

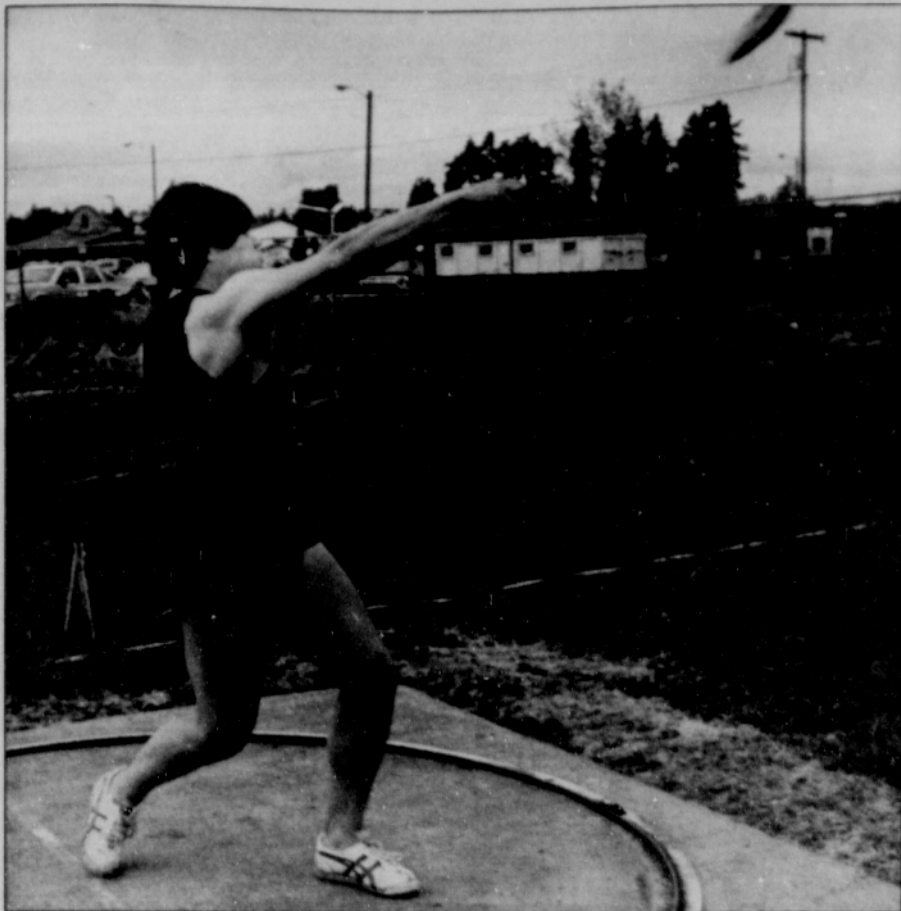


Photo by Hank Emrich
Bill Christman is pictured above in the discus, which he won. The Cedar Ridge boys downed Orient and Boring at Gresham last week and are undefeated.

Unpopular bluegill a sporting fish

by KEN DURBIN
Oregon Department of
Fish & Wildlife

It's scrappy. It's abundant. It's widespread. And it's good to eat. It should be a more popular gamefish than it is. Yet many people seem to think this fish is kids' fare.

That's a shame, because on light tackle the bluegill is a really fine sporting fish.

Some of my earliest angling memories are of catching bluegills with bobber and worm from murky midwestern ponds. Later, as a young man, the bluegill continued to provide many pleasant evenings with fly rod and tiny cork-bodied bugs.

Even now I enjoy a trip for bluegills just as much as a journey after trout or steelhead.

Bluegills, quite simply, are great sport. There is almost no place in Oregon where bluegills are not available within a few

miles of home. And late May and June is a prime time to fish for them.

This is the season when the bluegills spawn. They build their saucer-shaped nests in shallow water, ranging in depth from a few inches to six feet or more. This concentrates them in certain areas, and puts them within reach of both bank and boat anglers.

The circular nests are fanned out by the male fish, and range from a foot or two feet or more in diameter.

Many of these are usually clustered together, and in reasonably clear water one can see them. A bluegill spawning bed has a "craters of the moon" look to it.

Females deposit their eggs in the nests and the males guard them until they hatch. During this time the males are aggressive and pugnacious, and will strike at anything that comes close to the nest, though it might sound

unsportsmanlike to catch fish from their nests, this leads to another bluegill trait.

This species has an amazing capacity for overpopulating most bodies of water in which it is found. Anglers can scarcely take too many bluegills, and in fact, the fishery usually benefits when many fish are removed annually.

Reduced numbers means more food is available for the remaining fish so they tend to reach a larger average size.

Because bluegills are so prolific, there is no closed season, and no daily bag limit anywhere in the state, except at the St. Louis Ponds area near Woodburn, where a five fish daily bag limit is in effect for warmwater species.

Bluegills can be caught by a variety of fishing methods. For kids they are ideal since they can be readily taken with bobber and bait. Garden worms and grubs are just the

ticket. Bluegills feed primarily on insect matter, but they will also take small fish, including their own fry, so small spinners and wobblers fished on ultralight spinning tackle can also be a sporty way to fish for them.

But perhaps the finest way to catch bluegills in the spring and summer is with a light fly rod, while

the bluegills are spawning in the shallows they are within easy reach of flies. Small cork-bodied bugs are often effective, and the bluegills hit these with a noisy "spat."

Since bluegills are small, cleaning them can be a bit of a chore. I like to filet my bluegills unless they are very small.

Troutdale Trot set for Saturday in park

The Sixth Annual Troutdale Trot, sponsored by the Troutdale Lions Club, will get underway at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, beginning at the Troutdale City Park.

The 6.7 mile jogging event, which winds its way along the Sandy River, is expected to draw a field of approximately 700 runners. Entrants will pay a \$6 fee

and may register for the race beginning at 8 a.m. the day of the event at the City Park Building.

Each competitor will receive a t-shirt, and a \$25 gift certificate will be awarded to the winners of each of the eight different age groups for both men and women. Refreshments will also be provided.

Hawks sweep TAC-AAU meet

The Oregon Cinder Hawks track club, comprised of athletes from the Sandy and Gresham area, won 24 first-place ribbons with 28 athletes at the first TAC-AAU meet of the season, which was at Gresham May 7.

The Hawks' 9 and under girls took first in every running event they entered. The 400-meter relay team started the string of wins with a "strong" 62.0, which easily qualified them for the state Junior Olympic championships, according to Darold Beymer, coach.

Team members were Aleesha Johnson, Rosey Pankey, Cody Proctor and Pam Morley.

The 12-13 girls distance runners formed a relay team, on the spot, and took first in 56.6.

That team included Danielle Jordan, Karla Harrison, Angela Benedetti and Shaune Gilchrist.

In the 1500, the 9 and under girls dominated with Audrey Krause in first (5:52), Nichole Karr in second (6:04), and Gracie Pankey third (6:20). All three girls qualified for the state Junior Olympics.

Isreal Matz took the boys 1500 for the Hawks, winning in 5:40 and qualifying for the Junior Olympics. Teammate Andy Norman ran it in 6:19.

Kim Yankauskas took third for the 12-13 girls with a 6:04.

Darrin Dunford and Mike Arago took second and third for the 10-11 boys in the 1500.

Angela Benedetti, 1982 Oregon Junior Olympic champ for the 12-13 girls, won the 1500 easily in 5:08. "Not bad for the first meet of the season," Beymer said. Her best last year was 4:54.8.

Benedetti also won the 200 with a 29. Teammate "Sparky" Pankey took second for the 12-13 boys in 27.3.

Karla Harrison was fifth in the same age group with a 5:46.

Rosey Pankey, who took home three blue ribbons, easily qualified for the Junior Olympics with a win in the 400.

Trent Waibel took care of the same event for the Cinder Hawk boys, qualifying for the JOs with a 1:11. He also won the 200 with a 30.3, a "great time."

In the 100 it was Cody Proctor and Pam Morley for the 9 and under girls with a first and a second.

In the 200 it was Rosey Pankey again for the 9 and under girls. Her 33.4 qualified her for the JOs for the third time in one day. Teammate Pam Morley was second in 34.5; Cody Proctor was fourth with a 34.9; and Aleesha Johnson was fifth.

Ben Matz won the 7 and under 100-meter dash and added another Hawk win in the 800.

In the 12-13 boys, Sparky Pankey took second in the 100 in 12.8. Said Beymer, "This was Sparky's first meet ever and I think before the season is over we will see some great times from this talented young man." He took first in the 400 with a 63.03.

In the 800 it was first-year runner Nichole Karr who "put the gang away" in three minutes flat. Audie Krause was second in 3:03 and 8-year-old Gracie Pankey was third in 3:20. Karr and Krause also qualified for the JOs in the 800.

In the 12-13 girls division, Shaune Gilchrist, Cinder Hawk 800 state Junior Olympic champ, had no trouble in her event, winning in 2:31.

Gilchrist ran a 2:25 last year. "We are going to push for 2:20 in '83," Beymer said.

Isreal Matz, 8, took second in the 800.

Danielle Jordan was third for the 12-13 girls in the 800, running 2:44.

Ben Matz won the 7 and under 800 in 3:06. "That's outstanding for a 7 year old," Beymer said.

In the 3000 Adam Ermatinger won for the 14-15 boys with a 10:18.

Cindy Roth took second for the 12-13 girls in the 3000.

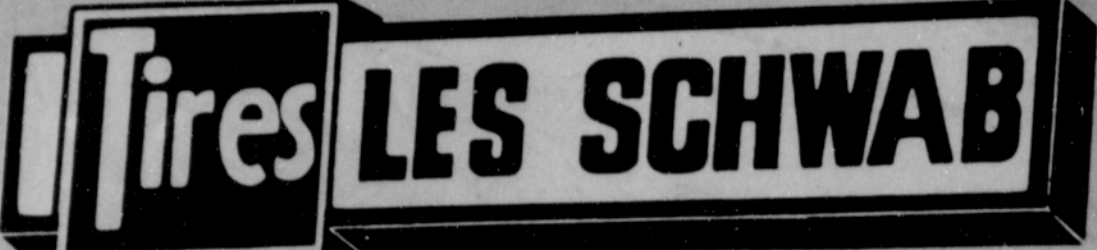
Kim Yankauskas won the 3000 for the 10-11 girls, taking fourth in the 1500 in 5:19.

The 12-13 girls mile relay team, comprised of Shaune Gilchrist, Karla Harrison, Robin Ermatinger and Angela Benedetti, took first and qualified for the JOs in 4:41.5.

"We are not yet close to last year's state meet record but we had no one pushing us," Beymer said.



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PAOLA'S PIZZA BARN

Congratulations to:
Scott Skipper

SUHS senior Scott Skipper is prep of the week.

He won the javelin throw against a top field last week in the Barlow Invitational with a throw of 216-8.

He holds school records in the javelin, shot put, discus and hammer throw.

Way to go, Scott!

Enjoy great pizzas & good times at Paola's!