

SHOOTING THE BREEZE

Campfire quarrels

Ah, hunting season. For those flicking sticks, it's already upon us, and for the punkin' chunkers, we have just a little bit longer yet to wait. The smell of wood smoke and sizzling bacon is even more tantalizing in the great outdoors. Hunting season is our time to refill the freezer, but it can be great for many other reasons.

For myself, it's a great time to catch up with extended family and friends. We discuss important things around the campfire like the best way to prepare bass, how to properly fall trees and try to solve all the world's problems just to get the ball rolling. There is plenty of that substance that Mrs. Truman tried so desperately to get Harry to call "fertilizer" being spread around both day and night. Politics and religion get more than a casual once over, but they, like Al Pacino, are only getting it warmed up.

The real fist fights don't get started until we get down to brass tacks, Ford versus Chevrolet and Winchester versus Remington. Ladies it may disconcert you to know we don't sit around arguing over who has the prettiest wife when we are wrestling over who



Dale Valade

has the best gun. It's sophomoric at best, but we all do it sometimes. Maybe it's the geographical concentration of testosterone or the five o'clock shadows giving our self-formed opinions Samson-esque confidence. But I would bet you pesos to pemmican, if you come into hunting camp and go to insulting a man's favorite musket, there will always be hell to pay.

It always starts subtly, a small, matter of fact statement, resounding much like ringing the bell at an organized prize fight. It could range from "all you need is a .270" to "anything smaller than a .338 is a BB gun." All muster together in a ring around the campfire, and the free for all begins. All prejudices are exposed, the old cursing the ignorance of the young, while the young curse the "failing" vision of the old. Numbers true and false are spewed forth like genuine vitriol. When facts fail to convert, then come the insults of intelligence. These range from educated to infantile and everything in between.

Whoever is lucky enough to bag the first or the biggest game animal is unofficially awarded bragging rights. "Yep," they say, "if the rest of you fellas shot a .30-06 like me, this could be you taking home this huge trophy. But since you only shoot a 6.5 Creedmoor et. al., I guess it's only tag soup for you yet again." This of course goes on and on throughout the season and can even carry on for years for those with thick enough skin to take the chiding and yet come back for more. It's all in good fun, you see, but if everyone shot the same gun, wore the same clothes and drove the same truck, well that would just be boring. Without a decent black-eyed berating, I just couldn't see having near as much fun in hunting camp. In hunting camp, insults are a sign of devotion, and sarcasm supplants the hug.

Maybe we will see you in hunting camp. If you can hack it, maybe you can come back next year!

What are your favorite hunting camp rivalries? Write in at shootingthebreezebme@gmail.com!

Dale Valade is a local country gent with a deep love for handloading, hunting and shooting.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, SEPT. 19

Ukiah/Long Creek soccer @ Nyssa, 5 p.m. (MT)
Grant Union volleyball @ Heppner, 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 20

Prairie City volleyball @ Harper, noon (MT)
Grant Union cross country @ The Footrace to Valhalla in Umatilla, 1 p.m.
Dayville/Monument volleyball vs. Ukiah/Long Creek JV in Dayville, 5:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 21

Prairie City volleyball @ Sherman/1:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran/3 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran in Bend
Grant Union football @ Lost River at Summit High School in Bend, 5 p.m.
Dayville/Monument volleyball @ Central Christian, Camas Valley, 2:30 p.m., Central Christian, 4 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 24

Dayville/Monument vs. Grant Union JV in Monument, 5 p.m.

2019 FOOTBALL CONTEST

WEEK 2 OF 13

- IT'S EASY
- IT'S FREE
- IT'S FUN!



Winners each week receive a \$25 cash prize and \$25 gift certificate to one of the sponsors on this page.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Lindsay Bullock slides into the end zone with 15 correct picks! Larry Powell was there also with 15 but Lindsay won with a perfect point spread. Be sure to put a tie breaker on game 15!

We are the guys that want you to have Fun!

John Day

POLARIS

Sales & Service

541-575-0828

1. Prairie City/Burnt River vs Harper

SNAPPLE BIT DINNER HOUSE

Thank you for choosing us!
Reservations Recommended

830 S. Canyon Blvd.,
John Day
541-575-2426

4. Oregon vs Stanford

The Ugly Truth

14. Raiders vs Vikings

Broasted Chicken, Pizza & Burgers

Bar & Grill

145 E. Main St., John Day
541-575-1310

LEN'S DRUG

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www.lensdrug.com

JOHN DAY LES SCHWAB TIRE CENTER

551 W Main St., John Day, OR.
(541) 575-1346

15. Saints vs Seahawks

11. Bengals vs Bills

ACE The helpful place.

Hardware

652 W. Main, John Day
541-575-0549

JAVA JUNGLE
and Tropical Tan

100 Minute Tanning \$22.00 (Mention this ad)

3. Boise State vs Air Force
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Grant County Automotive

For all your automotive needs!
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Automotive & ATV:
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8. Nebraska vs Illinois
200 E. Main St., John Day

6. Washington vs BYU

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John Day Polaris
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NAPA AUTO PARTS

10. Notre Dame vs Georgia
Quality Parts, Service & People

721 W Main St., John Day
541-575-1850

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Name _____
Phone _____

Game	Advertiser	Winner
No. 1		
No. 2		
No. 3		
No. 4		
No. 5		
No. 6		
No. 7		
No. 8		
No. 9		
No. 10		
No. 11		
No. 12		
No. 13		
No. 14		
No. 15		
Tie Breaker		Score

RULES:

1. Displayed in this advertisement are 20 sports-minded businesses. In 15 of these ads you'll find listed an important game scheduled for this weekend.
2. Each game is numbered. Clip the original blank entry and write, in numerical order, the advertiser's name and the team you think will win the game listed in the ad.
3. Game No. 15 will be the tiebreaker every week. Simply write in what you think the final score will be for each team. When the tiebreaker is necessary to determine a winner, the closest point spread will be the deciding factor.
4. Only one entry per person permitted - but all members of the family may enter provided they use the blank entry. Must be 10 years old to enter. Entries must be brought to the Blue Mountain Eagle in John Day, no later than 5 p.m. FRIDAY. Or you can mail your entry to: Football Editor, 195 N. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR, 97845 but make sure it is postmarked no later than Friday and received by the Blue Mountain Eagle by noon Monday. OR you can fax your original entry to (541) 575-1244, Attn: Football Editor.
5. Employees of the Blue Mountain Eagle or members of their immediate families are not eligible for prize money.
6. Winners will be announced in the Wednesday paper following the games. \$50 in cash and prizes will be awarded to the winner. In case of a tie, the prize will be split. Contest ends in 13 weeks.

Blue Mountain EAGLE

2. Grant Union vs Lost River
195 N. Canyon Blvd. • John Day
541-575-0710 • Fax 541-575-1244
advertising@bluemountaineagle.com
www.MyEagleNews.com

DOUG'S
MOTOR VEHICLE REPAIR

• Honesty
• Integrity • Quality

5. UCLA vs Washington State
130 S Canyon Blvd., John Day
541-575-0544

13. Jets vs Patriots

Bare Bones

Largest Selection of tobacco and flavored beverages in Grant County

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671 W. Main, John Day

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Complete Auto Body & Paint

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FREE INSURANCE ESTIMATES • FREE LOANER CAR
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Ferguson Surveying Engineering

9. Miami vs Ohio State

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E-mail: dfse@ortelco.net

JOHN DAY HARDWARE

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161 E Main St., John Day CCB#222044

Mobile Glass

ccb#175517

- Windows
- Screens
- Glass, Plexiglass & Mirrors-Doors
- Auto Glass Replacement & Repair

7. Oklahoma State vs Texas
27825 Wilderness Lane • 541-575-1055

Mills Building Supply & Sporting Goods

- Hardware
- Lumber
- Danner Boots

12. Lions vs Eagles
751 W. Main • John Day • 541-575-1021