

Changes in store for '81 fishing, hunting regulations

order to get around this problem. In Oregon this has also been generally done in practice, but never set out as a hard and fast policy.

The general big game hunting season framework that has been proposed by Fish and Wildlife Department staff is as follows. If it is adopted by the Commission in January it will become the policy for future years.

*No general big game hunting seasons (one in which hunter numbers are not limited) would begin prior to August 1 or after December 15.

*Bear pursuit (no-kill) season would begin August 1 and end three days prior to the beginning of bear hunting season. The bear hunting season would begin on the Saturday nearest September 1 and end November 30.

*Buck antelope controlled season would begin the third Saturday in August.

*General early bowhunting season would begin the Saturday nearest September 1 and end September 25. The policy would provide for late bowhunting seasons for deer and elk to be set each year in selected areas where late hunting would not adversely impact management objectives.

*Statewide general buck deer season would begin the Saturday nearest October 1.

*Rocky Mountain bull elk season would begin the Saturday nearest November 1 (under the policy there could be one or more separate hunts).

*Roosevelt bull elk season would begin the second Saturday in November

(again there could be one or more separate hunts).

*Antlerless deer and elk seasons would be scheduled as needed to control populations or ease damage problems.

*No muzzleloader deer seasons would be set prior to general buck deer season and no muzzleloader seasons would be permitted on elk.

*Handguns would be permitted only during general bear and deer seasons, during the controlled cougar season.

The Commission will also be considering changes in controlled hunt procedures proposed by the Department's staff.

The first would eliminate the \$1 application fee. A high rate of invalid applications because of failure to enclose the fee, poor acceptance of the fee requirement by many hunters, problems of sending cash through the mail, and delays in processing applications because of accounting and verification procedures are given as reasons.

A second change would involve elimination of the first-come, first-served procedure and adoption of a drawing for filling all controlled hunts. Unpredictable mail service has been one of the biggest problems, with applications taking anywhere from one to seven or more days to reach the Department's office. In some instances more than enough mail (received by the Department in large mail bags) has been received on the first day of application acceptance to fill a hunt and the "first-come" was determined by which mail bag was opened first and the order in which they were pulled from the bag. Bundling of envelopes by the mail service sometimes resulted in regional bias in filling hunt quotas.

The process has also required two application-handling systems causing huge handling problems within the Department and a large potential for inequity in filling hunt quotas. In conjunction with elimination of the "first-come" system, the program would be

changed so 4-party applications could be accepted. Currently in the drawing process, no more than two hunters can apply as a party on one application.

A third change in procedure would see nearly all controlled hunt tags issued by license agents rather than by the Fish and Wildlife Department. A process has been designed that would eliminate sending money and tags through the mail. Successful applicants for controlled or limited entry hunts would receive a permit which would entitle them to purchase the necessary tag from a license agent in their community.

Another problem involving tag sale cutoff dates was reviewed with the Commission. The cutoff is deemed unnecessarily restrictive, some hunters have been unable to purchase tags prior

to the cutoff (perhaps because of hospitalization, out of state travel or work requirements, etc.) There have also been instances where community license agents have run out of tags on the day prior to cutoff resulting in some hunters being unable to purchase a tag before the deadline.

The regulation was originally put into effect to stop the practice of killing an animal first and buying a tag afterward. But other rule changes since then have already eliminated most of that problem.

The policy and controlled hunt procedural changes will be considered by the Commission following a public hearing on Friday, January 16. The meeting will be held at the Fish and Wildlife Department's Portland headquarters, 506 SW Mill Street.

Faculty members challenge KGW 'No-Stars'

by Kathy Sevig

The KGW No-Stars will challenge Vernonia High School and grade school staff members in a basketball game scheduled for Monday night, January 12, at the VHS gym.

VHS team members feel good about the upcoming game. "We will be surprising," predicted team member Pete Forgey.

The colorful faculty team includes: VHS faculty members; 'Crazy Legs' Crowston, Randy 'Million Moves' Stevens, Terry Nimy, Doug Tesdahl and Brian Montgomery. Grade school staff members include: Bill Howard, Pete Forgey, Luke Wehner and Dale Rosenthal. Other 'surprise' members will be announced at game time.

The No-Stars team include regulars Craig Walker, Jim Donovan, Bill Jackson and Lyle Arthur.

Cathy Howard, VHS counselor, with the able assistance of Randy Aultman, VHS principal, will coach the talented Vernonia team. "Who cares about 800 million Chinese, we want to win this one for the dipper (sic)," said Coach Cathy.

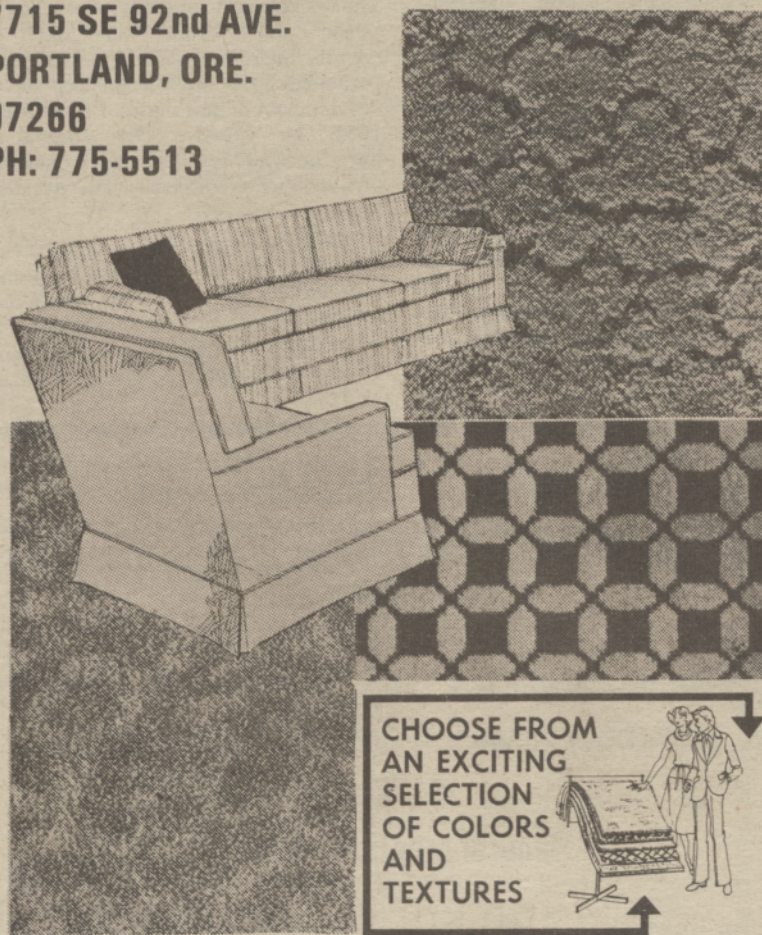
The KGW No-Stars are coming to Vernonia to help the VHS drama class earn money to attend the Ashland Shakespearean Festival this spring. The No-Stars charge nothing and give all proceeds to the organization sponsoring them. The No-Stars had over 450 requests for games this season but could fill only 25 of them.

Tickets are being sold by drama class members. They will also be available at the door. Admission charges are: Adults, \$2; high school students, \$1.50; and grade school students \$1. The game will follow the girls' J.V. game in the VHS gym.

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