stuff shots

It really wasn't such a long trip

by MARK FLOYD
Sports Editor

To steal a phrase from the dynamic duo — "Rats, foiled again."

For weeks I've been toiling at my desk trying to figure out a foolproof method of doing it, but I was thwarted at every attempt.

No amount of conniving, pleading, stretching the truth, lying, cheating, bribing or blackmail would do it. I was stumped.

All that I wanted to do was go on the last road trip of the Sandy High wrestling team. After all, it's a whole lot easier to write a story when you're actually at the event.

Now that's not such an outlandish request for a sports editor to make, is it?

I mean, no one balked when I went to Forest Grove to cover the playoff football game between the Vikings and the Pioneers. I didn't hear one complaint about the fact that I journeyed to Newberg for the district gymnastics meet. And just last week I made the arduous trek over to Barlow for a basketball game.

So what's the big deal, anyway? One more road trip isn't too much to ask for. Besides, this is the Christmas season.

Humbug. Obviously I didn't get to go or else I wouldn't be sitting here taking out my frustrations on the typewriter.

They had the nerve to tell me no. I've been in the business for 23 years and they have the nerve to tell me no. Well, excuuuuusssssseeeee mmmmmeeeee.

Sorry Steve Martin, but I feel better now.

Okay, so I didn't get to go to Hawaii for a week with the wrestling team. I didn't have to pretend I was going to the Kahuku tournament to take pictures when all I really had in mind was chasing scantily clad Hawaiian girls all over the beach.

I'm an adult, I'm not going to pout. I admit I was a little angry at first and ran home to pull all the branches off my Christmas tree, but that's all over now.

The coaches said I could have gone if I had paid my own way. That's just great — on my salary a candy bar is a major investment.

Passing the trip off on my expense account didn't work either. I'm allowed two cheeseburgers a year, and that's it.

I tried hiding in Rayth Buswell's suitcase, but I got caught when he went through the security check. It was embarrassing.

So here I am, suffering from an enormous cold and feeling sorry for myself.

Nothing can make me feel better. I tried going down to the river and picking up a bucket of sand to spread over my living room, but I scooped up an anthill. It took me three rounds of mai tais before I quit feeling any pain.

So that's it. No more Mister Nice Guy, and no more road trips.

Well, maybe if the track team schedules a meet in Tahiti...

Saints win tourney

Mt. Hood Community College proved less than the perfect host Saturday in the finals of its own Holiday Tournament.

The Saints, playing what Coach Herb Booth called their best game of the season, came up with a big second-half surge and routed Yakima Valley 94-67 to capture the tournament championship.

Leading by 40-36 at the intermission break, Hood ran the Indians ragged in the concluding session while taking away Yakima's own potent fast break offense.

The result was a 54-31 second-half scoring edge for Mt. Hood as the Saints posted their eighth victory of the season against a single loss.

"We felt that because of the quickness of their guards, we could not use a full-court press," Booth said. "So as soon as we took a shot we had (Jack) Paola and (Chip) Bentley falling back on defense to pick up their guards."

The results was, the Indians looked to be playing against a seven-man team. They acted like it, too, turning the ball over 21 times.

"Our defense was so good they thought they were playing a zone much of the time," Booth said. "We did a lot of switching and sagging back. It was our defense that really won the game for us in the second half."

Defense and a fine performance from several key players. Overmatched inside, the Saints relied on their guards to pick up the rebounding slack and were rewarded with eight boards from Paola, who led a backcourt effort that produced 15 of Hood's 28 caroms as a team.

Paul Haugen turned in one of his finest performances in a Mt. Hood uniform. The 6-5 sophomore came off the bench when starter Larry Sedig picked up three quick fouls.

"We just told Paul to go in and block their guys off the boards," Booth said. "He got five rebounds and no fouls. That just saved us. I was really glad to see him come on like that. It's a real plus for us."

Offensively, it was Sedig and Venne Forks again Saturday as it was the previous night. The pair teamed for 45 points, Sedig getting 22 despite foul trouble.

Paola contributed 16 counters while dishing off five assists. Chip Bentley was a perfect five-for-five from the floor for 14 points and had seven assists and half a dozen steals.

Hood travels to Bend Wednesday to play in the Central Oregon Tournament. The Saints battled Chemeketa CC in a 7 p.m. contest with host Central Oregon taking on Northwest Christian College of Eugene at 9. The winner of those two games will go at it the following evening.

Booth hopes to have Bo Kasch back in action in Bend. The 6-8 post man suffered fractures in both feet during the Metro CC tourney at Clark College two weeks ago and missed both games last weekend.

Also questionable are guard Charles Anderson and wing Reggie Delaney. Anderson is still suffering from back spasms while Delaney has been having knee problems. Both are out indefinitely, Booth said.

Steve Casey and Mike Jones have played sparingly in the past two outings because of ankle injuries but Booth anticipates them to be at full strength for Wednesday's encounter.

YAKIMA VALLEY 67 — Jerry Hamlin 16, Grant 12, Marshall 10, Farley 10, McCarty 9, Ringold 8, Meyer 2, Davis, Erdahl, Davis, Hartshorne.

MT. HOOD 94 — Venne Forks 23, Sedig 22, Paola 16, Bentley 14, Evensen 12, Barraclough 4, Jones 2, Casey 1, Haugen, Brown, Dalco, Joy.

Y. Valley	36	31	—67
Mt. Hood	40	54	—94

Portland boat show set

New designs, ideas and styles in boats and boating will be displayed by more than 90 exhibitors in the Portland Boat Show Jan. 13-21 in Portland's Memorial Coliseum.

The nine-day show is sponsored by the Oregon Marine Trades Association, made up of dealers in boats and boating accessories and services.

Approximately 500 boats will be displayed including many which will be shown to the public for the first time. Among them will be the 1979 Sea Ray 36-foot Express Cruiser in its only showing in the Pacific Northwest in the 1979 show season.

Other large boats shown for the first time will include a 37-foot trawler imported from Taiwan, and an all new 24-foot Campion offshore craft.

Many exhibitors will also be showing new items in fishing boats, whitewater craft, family boats and high performance speedsters.

New electronic equipment — video sonar device, depth finders and other sophisticated gear — will be shown and demonstrated by several exhibitors. A special section of the show, dubbed Boater's Gear Locker, will be devoted to marine accessories, comforts and hardware.

Rejected!

Staff photo

BARB GRIFFIN (20) caught a St. Helens opponent in a footrace downcourt to block her shot. Despite the fine defensive play, the Sandy girls junior varsity lost a close one to the Lions in the St. Helens gym. After leading by four points, the Pioneers finally succumbed to St. Helens, 23-19.

Dungeness, Japanese crabs source of food and recreation

OREGON Fish & Wildlife

By Ken Durbin

Commercial crabbing season opened the first of December, much to the enjoyment of consumers who appreciate the surge of fresh Dungeness crab on the market.

But there are those who would rather catch their own and this is one of the best times of year for recreational crabbers.

The period from late summer through fall, when many crabs are in the soft-shelled stage, is past and the majority of crabs now will be hard-shelled and full of firm, high-quality meat.

There are periods during the winter when heavy rains or melting snow will cause a surge of fresh water into the bays, lowering their salinity. When this happens, crabs are forced to move lower in the bays or to bury themselves on the bottom where salt levels remain higher.

Except during these times, crabbing is usually good and even then the crabber may do well by shifting his efforts closer to the bay entrance.

Crabbers in the bays are essentially dealing with two species and there seems to be a fair amount of confusion and myth about them. The most popular is the Dungeness crab, but crabbers also may find themselves catching large numbers of red-rock or Japanese crabs.

The latter are usually smaller and darker in color than the Dungeness and can seemingly reach you with a claw no matter where you pick them up. Handle them fast or wear gloves and there should be no problem.

The red-rock crab has less meat than the Dungeness and it is harder to extract due to the harder shell, but the meat is excellent.

"Contrary to what some people believe, the red-rock is not a predator on the Dungeness," said Dale Snow, assistant supervisor of the Fish and Wildlife Department's marine region. "The red-rock is a native species and is a close relative of the Dungeness.

"If you set your pots or ring nets and seem to be catching mostly red-rock crab, you would be well-advised to move to another location. You probably are fishing in a rocky area which is the preferred habitat of the red-rock crab. Dungeness crab prefer and seek out a sand or sand-mud bottom."

The beginning crabber should pick up a copy of the angling regulations which contain all regulations for taking crabs. The bag limit for Dungeness is 12 male crabs a day and minimum size allowed measures 5.75 inches in a straight line from the edge of the shell just in front of the points.

The males are easily separated from females by their long narrow flap on the belly. Females, identified by their broad flaps, must be released unharmed.

Regulations are more generous for the less sought red-rock crab. There is no bag limit and either sex may be kept. Up to three sets of rings or traps may be used per crabber and under some conditions crabs can be found and picked up by hand at low tide.

Usually, a recreational crabber is badly handicapped without a boat and motor. Rings, which are open at the top, must be pulled quickly or the larger crabs may scuttle out before the net reaches the surface. This means you need a fairly stable base to pull from.

Marinas at most of the larger bays rent crab nets and sell frozen bait. Some also rent boats and motors. Almost any fresh fish or meat makes effective crab bait.

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