

Great weather, teams for plowing bee

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

Teamsters came from Enterprise, Joseph, Haines, Irigon and Hermiston for the 17th Lee Scott Memorial Plowing Bee at Juanita and Larry Waters' farm east of Joseph. Both days, May 2 and 3, were sunny and bright and drivers and spectators alike were able to enjoy the event without having to run to cars to warm up.

They only got about an acre or so plowed and disced, said Larry Waters, but a good time was had by all.

Teamsters come from a variety of backgrounds. Holly and Jim Akenson of Enterprise started out managing a research station in the Frank Church River of No Return area for the University of Idaho and began using mules to put up hay for all of the animals.

Now that they're in Wallowa County they do some contract work for wildlife biologists and are talking with the Forest Service about trail maintenance.



Bill Meyers, of Hermiston, drives his big Belgian team Call, 16, and Gus, 16, at the 17th Lee Scott Memorial Plowing Bee.

Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

They use their mules for everything: plowing, riding and packing.

This year they brought along a young molly mule,

Annie, to train and got her hooked up to plow on Sunday.

Lee Carlson of Hermiston brought his team of small mares, a Fjord and a Haflinger,

fresh off winning the title of "Best Working Team" out of 21 teams at the April 11 McMinnville Farm Fest.

Carlson keeps an ambi-

tious show schedule from spring to fall. "I've got to have something to do," said the 73-year-old. "I've been plowing since January this year. If I'm not out plowing I'll sit down and eat till I'm 400 pounds."

He didn't get the chance to gain weight this weekend, despite the great Dutch Oven and barbecue meals prepared by Kerry and Doneva Bolen.

Carlson found the ground uneven in consistency and was putting in some hard work Saturday morning keeping the plow on track.

At the end of a furrow he tipped the plow over and opened a bottle of water.

"I had to take a break," he said. "I can see why those old boys only lived to be 35 or 40."

He was pleased when an interested youngster showed up to learn the art. On Sunday he lent his team to Avey Van Doozer, 17, of Joseph. Avey tickled them all when she kicked off her shoes and prepared to plow barefoot.

"She did real good," said Larry Waters.

Home golf tourney a warmup for district

By Rich Rautenstrauch
Wallowa County Chieftain

One of the fastest growing sports in Oregon will be put on display this coming Friday when the Enterprise and Wallowa high school golfers come home to play at Alpine Meadows Golf Course, site of the Enterprise Invitational.

Five days of golf are in store for most of the kids beginning Friday and ending on Tuesday with district play. The Wallowa kids will have Saturday off before traveling to Pendleton. Enterprise players will meanwhile be hosting the annual high school golf fundraising "Four for Fore" tournament, on Saturday.

Friday will mark the end of regular season play for both teams. In high school golf, all teams and individual players from the Special District 3 league will go into district play (unlike volleyball or basketball, where four leading teams make it to district). Golfing scores that are kept during the regular season serve only as a guideline for improvement.

Both Enterprise and Wallowa will travel to district play being hosted by the Pendleton Country Club, starting Sunday with a practice round. On Monday, May 11, district play begins in earnest. Two rounds and two days are in store for the kids with scores from both days being totaled (into one score) to move on to state competition. Four teams from the district will move on to state play. Individuals can also qualify.

Friday's Alpine Meadows tourney is a warm-up for district and both coaches, Mike Crawford from Enterprise and Wallowa's Marvin Gibbs, are glad for the travel time respite. Both also agreed the kids like coming home too.

With last week's Buffalo Peak tourney in the books it appears the match-up for the county teams is going to be a good one. Last week in Union on the boys' side, the Enterprise team tallied a score of 370 with the Wallowa boys shooting a 378. The Enterprise girls' team is coming along and will compete Friday, but Wallowa only has one girl on its team.

Pairings for the invitational are not set for Friday's tourney, but as explained by the coaches, number one golfers will make up a group of four and shoot together, as will the number two golfers and down the line.

The Four for Fore tournament scheduled for Saturday will feature the Oldsmobile Scoring Method and each hole will be sponsored by local businesses with prizes awarded at the end of match. Proceeds from this event will benefit the EHS golf teams.

Crawford and Gibbs have both been coaching for their schools for the past 18 years.

Movies in the Park approved

ENTERPRISE — Brent Wydrinski will be playing movies in Enterprise City Park again this summer, sometime between July and August, having gotten approval from city council at its regular April 13 meeting.

Movies in the Park is free and will feature blockbusters that came out "before anyone under the age of 18 was born," Wydrinski said. "They are movies that lots of people watched and liked, but haven't seen in a long time, and younger kids have probably heard of them, but maybe haven't seen them. So in my mind, it's a great way to bridge some generational gaps, which we have a great

deal of in Wallowa County."

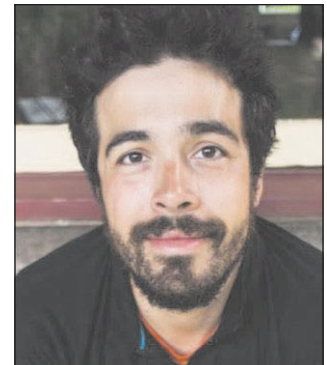
No dates are set but the preliminary list includes: "Jurassic Park" (the original), "Groundhog Day", "The Princess Bride"; and "Aladdin."

All movies are rated PG except Jurassic Park which is rated PG-13.

It's a shoestring endeavor; Wydrinski purchased his projector for 25 cents at the Soroptimist Thrift Shop and movies are played against a sheet draped on the tennis court fence.

The event developed organically. "I was playing movies on the side of my house, and people kept stopping by, or in the street to watch. And I realized I should probably take the idea to city council to play movies in the park," Wydrinski said.

Residents wanting to contribute to the success of this family friendly endeavor are invited to give or lend a blow-up-outdoor screen, a folding table, and a microwave. "I



Wydrinski

think it would be fun if somebody brought a microwave," Wydrinski said. "We could plug it in, and people could bring bags of microwavable popcorn."

The showings start at dusk — exact times to be posted later. The public restrooms are open, and folks can bring snacks and non-alcoholic beverages. Blankets and chairs are definitely recommended, Wydrinski said. "The screen is super low. But we will be clearing a path in the middle so nobody blocks the light."

Student of the Week

Ashley Starner-Durning is the daughter of Kim and Jeff Durning. She is a sophomore at Wallowa High School and excels in many avenues. Ashley is academically driven, pushing herself to take the challenging classes and accomplishing a 3.9 GPA. She is a leader on the court and in the field for volleyball and softball. Ashley is heavily involved with FFA and is currently the Junior Advisor. She has been elected as the chapter secretary for next year. Ashley is an exceptional student, athlete and a kind and generous person. Wallowa High School is proud that she is a Cougar!

Ashley Starner-Durning
Wallowa High School

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