

SPORTS

SPORTS FOR THE WEEK

Friday, April 21—Central Point Hi vs. Myrtle Creek High on local field at 3:00 P.M.
 Sunday, April 23—Central Point Studs vs. S.O.C.E. on local field at 2:30 p.m.
 Sunday, April 23—Central Point Millers at Prospect.

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

Central Point Hi 0—Grants Pass 13
 Central Point Hi 5—Kerby 8
 S.O.C.E. 3—Chico State 5
 S.O.C.E. 6—Chico State 9
 Millers 5—Butte Falls 18
 Studs 2—Rogue River 0

POINTERS LOSE HOME OPENER

The Central Point High school baseball nine lost to Illinois Valley High (Kerby) by a score of 8 to 5, Friday afternoon. It would be more appropriate to say the Pointers were "out muddled". The game was played on a water soaked field, making the footing of the players very uncertain.

John Bigham started on the mound for the high school and allowed one run in the first inning on one walk and three hits. In the second he was relieved by Hedgpeth, after Kerby had scored one more run. In the third Kerby got to Hedgpeth for three runs and Coach Mellbye put in Herb Trautman, who went the rest of the way.

POINTERS TO PLAY FRIDAY—

Central Point High baseball nine faces the Myrtle Creek high on the local field this Friday at 3:00 p.m. Coach Clarence Mellbye announced today that he will start either Herb Trautman, Don Johnson or Hedgpeth on the mound. Merle Anhorn will handle the catching duties. Other probable starters will be John Bigham, 1st base; Les Finley, 2nd base; Herb Trautman, short stop; Meadows, 3rd base; with Barkley, Hedgpeth and Rupp in the outfield.

MILERS LOSE TO BUTTE FALLS

In an early season game played at Butte Falls, the Central Point Millers lost to Butte Falls 18 to 5. Dick Kidwell was on the mound for the Millers.

The Millers were not fully organized and lacked some of their players for the game, but will be able to make a better showing as the season progresses.

STUDS NOSE OUT

ROGUE RIVER 2-0

Sunday, in a pre-season warmup game, Central Point won 2 to 0 over Rogue River. Shortstop Dint Cox lead the hitting with two singles. Clarence Mellbye and Cliff Piland shared the mound duties for Central Point. Mellbye allowed one hit and struck out 13 men in five innings. Piland entered in the sixth and allowed two hits and struck out seven men. Hal Adams handled the catching duties and looked very sharp for so early in the season.

Alex McDonald and Frank Roelandt were not able to appear at their high school team played two games this past week end in Corvallis and they were not able to return in time for the game.

Box score:

	R	H	E
Rogue River	0	3	0
Central Point	2	3	2

Rogue River Rumble

By DON HARGER

"It is high time that sports and recreation loving Americans rally their forces and protect a little of what we have left of the great untrammeled out-of-doors."

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(Editor's note: The following article was published by request and the opinions and assertions contained therein are the private ones of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views of this newspaper.)

Under the tricky and evil guise of much needed power, flood control and irrigation the long blood-sucking tentacles of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation are reaching out to entwine themselves around the Rogue River.

Not far above the small and picturesque town of Trail in the upper reaches of the Rogue Basin, the Bureau has proposed the Lewis Creek dam. This proposed 242-foot monstrosity is, as figures will show, entirely unwarranted at this writing. A lot of folks are not aware that the Lewis Creek dam is only the beginning of the end for the world famous Rogue. The Rogue Basin Project Plan "A" of the Reclamation Bureau calls for 13 dams on the Rogue or its tributaries. Pigeon-holed, but not in the least

LOCAL TEAM HERE SUNDAY—

The Central Point Studs face Southern Oregon College this Sunday on the local field at 2:30 P.M. Hoosier Hoffard will start either Clarence Mellbye or Cliff Piland with Paul McCoy, a newcomer, in reserve.

Coach Ted Ssholt of SOCE probably will start Ronnie Pinkham, former local High School pitcher. Pinkham has not allowed a run in the games that he has been on the mound this season.

Central Point will have the services of McDonald, Lucich and Roelandt this Sunday. Last week due to other commitments they were not able to play. This trio will add considerable batting punch to the local team.

MR. BASEBALL OF SOUTHERN OREGON

To the old fans of the Rogue River Valley the name, Hoosier Hoffard, has been a symbol of baseball for many years; but to the many new fans who have come into this valley the past few years, they would probably be interested to know more of Hoosier Hoffard.

When Bill Hulen was sport editor of the Medford Mail Tribune, he often referred to Hoosier as Mr. Baseball of Southern Oregon due to Hoosier's long service as a player and manager with a record which has long endured. Hoosier was imported into the valley over twenty years ago to play baseball. From the very beginning he rocked the fences with hard drives and broke up many a ball game with a home run. As the years rolled along, many fans and baseball officials would say this is Hoosier's last year but he always bounced back with a higher batting average and more long hits.

As the years progressed, he became a manager. He managed the Medford Craters for several years and in 1930 he managed the Eagle Point semi-pro ball club, winning the Southern Oregon Baseball League championship and going on to win the State of Oregon Championship.

Hoosier started his varied career in Portland, playing semi-pro ball and one year was with the Portland Beavers. Later he was farmed to the Idaho League where he played prior to coming to the Rogue River Valley.

The past three years Hoosier has managed the Central Point team and in this period he managed to bring a Southern Oregon League pennant to Central Point and the past year was runner up to the champion in this league. Like Connie Mack, he feels he can win at least one more pennant and with any breaks, this will be the year. Hoffard has done a wonderful job so far in lining up new ball players for the Central Point team this year that will give Central Point one of the best teams in the league if not the best. Around the League, Hoffard is one of the most popular managers. It is very common to hear the fans in other towns calling hello to Hoosier as he comes out on the playing fields. The Central Point fans should be proud of Hoosier and give him their support for the coming season.

Planned River Destruction—

Indications are that the Bureau will, probably sometime in April, ask Congress for an appropriation of \$60,000,000 for the Lewis Creek project. Sixty-million, mind you, at a time when the country is so far in debt, due to the largest and wildest spending spree in history, that it will in all likelihood never get out—not in our time, at least.

Authorities have estimated that the project would decrease the present income from sports fisheries by \$309,000 per annum which would capitalize at 3 per cent at \$26,966,000. This figure can be added as an additional charge to the estimated project costs. And we must not overlook the fact that the Reclamation Bureau has never yet come close to estimating the actual cost of any project.

The damage to the aesthetic value of the Rogue River Basin can never be figured in dollars and cents. It would be irreparable. Where the recreational and aesthetic value lost outweighs the dubious benefits many times over such a project should be tossed in the ash can.

For years Oregonians have considered the Rogue River as their own. They always welcomed visitors from the far corners of the earth who made early pilgrimages to the Rogue to pay homage to its mighty spring chinook salmon and its dashing silvery steelhead. They have always been proud of the fact that the Rogue River between Grants Pass and the sea still remains one of the wildest regions in the U. S.

A swelling army of Oregonians now realize that the Rogue is not theirs alone but that it belongs to every red blooded American in the country, and even to others far beyond the confines of the U.S. Being everyone's river, it is everyone's fight to preserve it in its present state of nearly unspoiled beauty.

There is no present need for additional power, irrigation or flood control. Taking the three main reasons (not in order) for proposed project, let's take just a quick look at the flood control end of the project. The Bureau claims benefits of \$3,563,800 (or more) for the project. The tax-payer is assessed this amount directly for that purpose. Many of the Rogue Basin people feel that this figure is too high and the benefits doubtful. At a hearing in June, 1948, one Roy Lathrop of Grants Pass testified that on project maps of areas flooded in 1927, 220 acres of his land were supposedly under water while in fact only 30 acres were flooded and he could easily wade all of that. Others gave testimony in like manner. Some land owners testified that the flood-damage appraisers were reluctant to accept reports of little or no damage. The Bureau itself admits that the project offers only partial protection on flood-control. It appears to be evident that there is no urgent need for a flood control project. By lulling the Basin residents into a sense of false security some of them would probably build in lower areas and closer to the river and then be flooded under conditions now considered normal. This, of course, would bring a yowl for more dams for further flood control.

The Irrigation Farce—
 Let's take a look at the supposed need for irrigation. The project will, supposedly, water 73,540 acres of new land and give additional water to 40,300 acres now under irrigation but which need additional water during some years. The 73,540 acres of new land would mean about 1,000 new farms. Farms on which to grow more pears that are already a burden on the tax-payer. The government, of course, would subsidize the additional crops which would be another squeeze on the already deflated pockets of the tax-payer. Where would the pears go? Well, they could be stacked in piles along with the spuds or they could be hidden in caves along with the eggs. And—brother, there are a helluva lot of caves in this country to fill.

What about power? Many of the Rogue Basin people have been lulled into a trance by the promise of cheaper power. This is another one of the Bureau's many disguises. The cost of the power at the plant outlet would be about 4.2 mills per kwh compared with the present cost of 3 mills per kwh for private power already in use. Instead of cheaper power the cost would be approximately 43 per cent higher. Too, the private power company is the highest tax-payer in Jackson county whereas the government would pay no local taxes.

In a report of the Reclamation Bureau of March 5, 1943, they admit, "—the present production of power in the Basin exceeds the demand there—". Since 1943 COP CO has put in one other power

plant and plans for additional plants will double the present output of power in the area. Large government projects already authorized for the Northwest would take care of the regional power needs for some time to come.

Same Old Sucker Bait—

Power, Irrigation and Flood-Control are nothing more than a string of red-herring being dragged ahead of the noses of a few gullible persons who can't see beyond their noses anyway.

No one seems to consider the hundreds of citizens who make their livelihood from tourist camps along the river; the guides who have invested their savings in boats and gear to run sportsmen down the wild waters of the Rogue; the resort and boat landing operators on the lower river; the service station man who relies on tourist trade for a living; the many small sporting

goods operators along the way who benefit from the wonderful angling that has made the Rogue a fisherman's paradise.

What happens to all of these people when 50 per cent of the anadromous fish runs are cut off and the fishing pressure increases to such magnitude that the 50 per cent loss will eventually grow into a total loss. Those unfortunates will have to dispose of their property at a loss and go elsewhere to start all over again.

It is high time that sports and recreation loving Americans rally their forces and protect a little of what we have left of the great untrammeled out-of-doors.

Too many sportsmen around the country have been willing to let "Joe" do it. The job has suddenly become too big for "Joe" and he is getting tired. The results of his tiredness are becoming more evi-

dent with each passing year. "Joe" now needs all of the assistance that he can get or he'll find himself shoved clear out in the cold.

Unfortunately, even Oregon's present governor seems to be more interested in the good of some of the people in the Rogue River valley than he is in the good of all of the people of the entire State of Oregon.

The Rogue River faces absolute ruin as a recreational sanctuary and as a valuable sports fishery unless the American people fight with tooth and toe-nail to save it. Damn it! It's time we awakened and quit accepting a "bottom of the deck" deal.

Mrs. Don Patterson and Judith and Donnie, and Mrs. Bert Caster and Todd spent the afternoon of April 14 at the Star Ranger Station on the Applegate, helping David Webb celebrate his 5th birthday.

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