



Donkey dunkin'

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(Right) Members of the Clackamas Chamber Choir play basketball against members from ITS on donkeys as a fundraiser for their trip to Estonia.



Chamber Choir sponsors Donkey Basketball



Paul Ulmen
Photo Editor

The CCC Chamber Singers teamed up Tuesday evening for a game of Donkey Basketball, against Clackamas members from ITS (Information Technology Services).

The Rebels Without a Clue (ITS) won game one against the Donkenators (choir). The Roughriders (choir) won out over the Rebels Without a Clue in game two. The champions of game three were Rebels Without a Clue.

Proceeds from the game will benefit the CCC Chamber Choir's trip to Estonia in August of this year.

Donkey Basketball is played with four riders on donkeys and one unmounted center to relay the ball if it goes out of bounds. He must keep one foot inside the center circle.

Riders must shoot or pass the ball while mounted. If the ball is dropped, riders must get off their

a __, whoops, I mean donkey to retrieve the ball while hanging onto the reins, remount and gallop (how about trot) toward the basket. The donkeys wear neoprene shoes to keep from marring the floor.

Once the game is under way, the donkeys don't always cooperate with their rider. Try pulling a donkey toward the ball so it can be retrieved, grab the ball with one a r m (finally), remount while hanging onto the ball, nudge your mount toward the basket and shoot with one hand.

If you miss, which is frequent, then the process is repeated all over again. The donkey goes one way as the ball goes the other. Some riders are certain to be sore after several spills.

For those who didn't know where the game was, just follow your nose, since donkeys have several accidents (where's the Pamper's™?)

Choir Director Lonnie Cline humbled himself to be the designated "Pooper Scooper™."

The donkeys were provided by Donkey Sports, Inc. of Entiat, Washington.

"We raise all our own animals, have about 30 head," said

Aaron Shirely, one of the owners. "It takes six months to a year to train a donkey, quite a bit to it. Each one is an individual. They all do their own thing."

Shirely said he does this from November to May. Then from May to November he has another outfit called Icicle Outfitters where he takes people out on hunting and fishing trips in the Cascades. Whenever he can during summer his donkeys play "Donkey Baseball."



(Above) One player experiences the downside of donkey basketball.



(Above) Choir director Lonnie Cline acts as the official "pooper scooper™" for the game that night.



(Left) The donkey posse riding on animals provided by Donkey Sports, Inc., make a fast break to the basket.