



‘A hot time in the old town’



Summerfest: Sixth annual Downhill Derby sees upsets

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

It was a scorcher for the 2017 sixth annual Summerfest (formerly Bowlby Bash) Celebration in Enterprise with temperatures near 100 degrees, but the crowd was out and the kids were having fun.

Water features appeared on the courthouse lawn, and there was plenty of lemonade and shade for adults along the street.

New this year was visiting group which set up a pioneer and Civil War-era display, offering games, costumes and photos, and a black powder demonstration. A black powder rifle (just powder, no ball) was also volunteered as a starter pistol for the Downhill Race.

The much-anticipated races resulted in an upset as the new “Siebe Streaker,” piloted by Parker Siebe, 12, of Enterprise, defeated the fastest car in the derby for years — the Main Street Motors/Stengel “Flash,” piloted this year by junior driver Noah Dougall.

In the early eliminations, Dougall went up against experienced racer Isabella Brann, 11, in the “Okay Theater Roadster” Speedster and won with a time of 34:43. Then, Siebe ran against veteran racer Nathan Lamb Eaves, 10, in Eaves’ second outing with his new “No. 8” Speedster and won that race with a time of 35:43. Dougall and Siebe ran the final Junior Speedster elimination in which Dougall’s faster machine suffered steering difficulties, allowing Siebe to take the lead and the win.

It was an upset that benefited adult division speedster racer Jorge Augilar Jr. in his Steve’s Auto Repair Texaco Station-sponsored “Bandito.”

Maybe the addition of the sponsorship of Baggins Wagen Donuts helped make the difference, but whatever, it was Augilar was not looking gift horses in the mouth and earned his first Speedster win with a blazing first run of 25 seconds against race organizer Michael “Carrot Man” Berry’s new “Dandy Mobile.” Augilar followed that with a race against Parker Siebe for the Overall Speedster Derby Champion.

The ever-popular creative division saw two entries as the originator of the race, Ron Osterloh of La Grande, brought a recliner on wheels along with “Man Cave/Time Machine” accouterments of bookshelf, hat rack and more. Osterloh’s machine was built for comfort, not for speed and stopped halfway down the hill, relying on volunteer kid-power to make the finish.

It was a crowd-pleasing entry, but the Creative win went to perennial favorite Dave Carpenter of Enterprise.

Carpenter’s entry was called either “Burn” or “Balloon Man” (depending on the story you heard throughout the day). Dressed in a tie-dye union suit that matched his tower of colorful balloons, Carpenter entertained the crowd with wild driving on his elongated tricycle before running off the road just before the finish.

Parker Siebe also stacked his wins this year, adding the People’s Choice Award after votes were tallied.



Photos by Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

Above: Ron Osterloh’s “Man Cave/Time Machine” required volunteer kid power to get down the hill at the Summerfest Downhill Races on July 8. Left: Champion Junior Speedster and People’s Choice Award winner Parker Siebe, 12, douses overall Speedster winner and Adult Division Speedster winner Jorge Augilar, Jr. at the 2017 Summerfest Downhill Racer event in Enterprise as race originator, Ron Osterloh of La Grande, shares the glory. Right: Noah Dougall pilots the Main Street Motors/Stengle mobile up the hill for the downhill derby race at the 2017 Summerfest Celebration on Main Street in Enterprise.

Walla Walla duo wins invitational tournament

And the winners of the Third Annual Invitational Golf Tournament are ... Jeff Neher and Ryan Goude of Walla Walla, Wash.

In the two-man best ball competition played this past weekend at Alpine Meadows, the first flight two-some edged out another Washington team, Greg Corn and Mark Grigg, by four strokes for a low gross two-day score of 134, which included three eagles.

Second Low Gross went to George Martinez and Ramon Montoya, another team from the city they liked

tee time

Rochelle Danielson

so well they named it twice. Together they scored a two-day total of 141.

The Corn and Grigg team still came out smelling like a rose in taking first low net with a score of 131. Second low net honors went to Eric Kimball and John Biagi, both Washingtonians, with a score of 138.

Second flight first low gross winnings went to Dan Cornett of Joseph and Howard Talbott of La Grande, with a 159. Second low gross to Dean Duquette and brother, John Duquette, both of Enterprise, 162.

First low net winners were Adam Ward and Mike Harshfield with 137. Second low net went to Jerry Hook and Dick Anderson, 140.

All these low-netters represent AMGC and Wallowa County.

KP Winners (closest to the pin from the tee): Saturday — Greg Corn, known as “The Legion” in Alpine

Meadows circles, holes 1/10, and Dan Cornett, holes 4/13. Sunday — Dean Duquette, holes 1/10 and Jerry Hook, holes 4/13.

In the closest to the pin on No. 8 with second shot contest, Saturday, Brad Stephens zeroed in within two-feet six-inches Saturday from the cup and Sunday, Ramon Montoya hit the green three-feet 10-inches to the cup.

Kudo’s go to Greg Oveson and the greens crew for a groomed course at its finest.

“This year we had sixteen teams. We’d like to have a bigger turnout,

but I think it will grow in numbers as word gets out about what a competitive and fun tournament it is,” said Bill Ables, tournament chairman.

Ables extends thanks to all who helped make the Invitational a success, including score-keepers Judy Ables, Rochelle Danielson and Terry Lamb, and to the gals in the clubhouse, manager Sherrie Currie, who also played in tourney, and employees Lori Shane and Diann Isley.

Rochelle Danielson writes a golf column throughout the summer.

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