

Early Birders Set Records In Christmas Bird Count

On the first day of Christmas, dedicated bird watchers rise at dawn to seek—not a partridge in a pear tree but perhaps a red-eyed vireo.

On the first day of New Year, red-eyed bird watchers rouse themselves from dreams to see, perchance, the blue-faced booby.

The birders, 15,000 strong, get up with the lark and 700 other species to take part in the National Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count throughout the United States and Canada.

Conducted from Dec. 25 to Jan. 2, the census indicates bird population trends and migration patterns. But the counters enjoy it primarily as sport—a mammoth tournament of bird spotting.

Surplus of Starlings

The volunteers are divided into teams; each takes a circular area 15 miles across and records all the birds that can be seen in it between dawn and dusk.

One year Washington, D. C., counters reported 200,000 starlings in a noisy, messy congregation downtown and a lone robin loon over the Potomac River.

Counters endure all manner of hardships. Members of the birding team at Cape Kennedy, Florida, strap aluminum snake guards on their legs and wade through mosquito-infested swamps to break their record for the most species—200—seen in one day.

A Connecticut birder picked his way across a slippery log anchored three inches below the surface of a frigid stream. He was rewarded with the sight of a pine grosbeak—and wet feet.

In Alaska, deep in the Canadian north, two bird watchers spent five hours in 10-below-zero weather and saw just two species—the willow ptarmigan and the common raven. Nevertheless, they said.

Placid or Dangerous

In the National Geographic Society's book, "Song and Garden Birds of North America," the noted ornithologist Roger Tory Peterson describes the many species of bird watchers:

"Birding can be a placid occupation for maiden aunts, a rough-and-tumble sport, or a hair-raising adventure. One of my more sedentary friends describes himself as the 'white-breaded nutcracker type of a bird watcher. On the other hand, consider the late Robert Porter Allen. Tough as nails, Bob pursued whooping chanes through almost impassable muskeg to their Alberta nesting grounds. When he returned to civilization, he had the look of a man who had visited hell."

Ornithologists have fallen from cliffs and trees. They have broken arms, legs, and ribs. They have been chased by tribesmen, robbed by bandits, charmed by bulls. A leading British bird photographer lost

Winners At Drawing Here



TERRY TOLL, a Webelos Scout and Janice Sherman did the drawing Saturday night at Col's Arco Station. Winning a new stereo from Gonty's and given by Comrie Olds-Cadillac was Mrs. Clyde Nutting. Gerald Bergstrom won a lube job, and Mary Lou Schlichting won a wash job, given by Cal's. There were 156 entries in the contest. Glenn Walker of the Comrie firm stated it was the finest promotion they ever had.

an eye to a tawny owl he was documenting.

Mr. Peterson himself and four colleagues once were sitting in a car parked on a roadside at 3 a.m. A flashlight suddenly blazed upon the five, and a state trooper growled, "What do you guys think you're doing?"

Silence. Then Mr. Peterson explained, "We're listening for whip-poor-wills." The men were promptly hustled off and held for several hours until they could tell it to a justice of the peace.

He laughed and let them go.

Pictures of Israel To Be Shown Sunday

Part III of the Bible Lands Tour series will be shown this Sunday at 4 o'clock at the lone United Church of Christ. There will be pictures of Israel, both town and country shots. The pictures are those taken by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Martin. During their 5-day stay in Israel they toured extensively from the Sea of Galilee, Capernaum and as far south as Beersheba. They stayed at Jerusalem and traveled out of there each day.

The 4th and final showing of the series will be at St. William's Church on Jan. 30, at 4 p.m.

There was a large group at the showing last Sunday at Willow Creek Grange. The history of Greece and the mid-east is interwoven in their history as well as today. This made the pictures particularly interesting.

Need spare cash? Advertise unused items on the classified page of The Gazette-Times.

Mustangs Drop Opening Games

By BOB FLOYHAR

Heppner opened league play with a bad start last weekend with a 77-63 loss to Condon and an 82-77 loss to Umatilla.

A host of Heppner turn overs in the first quarter gave Condon a 27-15 lead that they managed to maintain the remainder of the game. At the half the Blue Devils had stretched their lead to 42-27. The Mustangs threatened to come back several times in the second half, but Condon refused to give. Mark Phillips of Condon took scoring honors with 19 counters followed by Heppner's Gary Watkins with 18. Craig Munkers, Mustang center, dumped in 13 points and grabbed 13 rebounds. As a team the Heppner hoopers put the ball up 63 times and made 25 of them for a .395 shooting percentage.

Umatilla

In the Saturday night game Gary Watkins hit for 28 points, but Heppner was unable to sneak by the tall Umatilla team. It was close all the way with the lead constantly changing hands until the final buzzer with Umatilla leading 82-77. Craig Munkers got on the boards for 17 rebounds in the contest.

Heppner	15	12	15	21	—63
Condon	27	15	12	23	—77

Heppner	24	19	17	17	—77
Umatilla	24	21	17	20	—82

HOSPITAL NEWS

Pioneer Memorial Hospital reports that two patients were dismissed this week: Katrina Johnston and Patricia Toll, both Heppner.

Phone Rates Up In January

Pacific Northwest Bell placed new telephone rates into effect Jan. 14 in a filing with the Oregon Public Utility Commissioner in Salem.

The general rate increases applied to residence and business exchange services, service connection and move and change charges, and operator-handled long distance calling, were approved by the Oregon Public Utility Commissioner. He issued an order Dec. 31 allowing the increases.

In Heppner, according to PNB Manager Dale Slusher, the new monthly rates for basic exchange services and the increases (in parentheses) are as follows:

Business: one party, \$11.00 (\$3.00); two party, \$7.90 (\$1.65); PBX trunks \$16.50 (\$4.50); suburban, \$6.35 (\$1.80); farmer line, \$2.60 (\$.70).

Residence: one party, \$5.95 (\$1.05); two party, \$4.65 (\$.80); farmer line, \$1.60 (\$.30).

"Bill inserts notifying all customers of the changes will be sent in the mail," Slusher said. "Anyone with questions is encouraged to call our business office and we'll try to help them. The complete rates, as always, are on file at each office and available to the public."

Among other changes included in the new rates are:

Increases in service connection, and move and change charges of from \$10 to \$15 for residential service and from \$18.50 to \$30 for business.

A charge of \$10 for customer-initiated number changes. Changes in initial and extra minute rates on station-to-station and person long distance calls that require operator assistance. There are no increases in Direct Distance Dialed calls.

Maurice L. Reaney Dies

A graduate of Lexington High School in the class of 1931, Maurice L. Reaney, died on Jan. 15 in Portland. He was born April 23, 1911, at Lexington. Mrs. L. E. Ruhl, a high school classmate, says that he returned quite regularly through the years on Decoration Day.

His family farmed part of the land now farmed by Pat Cutsforth.

Maurice is survived by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Reaney, his wife Ellen, daughter, Penny Leader, son Larry, and 3 grandsons, along with his three sisters, Gladys Johnson, Joyce Woolf, Jean Hobson and his two brothers John and Robert Reaney.

He is being buried in the Park Hill cemetery at Vancouver, Wn.

CLASS ENVELOPES in a variety of sizes from 6 1/2 x 9 1/2 to 12 x 15 1/2 on sale at The Gazette-Times, Ph. 676-9228.

1st National Reports Deposits Down . . . Loans Up

The Heppner branch of the First National Bank reported deposits of \$7,268,356 and loans of \$6,142,790 as of Dec. 31. Comparable totals for the branch a year ago were \$7,545,249 in deposits and \$5,567,601 in loans.

First National Bank of Oregon's performance for the year 1971 reflected a sharp increase in deposits and modest increases in earnings and loans, President Ralph J. Voss reported.

Income before securities transactions and after taxes totaled \$14,344,524 for the year, or \$2.70 per share, Voss said. This compared with \$14,135,367, or \$2.66 per share for 1970.

"While the increase is a modest \$209,157, or 1.5 per cent, it produced the ninth successive new high in earnings and was achieved during a year of rapidly changing money market rates in which average interest rates on loans, our principal source of income, declined more than average rates paid on deposits," Voss explained.

Total Deposits

Total deposits at year-end were at a historic high of \$1,915,348,069 compared with \$1,713,931,144 on Dec. 31, 1970, an increase of \$201,416,925, or 11.8 per cent. Demand deposits showed particular strength in the second half, reflecting the effect of an improving economy

notably assisted by firm prices in the lumber and plywood industries.

Total loans at year-end were \$1,140,879,755, up \$74,939,387, or 7 per cent from the \$1,065,940,368 reported on the same date a year ago. Consistent with the national trend, loan growth was slow during 1971, with commercial loan demand below the levels of the last two years.

Mortgage Lender

However, real estate proved to be a bright spot the past year with First National expanding its role as Oregon's leading private mortgage lender, making a total of \$100,229,062 in new loans for the year. The bank's real estate loan portfolio totaled \$320,996,687 at year-end.

On Sept. 30 First National became the first \$2 billion bank in the state with resources of \$2,636,895,822. By year-end the figure had swelled to \$2,153,968,728.

Mrs. Victor Johnson Dies in Portland

Mrs. Victor Johnson died Jan. 13 at Portland. Services were held on Jan. 17 and were attended by Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Hudson, Heppner and Mrs. George Perkins, Pendleton, from this area Mrs. Johnson was the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. James Wilkins who served as pastor at the Heppner Methodist Church in 1940. She graduated from Heppner High School in 1941.

She is survived by her husband of Portland, 3 sons, 1 daughter, four grandchildren, and 3 brothers and 1 sister.

Store-wide Savings Sale

LAST THREE DAYS!

\$46.95

ON TARGET

Coast to Coast .22 caliber carbine by Marlin. 18" barrel, 74shot clip. With scope. (603-7402)

Coast to Coast automatic by Marlin. .22 caliber long rifle with 19 shot tubular magazine. 22" barrel. With scope. (603-7519)

Without scope \$41.95

\$1.99

6-FT.

BOOSTER CABLE SET

Copper clad aluminum wire. Two cables. 8-ft. (AJ0500-2) \$3.99

8 gauge copper, 12' long, tangle-proof construction. (AJ0500C6) \$3.99

6 gauge copper, 12' long, tangle-proof construction. (AJ0502-0) \$6.99

\$6.44

PREMIUM QUALITY

Popular Bernz-O-Matic torch kit has pencil burner and cylinder. (HA1892A9)

Bernz-O-Matic replacement fuel cylinder. (HA1898-5) .94

\$5.27

LATEX PAINT

Interior flat wall paint dries to touch in 30 minutes; Soap and water clean-up; withstands repeated washings. 15 colors and white. Over 1000 custom colors available at slightly higher prices. (GC2600 Series)

\$2.88

1-DAY ANTIQUING KIT

Complete the entire job in one day. Only 2 steps for a beautiful antique finish. No need to remove the old finish. Available in 8 authentic durable finishes or in 6 natural woodgrain finishes. A finish to fit any room or style of furniture you may have. (GM0371-2 thru GM0386-5)

\$6.97

100% ACRYLIC

Latex semi-gloss offers all the advantages of conventional enamels plus ease of application, fast drying of latex paint. Withstands repeated scrubbing. Custom colors slightly higher. (GC2100 Series)

\$1.37

HOUSEHOLD BULB PAK

Be ready with a quick replacement when a bulb burns out in your home. Compact package contains 8 Westinghouse bulbs in popular sizes: 2 60W, 2 75W, 4 100W. (EY0048-5)

.66

UTILITY PAN

Heavy gauge galvanized steel to resist corrosion from weather elements and hard usage. 16" diameter, 4 1/2" deep. Handy for draining and changing oil. (LW0074-9)

\$19.95

"CORELLE" LIVINGWARE BY CORNING

20-pc. set consists of 4 each: large and medium plates, large bowl, cups and saucers. 4 patterns: Winter Frost, Spring Blossom Green, Snowflake Blue or Butterfly Gold. Open stock available on all patterns. (WH1000-7, WH1012-3, WH1020-3, WH1025-7)

Pre-Inventory and Damaged Furniture Sale

TERRIFIC BARGAINS UP TO 70% OFF

On End Tables, Book Cases, Record Cabinets, and Chests. Damaged articles are mostly scratches from flying glass.

COUCHES

GREEN PLAID VECTRA COUCH	WAS \$239.00	NOW \$125.00
BROWN NYLON COUCH	150.00	80.00
AVOCADO COUCH	299.95	159.95
NAUGAHYDE SLEEPER	259.95	150.00
BILTWELL COUCH	329.00	175.00
QUEEN SIZE SLEEPER	349.95	249.95

LARGE SELECTION of End Tables and Cocktail Tables — Newly Arrived. All are 33 1/3% Off Ranging from \$8.95 to \$129.95 Less 1/3

Many Other Articles At Low Prices -- Lamps, Bedroom Pieces, Chairs and Recliners

Sale Begins Jan. 20 and Ends Jan. 22

Case Furniture Co.

Ph. 676-9432 Heppner