteer history with the Round-Up. One only has to look at her busy high-school schedule to understand why.

As a teenager, Hughes was all-league in basketball and volleyball, and made the honor roll all four years of high school. She continued to set the bar high in college, where her name has appeared on both the president's and dean's lists.



Pendleton Round-Up Princess Jessica Hughes with one of her two Round-Up horses. Her horses, mares Sammy and Harriet, were both raised by the Hughes family and have been with Jessica their whole lives. -Contributed photo

Her life wasn't all school sports and academics, though. Hughes has a long history of horses and rodeos; she began riding at the age of two, on a horse named Friday... a total of nearly 18 years on horseback. She competed in high school rodeo for all four years of her high school career, placing in every rodeo and claiming fifth place for the state of

Oregon in pole bending her sophomore year.

Hughes says attending the rodeo is one of her favorite family events, and she looks forward to watching the queen and princesses jump the fence each year in the Round-Up's grand entry. In fact, jumping the fence was what kindled her own dream of being Round-Up princess.

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Health district approves raise for CEO

By April Sykes

The Morrow County Health District Board enthusiastically approved a \$4,000 raise for CEO Michael Blauer, following Blauer's annual performance review during their regular meeting in Heppner on Monday night.

"I think this board feels that Mike is doing an excellent job and we feel comfortable moving forward under his leadership," said Board Chair Larry Mills.

The raise will increase Blauer's salary to \$115,000 a year.

The board also approved the low bid of \$206,837 for the Irrigon Medical Clinic remodel from Wellens-Farwell Construction, based in Enterprise. Knerr Construction of Hermiston was second low at \$219,500. BD Ables, Inc., Buildmaster, Hermiston, submitted a \$239,100 bid and Van Belle Construction, Joseph, bid \$220,305. The Wellens-Farwell bid contract completion time was the longest at 24 weeks. Knerr Construction and Van

Belle came in at 20 weeks and BD Ables estimated 13 weeks.

Addendums for the remodel with Wellens-Farwell include alternate #1 for fencing at \$1,800; alternate #2 for replacing tables and counter tops at \$2,500; and alternate #3 for heating and air conditioning at \$7,000. Knerr Construction bid \$1,050 for fencing, \$4,950 for replacing tables and counter tops and \$6,750 for the heating and air conditioning system. BD Ables was \$1,250 for fencing, \$3,100 for tables and counter tops and \$14,000 for heating and air; Van Belle was \$1,250 for fencing, \$3,100 for tables and counter tops and \$6,620 for heating and air.

The board agreed to authorize Blauer to sign the contract as representative of the district and negotiate the final contract.

Blauer and the board anticipated that the exterior of the remodel will be completed before the weather turns bad, with work on the interior to get underway

during the winter months.

"I hope we don't have a lot of change orders, because we are right at what we budgeted," added Chief Financial Officer Nicole Mahoney.

Blauer and Mahoney reported that the district's issue with the IRS has been resolved with the help of congressmen and a national taxpayer advocacy group. The IRS had the district caught in a Catch 22 situation, which threatened the district's tax exempt status and, consequently, receipt of grants and other funds.

In other business, the board:

-learned from Blauer that a Collins Foundation grant has been approved for \$25,000 toward the purchase of three state-of-the-art defibrillators, one for each of the district's three main ambulances in Heppner, Irrigon and Boardman, requested by Del Turner, a paramedic employed with the district. Turner earlier said that the defibrillators

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Lone school receives high performance rating

Board told Lone enrollment figures "looking pretty good"

By April Sykes

Lone Community School Superintendent Mark Mulvihill, who is also superintendent for the InterMountain ESD, told the Lone board that the Lone school was one of the few that had an overall rating of four out of five in school performance for 2011-12. He said that Lone, as a small school, consistently scored a four in all categories across the board.

Other Morrow County schools receiving a four were A.C. Houghton Elementary, Heppner Elementary, Sam Boardman Elementary, Windy River Elementary, Heppner Junior/Senior High School and Riverside Junior/Senior High School, all in the large school category.

"Morrow County and Lone should celebrate their achievement," said Mulvihill. "I'm very proud of these school districts in Eastern Oregon."

Other area schools receiving

four were: Desert View Elementary, Sandstone Middle School, Armand Larive Middle School and Hermiston High School, all Hermiston; Central Elementary, Willow Elementary and LaGrande Middle School, LaGrande;

Freewater Elementary, McLoughlin High, all Milton-Freewater; Lincoln Primary, McKay Creek Elementary, Sherwood Heights Elementary, Washington Elementary, Sunridge Elementary and Pendleton High School, all Pendleton; Athena Elementary, Athena Weston; Elgin High School, Elgin; Imbler Charter, Imbler; Pilot Rock Elementary and Pilot Rock High School, Pilot Rock; Stanfield Elementary and Stanfield Secondary, Stanfield; and Union Elementary, Union.

Irrigon Junior/Senior High School received a three in the large school category, while Irrigon Elementary received a two.

Hawthorne Middle/High School in Pendleton, Pleasant View in Milton Freewater, Stella Mayfield Elementary in Elgin and McNary Heights Elementary in Umatilla all received a one.

At the meeting, Anne Morter was sworn in as board chair and Bill Jepsen as vice-chair.

Principal Jerry Archer told the board that the school enrollment figures for this fall are "looking pretty good," with 181 students registered to start school August 27. He said that they did not know what to expect, since they "lost a huge class" this spring.

"We have had a lot of new students," said Archer, who added that some of the new students were from out of the county and some

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Bill Jepsen



Anne Morter

Kids head back to school



Teachers and staff were on hand bright and early to welcome kids back to school at the beginning of the new school year. Classes began Monday throughout Morrow County. These boys quickly got into the swing of things on the playground, starting up an impromptu soccer game during recess. -Photo by Megan Futter

G-T closed for Labor Day

The Heppner Gazette-Times will be closed for the Labor Day holiday on Monday, Sept. 3. The deadline for all news and advertising for the Sept. 5 issue will be Friday, Aug. 31., at 5 p.m.

The G-T wishes everyone a happy and safe Labor Day weekend.

Nature's Nuts
Premium Wild Bird Food
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