

Turkey plant big question mark

By Milt Guyman

Oregon Game Commission
Wild turkeys — the big game of upland bird gunners — may some day prove an exciting challenge to hunters if some 51 birds released in two wilderness areas over the weekend by the Oregon Game Commission survive and propagate.

Release points were in the White River game management area to the west of Tygh Valley and on the east side of Green Ridge in the Metolius area.

But Oregon gunners are cautioned not to let their gunning fever get carried away, for it will probably take a number of years before populations build to where hunting will be allowed. In addition, the success of these plants remains a big question mark and the entire project may prove a complete fizzle.

Negotiations by the Game Commission with several western

states have been in progress for a year or more, and late Friday afternoon word was received from the Colorado Game Department and the Arizona Department of Fish and Game that trapping attempts had been successful.

All birds were trapped in the wild and are of the Merriam's race, native to west Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and southern California. It is the only race of wild turkey that the western states have had any degree of success in maintaining wild flocks.

Because of the proximity to air terminals in Denver, the Colorado Department of Game shipped their 20 trapped birds via United Airlines. The birds arrived in Portland promptly at 12 noon, Saturday.

John McKean, chief of the game division, Ron Shay and this writer of the information division picked up the birds by truck and whisked them to the White River

release site. Here they were liberated from their individual crates into the white oak and ponderosa pine ridges adjacent to the management area headquarters.

Arizona Birds Trucked

The Arizona birds were too far from airlines for aerial shipment without several long layovers, so Clark Walsh, assistant game director, and Bob Mace, chief of the upland game bird section, made the 2,000-mile trip to Tonopah, Nev., by truck.

Here they were met by game officials of the Arizona game department who had hauled the birds from Flagstaff near where the birds were trapped.

Haste is paramount in any trapping and transplanting attempt of wild turkey. Experience in the western states shows that these great game birds cannot be held much more than 48 hours without disastrous results.

Colorado birds were released in the wilds of Oregon within 24 hours after capture. The Arizona turkeys were released just a few hours under the 48-hour maximum. Already one bird had succumbed to the long period in captivity.

Rest of Birds Alert

All remaining birds appeared alert and in good health at the time of release. The 20 Colorado birds all flew strong of wing, much in the fashion of a large Canada goose.

Each bird catapulted itself into the air from its crate, airborne with a single majestic sweep of its wings. Some flew close to the ground, maneuvering among the oaks and pines without a break in flight.

Several gained altitude to disappear over the pine tops. Three of the big birds flew to tall pines several hundred yards distant, where they landed in the top branches to look back at their would-be capturers.

From all appearances the Merriam's turkeys liked their new home. They were calling to each other within the hour and several birds were observed actively feeding in late afternoon. A total of 13 birds was released in the Metolius area, while the remainder were released on two ridges at White River.

Prefer Open Timber

The Merriam's turkey prefers open timber rather than dense underbrush. It chooses open branching trees for roosting. Oak supply most for food and is important to the bird. Grasshoppers and other insects are favorite food during the summer, but plants supply most of the diet at other seasons.

Major foods are leaves, grass and weed seeds, and a variety of fruits, nuts, and cereal crops.

This new resident of the state looks much like the domestic bird but is more streamlined with a longer neck and a smaller, green-

ish-blue head. Gobblers will weigh around 16 pounds when full grown while the hen will average about 10 pounds. Tail feathers are almost black and tipped with light tan.

Sportsmen in states where this bird is hunted hold the wild turkey in high esteem. It is considered the most wary and alert of wild game birds. To these sportsmen these majestic birds offer a challenge unmatched in upland game bird hunting.

It has these attributes as long as it remains wild. Semidomesticated, it becomes just another barnyard fowl. No artificial feeding will be conducted by the Game Commission, and residents in the area are asked not to feed the birds since this may tend to make them less wary.

The chances of success depend entirely on the interest and protection afforded by people who come across these birds in their new home.

Given protection from hunting and from becoming tame through artificial feeding, the Merriam's turkey should become established as a wild bird of the state.

And some day Oregon hunters may be using their skill against this great game bird, the big game in upland game bird hunting.

Pilots defeat

St. Louis five

ST. LOUIS (UPI)—Gary Gray got hot in the second overtime period Monday night to spark the University of Portland Pilots to a 70-63 basketball victory over Washington University of St. Louis.

Gray scored 8 points in the second overtime.

The score was tied 52-all at the end of the regulation time and 58-all after the first overtime.

Frank Bosone led the Pilots in scoring with 17 while Bill Garner had 15 and Gray and Art Easterly hit 13 each.

Sandy Pomerantz of Washington had 22.

Midget squad tops Greenwood

Midget Drive In keglers emerged victorious for the second time in as many weeks in a special team Sunday at the Greenwood Bowl — defeating a picked squad from the Greenwood Bowl by a total of 178 pins.

Their team series of 2387 was the second best shot by a local team in league or match play this season.

Harold Kern led the Midgetmen with a 620 series, followed closely by Dan Musgrave at 614. Musgrave took high single-game honors with a 256, while Paul Rukaveno shot a 251.

The Greenwood squad bowled a respectable 2709 series, but the closest they came to winning even one game was when they dropped the third game by three pins, 927 to 924.

George Mirich topped the Greenwood Bowl team with a 561 series. Individual scores, for Greenwood, were Paul Sevy, 505; Dale Gephart, 552; Al Skorge, 536; Ned Douglass, 555; and Skorge Mirich, 561.

Individual scores for the Midget team were Dan Masgrave, 614; Paul Rukaveno, 568; Hal Kern, 620; Sam Blucher, 528; and Don Lowry, 567.

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OFF FOR NEW HOME—Strong wing beats lift this Merriam's wild turkey straight up from its captive crate as it heads for freedom in ponderosa pine and scrub oak on the White River game management area west of Tygh Valley. Big tom turkeys will weigh up to 16 pounds while the hens will reach 10. The Merriam's turkey is considered the most wary and alert of all upland game.

Alston enthused over Dodgers

By United Press International

The presence of Leo Durocher already has made a "talkative" manager out of Walter Alston.

Alston, generally regarded as a major league baseball's quiet man, had difficulty containing himself Monday as the Los Angeles Dodgers opened their spring training camp at Vero Beach, Fla.

Bouncing back and forth between the playing field where the pitchers were busy taking sprints and tuning up and the "Iron Mike" batting cages on the hill behind the field where the batters were lining out "hits" against the mechanical pitchers, Alston kept up a running chatter.

"Yes sir, this is one of the best opening day drills we've had," Alston said after checking the pitchers.

Then, with his face plastered against the protective screen behind the batting cages, his remarks ran to: "If we get a little

sock, we have a chance to go all the way."

Instructs Batters

Durocher, the former Dodgers manager now serving as a coach, busied himself giving batting and bunting instructions to the "early bird" instruction of outfielders, infielders and farm hands.

Across the country on the West Coast, manager Ralph Houk officially opened his first Yankee training camp with all of his veteran pitchers on hand except reliever Luis Arroyo.

Houk, wasting little time, had Ralph Terry, Whitey Ford, Danny McDevitt, Bob Turley, Art Ditmar, Jim Coates and Ryne Duren throwing batting practice, something they never did under former manager Casey Stengel until about the fourth or fifth day after the opening of camp.

The Kansas City Athletics corralled star pitcher Bud Daley in a telephone call as they opened their camp at West Palm Beach.

Daley, who was 16-16 last year, reportedly signed for about \$22,000 — a \$5,000 raise. Pitcher Johnny Kucks also signed, leaving pitcher Ray Herbert, outfielder Al Pillarek and infielder Jim McManus as holdouts.

Catcher Gus Triandos missed being branded a holdout by coming to terms with the Baltimore Orioles who opened their camp at Miami. Triandos apparently signed for the same \$25,000 he got last year for hitting .289 with 12 homers.

Pirates Do Well

Things picked up considerably for the world champion Pittsburgh Pirates at their base in Fort Myers.

General manager Joe Brown, who has had less trouble signing his champions than originally anticipated, reported that only first baseman Dick Stuart, pitcher George Witt and rookie outfielder Hank Mitchell remained to be signed.

Buckaroos held to overtime tie

By United Press International

The second-place Portland Buckaroos fell three points behind league-leading Calgary by virtue of a 3-2 Western Hockey league overtime tie with the Winnipeg Warriors Monday night.

The Bucks came from behind to gain the tie as Arnie Schmutz tallied from 30 feet out in the second period.

Others bowling were Larry Gelbreich, 477; John Fenton, 479; and Gene Goff, 458.

LOSE HIGH SCORER

MONTREAL (UPI)—High-scoring Dickie Moore of the Montreal Canadiens will be sidelined with a fractured left foot for a minimum of three weeks, the club revealed Monday. Moore, whose 69 points make him the fourth highest scorer in the National Hockey League, was injured Saturday night in a collision with New York Ranger defenseman Irwin Spencer.

Better Short Game

"I've always contended that from 60 yards into the green the woman pros are better players than the men," he grinned. "It's a cinch they are better putters. Well, Louise proved it by beating

Slam Switch

The PGA switched its match play championship to medal play a few years back on the grounds that unknowns who reached the finals didn't draw flies. Smaller fields and longer matches would eliminate such situations, the Boston Irishman insists, and the golf fan is so eager for match play today that he'd probably patronize even a dark horse finale.

"The way they flocked to see Snead and Palmer is a case in point," he said.

And, speaking of that match, just before it started Palmer took an appreciative glance at the gallery and said in an aside to Snead:

"Sam, this is a tremendous crowd."

The practical Snead looked them over as if counting every one and replied with pecuniary hopefulness:

"It is if they all paid."



READY FOR RELEASE—A young Merriam's wild turkey is held by John McKean, chief of the game division, before its release in the White River game management area near Wamic. Twenty of these gr. at game birds were obtained from Colorado and 51 from Arizona. Thirteen of the wild turkeys were released on Green Ridge in the Metolius River area and the remainder released in the open pine country of White River.

2 The Bend Bulletin, Tuesday, February 21, 1961

Head-and-head golf play 'ripe'

By Oscar Frealey

UPI Staff Writer

MIAMI (UPI)—When Arnold Palmer and Sam Snead recently drew a gallery of 5,000 at \$4 a head for an exhibition at Boca Raton it proved, according to pitch and putt promotional genius Fred Corcoran, that golf is ready for a major return to match play.

"Golf is a head and head game," Corcoran asserted. "That's what the public wants to see and the Palmer-Snead match proves that the fans are satiated with medal play tournaments."

The time is ripe, Corcoran insists, for some city to stage a major match play championship.

Long golf's greatest "idea man," Corcoran thinks that the game could benefit greatly from an annual match between the U.S. Open and PGA champions with that winner meeting the top ladies' professional in a head-and-head match on a par-three course.

Sides With Jones

He also sides with the immortal Bobby Jones in a belief that the U.S. Golf Association should give deep thought to bringing back the stymie.

"For a man a stymie call is the greatest defensive skill," Corcoran said. "Without the stymie, Jones might never have made his Grand Slam in 1930. On the first extra hole against Cyril Tolley in the British Amateur he laid Tolley a stymie and took the title."

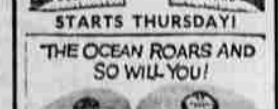
Corcoran, who made a million dollar business out of the men's pro tour, guides the lady professionals and drew up the format for the International Golf and Canada Cup matches, thinks that the new things are good for the game.

Along these lines he praises this year's inaugural Selective Drive Tournament at Sebring, won by Jim Turnesa and Gloria Armstrong, and the Par-Three Invitational at Palm Beach in which Louise Suggs whipped a dozen men professionals.

"I've always contended that from 60 yards into the green the woman pros are better players than the men," he grinned. "It's a cinch they are better putters. Well, Louise proved it by beating

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Bowles takes

\$250 purse

in tenpin test

Bend bowler Jim Bowles was \$250 richer today after tying for second place in the Oregon State Bowling Proprietors' Assn. joint no entry fee handicap tournament last weekend at Northcote Lanes in Portland.

Bowles put together games of 191, 225, 210, 223, 170 and 227 for a six-game scratch total of 1246. His 75-pin handicap gave him a grand total of 1318 and tied him with Clyde Reed of McMinnville.

The two split second prize of \$300 and third prize of \$200.

First prize of \$500 was won by Buz Van DeBogart, Portland, who rolled games of 190, 216, 223, 194, 247 and 204 to go with a handicap of 84. That gave him an aggregate score of 1338.

The Saturday and Sunday finals wound up five months of elimination meets.

Prior to his money-winning performance Saturday night, Bowles, a local certified instructor for junior bowlers, took a team of Bend senior high boys to Portland for competition last Saturday afternoon.

The event was the American Junior Bowling Congress Oregon State Sweepstakes.

The Bend boys won 11th place out of a large total of 68 teams.

Bowles' son, James Jr., and Skip Carsey each rolled three-game series of 528 to lead the squad to a 2470 scratch total and 2707 gross score with 237-pin handicap added.

Others bowling were Larry Gelbreich, 477; John Fenton, 479; and Gene Goff, 458.

Buckaroos held to overtime tie

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