

Hunting & Fishing

with Virgil Rupp

Although alligators remain formidable creatures, they no longer are growing to their former massive proportions, according to records maintained by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

A century ago, 15-foot alligators were pretty much run-of-the-mill. Fourteen-footers were still around as recently as 50 years ago. But today a twelve-foot specimen is regarded as near the maximum.

That is why an alligator measuring 13½ feet caused something of a stir when he was hauled out of the water at the Delta National Wildlife Refuge in Louisiana. He was promptly dubbed "Ol' Gram'pa" and entered in the records as the biggest alligator ever taken on Delta Refuge.

Like the buffalo, the alligator has been subjected to heavy hunting in its years gone by. Because of the inaccessibility of some of its habitat, however, the alligator has been able to survive in large numbers despite greatly decreased living space and a century of extremely heavy harvesting.

From 1890 until 1891, more than 2,500,000 of these animals were harvested in the State of Florida alone. As late as 1900, some 280,000 alligator skins were being processed in the United States annually. The harvest varies from year to year, and from refuge to refuge. "Ol' Gram'pa" was one of 400 taken last year on Delta Refuge. But on the Sabine National Wildlife Refuge, also in Louisiana, the harvest has been as great as 1,300 in a year.

Several of the refuges in the South have natural habitat for alligators. The Fish and Wildlife Service follows management practices which will assure all species of wildlife as much living room as possible. Alligators are protected until their numbers approach the carrying capacity of their habitat, and then harvesting is permitted.

Among the natural enemies of the alligator are the raccoon and the bear. The raccoon does not match his legendary shrewdness against the snapping jaws and the whipping tail of an alligator, and the bear does not engage the "gator in direct conflict. But the alligator is an egg-laying reptile, and the raccoon and the bear obtain those morsels with comparative safety.

The young alligator is eight inches long at hatching, and weighs about two ounces. It gains only a half-pound the first year and is prey of a number of denizens living in or near the water. Even larger young "gators are fair food for gar and other fish which reach large dimensions.

But at three years, the alligator weighs about 15 pounds and measures three feet. He then is able to take care of himself against most adversaries.

Drought is a distinct enemy of the alligator. It kills a lot of the things upon which the alligator feeds, and destroys his natural habitat.

As with many other examples of wildlife, individual alligators are "tagged" for purposes of biological study. Fish and Wildlife personnel do their alligator tagging at night from small boats. They confine their efforts to the juveniles, avoiding personal tussles with alligators more than three feet long. When tagging operations are underway, a dozen or two of the animals are caught during an evening, and the metal tags affixed.

Alligator hides do not attract high prices on the market. Three or four decades ago, a seven-foot specimen would be worth from 90 cents to \$4.65, depending for the most part upon the location of the market and the quality of the hide. Pricing today is based on a per-foot-of-alligator basis, with prices ranging from \$1.25 to \$2.50 per foot.

First Session of Summer Ski School is Under Way

Approximately 30 skiers, including about 10 members of the Bend Skyliners, were high on the slopes of Bachelor Butte, early today, as the first session of Bend's summer ski school was underway.

Instruction starts with a concentrated 10-day course which lasts from June 21 through June 30. Beginning in July, three-day training will be offered each weekend. The school will close the weekend of August 2, 3 and 4.

In charge of instruction again this year are Christian Pravda, 1954 world champion downhill skier, and Gene Gillis, former Olympic skier.

The first day's session started at 6 a.m. on Bachelor, some 18 miles west of Bend. Skiing lasted until 10 a.m., and a two hour period in the afternoon was devoted to other activities and exercises designed to develop skills and muscles used in skiing.

Afternoon activities during the summer will include soccer, tennis, diving, trampoline and handball.

It has been recommended that not less than two consecutive weekend sessions or the ten-day course be taken for maximum benefits. Although the program is set up primarily for racers, others will be signed for the course which places membership on a small tuition basis.

Among those taking part in the training are Penny Pitou, Vermont, member of the 1936 Olympic ski team, and Rennie Cox, senior national slalom champion at Squaw Valley in 1956.

Also represented are Portland, Washington state, Mt. Ombana and Washington state, Montana and other points.

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3rd Straight Win Posted By Beavers

PORTLAND (UP) — Portland pushed across a run in the eighth inning Thursday night to break a 2-2 tie and down the Hollywood Stars for the third straight time in a Pacific Coast League baseball game.

In witnessing the 3-2 Portland victory, a crowd of 3495 saw a tight pitchers duel between Portland's Bob Alexander and the Star's Curt Raydon. Alexander, in winning his fourth game of the year against seven defeats, allowed eight hits in the nine innings he pitched and Raydon allowed one less to the Beavers. Raydon's record is now even at 6-6.

The winning run came when Solly Drake opened the eighth with a walk. He was sacrificed to second by Bobby Adams. Raydon gave Luis Marquez an intentional walk and after Frank Carswell had struck out, Bob Borkowski drilled a sharp single to score the speedy Drake from second base.

After Portland had opened the scoring with one run in the first inning on Marquez' single and Carswell's tie up, Hollywood came back to tie it in the fifth and then go one run ahead in the sixth.

Portland tied it up in the sixth on an error by third baseman Jim Baumer, that allowed Marquez to go all the way to second. He scored from there on Carswell's single.

In other PCL games Seattle edged Vancouver 2-1; Sacramento took a pair from Los Angeles 1-0 and 3-1, and San Francisco clipped San Diego 8-7.

Kerry Yancey, Pilot Butte center fielder, hit a homer, over the fence and into the river to collect the only run allowed by Eddie Cecil, Central Oregon Roofing pitcher. The Junior League game, played last night at Harmon field, was a real thriller, with Pilot Butte leading by one run until the fourth, when Central Oregon Roofing scored, tied it up and went on to get one more run in the sixth to win by a final score of 2 to 1.

Eddie Cecil and Joe Lentz got the only two hits allowed by Andy Warrington, losing pitcher. Cecil with a triple for three times at bat and Lentz with a double for two times at the plate.

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JACKKNIFE FROM HIGH BOARD—Jerry Sherman, one of the better young swimmers, practices a jackknife dive from the high board of the swimming pool on opening day. Jackknife is closing in this shot. (Bend Bulletin photo)

Lelco Edged By Elks, 11-10

Elks pushed over three runs in the bottom of the fifth inning, Thursday night, at Juniper field, to top Lelco 11 to 10 in a National League baseball thriller.

Top hitter for the losers were Don Bjorvick, who hit a home run for one time at bat and Lee Cottingham, who hit two for three, including a triple. For the victors, Larry Gelbrich hit a perfect four for four.

Batteries — Lelco: Dennis Gasbar, Billy Tye and Lee Cottingham. Elks: Larry Gelbrich and Harve Freeman.

Giambri After Tenth Straight

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (UP) — Middleweight contender Joey Giambri seeks his 10th straight victory tonight in a 10-rounder with lightweight Rory Calhoun at War Memorial Auditorium.

Slick Joey of Buffalo, N.Y., now fighting out of San Francisco, is a slight favorite at 6-5 over the young blunger from White Plains, N.Y., because of his speed and skill. Each is a good puncher.

Their bout will be televised and broadcast nationally by NBC.

Giambri, 25, is rated fourth among 160-pound contenders. Joey's 50-4-1 record includes 26 knockouts.

Calhoun, 22, is ranked sixth. He dropped a disputed split verdict to fifth-rated Joey Giambri in his last bout, May 17, at Cleveland. That was only his second defeat in 29 fights. His first loss, on a decision to third-ranked Spider Webb last August, snapped a 23-bout winning string. He knocked out 15.

Batteries — Elks: Jim Matson and Larry Gelbrich. Lelco: Harold Weathers, Dan Manwiler and Lee Cottingham.

Rome's Colosseum, the world's largest amphitheatre, was completed in A.D. 80. Built by the Emperor Titus, it was inaugurated with a blood bath of matches between gladiators and wild beasts.

COAT COMES BACK — GENEVA, N. Y. (UP) — Dr. John Stelter, a frequent visitor to fire department headquarters, sweated out the return of one truck that dashed off to a blaze. The engine finally returned with the doctor's coat still hanging on the rear where he absent-mindedly had put it.

Mays Expected To Get Starting Nod in Voting

NEW YORK (UP)—Willie Mays, who batted .500 as a part-time performer in three previous All-Star games, apparently will be voted into the National League's starting lineup for the first time this year.

The New York Giants' brilliant center fielder is one of five National Leaguers who have opened up huge leads in the voting for the starters in the annual mid-summer classic at St. Louis, July 9.

The latest figures released by Commissioner Ford Frick's office today reveal that Mays has received 27,032 votes for center field compared to Brooklyn Dodger center-fielder Duke Snider's second-place total of 10,276.

First baseman Stan Musial of the St. Louis Cardinals has attracted 32,766 votes for a 28,000-lead over Gil Hodges of the Dodgers, while left-fielder Frank Robinson of the Redlegs, right-fielder Hank Aaron of the Milwaukee Braves and catcher Ed Bailey of the Redlegs also have leads of about 20,000 for their positions.

Red Schoendienst of the Braves leads Johnny Temple of the Redlegs in the second-base balloting; Roy McMillan of the Redlegs leads Al Dark of the Cardinals for the shortstop berth, and Ed Matthews of the Braves tops Don Hoak of the Redlegs in the voting for third base.

The fan poll closes on June 27. Slugger Ted Williams of the Boston Red Sox continues as the top vote-getter in the American League with 29,481 for left field. Mickey Mantle, the New York Yankees' triple crown winner, is the second top vote-getter with 27,715 and second-baseman Nelson Fox of the Chicago White Sox ranks third with 24,652. All have tremendous leads over their closest rivals.

Third base is furnishing the

Contract Signed By Dick Smith

GLIDE, Ore. (UP) — Dick Smith, \$4000 richer despite a broken ankle, prepared today for a baseball career which he hopes will eventually land him a place with the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Smith returned here from Los Angeles where he signed a contract with the Dodgers at a \$4000 bonus price. Although he starred in high school as a pitcher he was signed as an outfielder. He suffered the broken ankle while sliding at the tryout camp.

Smith has been a star athlete at Glide high school.

Moose Bounced By Medo-Land

Medo-Land scored nine runs in the second inning and twice in the third to defeat Moose 21 to 8, in American Little League play, Thursday night, at Harmon field.

Bud Knouse, winning pitcher, allowed only six hits in hurling the win. Top batter for Medo-Land, Don Jacobson, got four hits for five times at bat and Moose top hitter was Bruce Barry with two for three times up including a double.

Batteries — Moose: Gil Vaughn, Ricky Thompson, Jim Bowles and Bruce Barry. Medo-Land: Bud Knouse and Jim Leagfield.

IMPARTIAL

HARTFORD, Conn. — (UP)—Police sought a bipartisan thief after offices at Republican and Democratic state headquarters, several blocks apart, were looted the same day.

Closest competition with Reno Bertoia of the Detroit Tigers showing the way with 14,121 votes. Gil McDougald of the Yankees is second with 11,750 and George Kell of the Baltimore Orioles is third with 11,097.

First baseman Vic Werz, shortstop Harvey Kuenn, right-fielder Al Kaline and catcher Yogi Berra are the other leaders.

Case May Disrupt Relations Of U.S., Foreign Countries

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press Staff Correspondent
WASHINGTON (UP) — The administration's urgent determination that GI William S. Girard shall be tried by Japanese courts on a charge of manslaughter scarcely can be understood except by persons on the scene here in Washington.

As the matter stands today, Federal Judge Joseph C. McGarraghy's ruling of last Tuesday holds that to turn Girard over to the Japanese would be to deprive him of rights guaranteed to an American citizen by the United States Constitution.

The Justice Department has appealed directly to the Supreme Court, contending that McGarraghy's decision was "clearly wrong" and that it would be in the public interest to obtain speedy disposition of the Girard case.

Agreements Seen Endangered — Administration officials fear disruption throughout the world of the relationship of American troops overseas and the governments of the countries in which they are stationed. One official suggested that, if the Supreme Court forbids a Japanese trial for Girard, the whole structure of agreements under which U.S. troops are based overseas would collapse.

"We well might have to withdraw our soldiers from Japan and perhaps from other countries," this official suggested. He explained that the governments of the countries involved could and perhaps would insist that U.S. soldiers be subject in some degree to local arrest and local law.

Immediate Action Seen — The Justice Department asked the Supreme Court to review the

Girard case and is hopeful of immediate action. There is less hope however, of a decision favorable to the government. On the day before Judge McGarraghy's ruling in the Girard case, the Supreme Court expressed itself emphatically in the field of personal rights. The court's position is wholly in defense of an individual's constitutional rights against encroachments by congressional investigators or federal prosecutors.

This point of view was expressed in the extending the protection of the Constitution to several individuals who were Communists or who had had close Communist associations in the past. Having so carefully protected the rights of persons with a record of association with the Communist conspiracy, it generally is assumed here that the Supreme Court would equally defend the constitutional rights of a U.S. soldier.

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