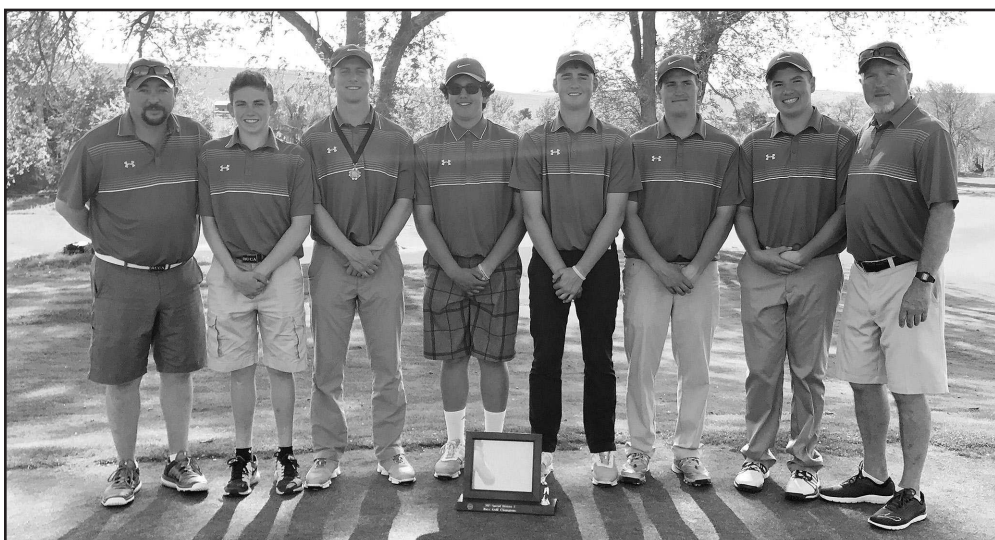


## Mustang golf sweeps districts



Both the boys' and girls' Mustang golf teams took first place at the district tournament in Pendleton last week. Top: Coach Matt Scrivner, girls' team players Claire Grieb, Caitlyn Scrivner, Nicole Propheter, Amanda Rea, Sophie Grant and Madison Combe, and head coach Greg Grant. Bottom: Coach Matt Scrivner, boys' team players Reno Ferguson, Logan Grieb, Logan Burrignt, Jake Lindsay, Dan Bretsch and Kellen Grant, and head coach Greg Grant. -Contributed photos

-See full story PAGE FOUR

## City weighs sewage disposal options

By David Sykes

To satisfy environmental standards from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), the city of Heppner is seeking new ways to treat its sewage. DEQ has told the city it must reduce the amount of ammonia in the effluent it puts into Willow Creek following treatment at the sewer plant, and the city will have to make changes to comply.

One option presented by the city's engineering firm is to build a lagoon system, and then disperse

the effluent on farm land. However, suitable land for the lagoon has not yet been found. A recent discussion with Ione and Lexington to join in construction of a combined lagoon system apparently met with opposition from Ione. Both Ione and Lexington have septic systems and are exploring options on a central sewage plant.

At the May 8 Heppner city council meeting a discussion was held about the sewer system options, and even if Lexington and Ione agreed to a combined treat-

ment facility, the cost and difficulty of piping Heppner effluent that far would be substantial. Heppner Public Works Director Chad Doherty was skeptical.

"That's a long way to go with a whole lot of water. There is possibility of a lot of problems," he pointed out. Council member Cory Sweeney also thought it would be expensive to run pipe that far.

At a previous utility commission hearing there was discussion on moving

-See CITY COUNCIL/PAGE THREE

## Heppner boys' track takes second at districts

Heppner, Ione athletes advance to state track meets



The Heppner boys' team took second place at the district track meet. Top row (L-R): Carson Borsnan, Jacob Wallace, Amund Berg, Trent Smith, Gibson McCurry, Jordan Sweeney, Alex Lindsay, Leo Waite, Gavin Hanna and Hunter Nichols. Bottom row: Coaches Al Scott, Laura Winters and Russ Nichols. Not pictured: Derek Howard, Makayla Silvia, Alison Cecil, Evan Kollman, Mitchell VonGuten and Austin Moses. -Contributed photo

Both Heppner and Ione will send track and field athletes to their respective state tournaments this weekend in Corvallis.

This past Saturday the Heppner girls' and boys' track teams competed at the

Columbia Basin 2A District Track Championships in Prineville. Culver hosted the meet.

At the meet, the boys' team earned the second-place trophy, while the girls took fifth. Six Hep-

ner athletes secured slots in the state tournament by taking first or second in their events, including junior Alex Lindsay in the long jump, triple jump and

-See TRACK DISTRICTS/PAGE FOUR

## Local educators receive Crystal Apple honors

Pendleton—The InterMountain Education Service District (IMESD) has announced that two Ione School District and four Morrow County School District staff have received 2017 Crystal Apple "Excellence in Education" Awards.

Ione recipients were Bridgett Alldritt, an instructional aide at Ione Community School, and Eric Jepsen, science and art teacher at Ione.

For Morrow County School District, recognition was received for Jessica Lentz (not Jessica Lynch as published in last week's Gazette), educational assistant, Hep-



Clockwise from top left: Bridgett Alldritt, Jessica Lentz, Curtis Johnston, Lois Tallman, Jan Huddleston and Eric Jepsen. -Contributed photos

Huddleston, district office maintenance coordinator; Lois Tallman, educational assistant at Sam Boardman Elementary School; and Curtis Johnston, head

custodian, Windy River and Sam Boardman elementary schools.

Morrow and Umatilla county winners were recognized at an award ceremony on Monday at the Red Lion Hotel in Pendleton. Union County winners were honored on May 8 at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande.

A total of 44 individuals were honored this month from the IMESD's component school districts in eastern Oregon. The 2017 events mark the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Crystal Apple Awards for Umatilla and Morrow counties and the sixth annual for Union County.

Each year, the IMESD partners with its school districts to recognize outstanding administrators, teachers, educational assistants and office and building staff for their dedication and commitment to students and for their willingness to go above and beyond their regular duties. Nomina-

tions are submitted over a two-month period by administrators, coworkers, parents, students and community members. Winners are selected from these nominations by school district administration.

"We congratulate each of this year's Crystal Apple winners and are honored to

celebrate these wonderful educators who are making a difference every day for students," said Michele Madril, IMESD director of communication and print solutions.

At the Pendleton awards ceremony on May -See CRYSTAL APPLE/PAGE TWO

## Health district employee receives Irrigon award

At the Irrigon Chamber of Commerce "Time to Shine" citizen recognition event last month, Morrow County Health District employee Vicki Kent received the Employee of the Year award.



Vicki Kent, ARNP

Kent, an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner, joined the health district in the spring

of 2015. She has worked as a practitioner at Ione Community Clinic and now provides full-time family medical services at the Irrigon Medical Clinic.

Kent spent 32 years as a registered nurse before receiving her nurse practitioner degree from Gonzaga University. Kent and her

husband Richard have two children and four grandchildren. Her other interests include snow skiing, stained glass, golf and fishing.

Other Irrigon recipients were Greg Barron, Citizen of the Year; Shirley David, Volunteer of the Year; Maria Avila, Youth of the Year; Michelle Morgan, Teacher of the Year; and Stokes Landing Bed & Breakfast, Business of the Year.

## Heppner celebrates prom



Heppner High School celebrated prom May 6. Representing the school on the prom court were (L-R): Princess Riane Dompier, Prince Kane Sweeney, Queen Onna DeLoach, King Kevin Murray, Princess Meranda Lemmon and Prince Timothy Gould. -Photo by Damon Brosnan

## G-T closed Memorial Day

The Heppner Gazette-Times office will be closed Memorial Day, May 29, for the holiday. All news and ad deadlines will be Friday, May 26, by 5 p.m. The newspaper office will reopen on Tuesday, May 30.

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