

# Enterprise's Gomes hits the bullseye

By Steve Tool  
Wallowa County Chieftain

The Gomes family might have to add a new room onto the house — a trophy room — if their son Cole keeps on his winning ways.

The 15-year-old Enterprise High School student and independent archer just returned from two separate archery events laden with treasures.

Gomes, first competed in the 2017 at the Oregon Bowhunters 2017 Indoor State Championships tournament in Bend on Feb 24-26, as the shop shooter for Alpine Archery and Fly in La Grande. He scored 587 points of a possible 600 with his bow and won first place for his age group.

The young archer picked up a plaque, as well as the Oregon Bowhunters triple crown award for winning the state indoor, state field shooting and 3-D shooting last year. That award also came with a rotating plaque he will hold until next year's winner is announced.

Never one to rest on his laurels, Gomes spent the following weekend in Tigard, competing at a regionals tournament that featured archers from Oregon, Idaho, Washington and Mon-

tana. He scored 297 of a 300 possible points on the second day of the tournament and won his age group there as well.

"That was my personal best," Gomes said.

He is waiting for the scores from archers in other states to see how he fared overall.

Next on the list is a fundraiser at the OK Theatre in Enterprise on April 1. As a 4-H shooter, Gomes is hoping to attend the 4-H Nationals in Nebraska from June 22-30. He qualified for the event at the 4-H state archery tournament in Albany last year. His parents Ed and Julie Gomes will also attend as coaches.

The OK Theatre event features several renowned archers and outdoor industry representatives as guest speakers. A homemade chili feed and raffle, which includes prizes of outdoor gear as well as a filmed hunt, are also on the agenda.

"Any person should be able to walk in and have a good time," Gomes said.

The fundraiser is slated for 5-8 p.m. on April 1. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for ages 9-16 and free for kids eight and under.



Cole Gomes with his latest round of prizes from archery competition. Although also a 4-H shooter, these awards are as a shop shooter for Alpine Archery in La Grande.

Steve Tool/Chieftain

## DRAGONS IN THE WALLOWAS HEATS UP



Ellen Bishopo for the Chieftain

Get ready for a new year of Dragon Boat paddling on Wallowa Lake. Yes, the county will host a big race again this year and numerous clubs from the east side have already indicated they want to come out and try their luck at our killer altitude. The Dragons in the Wallowas Paddling club has all sorts of good news to share and is in the midst of organizing for a bigger, better year of racing and recreation. Anyone interested in joining the club is invited to the March 22, 4 p.m. meeting in the conference room of the Tomas Building (where the Chamber of Commerce Offices are) at 309 S River Street in Enterprise. More tillers, callers and coaches are being trained so that multiple boats can be launched this year. Last year the Dragons focused on their competitive team, but this year a second boat filled with individuals who want to get fit but not compete is being planned. Race organizer Mike Lockhart will also have news regarding boats and opportunities to compete outside the county. The "try it you'll like it" opportunities will be available again this coming year and folks who are not sure about the experience are welcome to come out in a boat and just see what they think. Dues to join the club are \$100 for the full season and include a Dragons in the Wallowas t-shirt.

## SPORTS CALENDAR

**FRIDAY, MARCH 17**  
**Enterprise and Wallowa golf**  
Heppner Invitational at Echo, 10 a.m.

**Pilot Rock baseball**  
doubleheader at Pilot Rock, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 23**  
**Joseph and Enterprise track**  
Buck Track Classic, field begins at 11 a.m. and track at noon

**Enterprise golf**  
Nixyaawii Invitational, Wild-horse Golf Course, noon

**FRIDAY, MARCH 24**  
**Enterprise softball**  
Pilot Rock, Rocket Tourney, TBA

**SATURDAY, MARCH 25,**  
**Enterprise softball**  
Pilot Rock, Rocket Tourney, TBA

**THREE**  
minutes with ...



## DARRELL BRANN

OPERATOR OF A LOCAL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY AND OWNER OF OK THEATRE

The OK Theatre drew a healthy audience on a recent Saturday for two bands. How much live entertainment do you bring to the OK annually?

That was somewhat rare for us as we usually bring shows in midweek. We have found that if we can fill a date for national touring acts we can get the price much more affordable. An example of this is the Quebe Sisters

who came on Tuesday March 14. The only way we could afford performers like them is to help fill dates between big cities.

Our goal is to bring one big show per month to the OK stage. We also rent the theatre for fundraisers and other events. It is truly a community space.

**You've done a fair amount of work to make the OK Theatre habitable. What was the biggest structural or fixtures challenge you faced?**

Actually we have not made many structural changes or repairs at this point. We are currently working with Sedar Architecture on plans for the theatre. We want to make the changes that are needed to things like heating, electrical, lighting and bathrooms with out losing the sweet old-time vibe of the theatre.

Things we have done includes: paint the front exterior of the building, painted the lobby, concessions, added some artwork, our oldest daughter Meredith chose colors and repainted the foyer and ticket booth, we have added some chalkboard paint here and there, a new back curtain, lights and an OK sign on the stage, repaired some lighting, electrical, repainted and added trim to the green room where performers go while waiting to perform.

We did work with (Wallowa County) Grain Growers to fix the heating system when the boiler failed shortly after we started operations in 2014. We have goals for a 2019 grand reopening of the Theatre and will be working on fundraising efforts the next couple of years towards that end.

**How is the OK set up as a property?**  
The OK Theatre is set up as an LLC.

**You are also a musician. What is your instrument?**  
Guitar and vocals.

**We also rent the theatre for fundraisers and other events. It is truly a community space.**

Darrell Brann

**Your day job is running a construction company. What are your current projects?**

We are just wrapping up Triple H Clinic on Residence St. in Enterprise for Dr. Grandi. We have also been repairing buildings, homes and pole barns that have been damaged by the harsh winter and waiting for the weather to warm so we can get back to a home we framed in December but the snow has been too deep to get equipment in to the job site.

**You own a couple other Enterprise properties. Do you have plans for them?**

Yes we do own what is known as Treasures, Weaver Hardware or originally as JC Penney. As with many buildings in downtown Enterprise it needs a lot of work. This one is structurally very sound but heating, insulation and electrical are not so good.

We have been working with Enterprise Electric and Grain Growers to fix the heating and electrical issues and bring those elements up to code. We are also working with Grady Rawls of Living Sky productions as they are planning on renting one half of the space for their editing work and a small storefront to show prospective clients their work.

The half of the building next to the theatre we would keep to use with the theatre.

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