

Rivers may be closed to salmon fishing

A public hearing to consider two items of major importance to Oregon sportsmen is scheduled for 10 a.m., Friday, March 21, by the Wildlife Commission at its main office in Portland.

Testimony will be accepted concerning a proposal to close the Columbia River, Deschutes River, Snake River and its tributaries to chinook salmon angling, and 1975 antelope season regulations.

The proposed salmon closure would extend from April 1 through July 31 of this year to protect salmon destined for the upper Columbia River and Snake River systems. During that same period steel head angling would be closed in the Columbia River.

The Oregon Fish Commission and the Washington Department of Fisheries plan no commercial main river season during this period and fishery agencies in Washington and Idaho plan closure of the recreational fishery to protect these fish.

The closure has been proposed because of greatly reduced returns of adult fish anticipated during the current season.

Studies by the National Marine Fisheries Service found that few young salmon and steelhead downstream migrants in 1972 and 1973 survived the 430-mile journey past seven intervening Snake and Columbia River dams to reach the ocean.

As Columbia and Snake River salmon and steelhead anglers are well aware, the 1974 runs were a disaster. This year's salmon run will probably be worse and the steelhead run only slightly better than last year.

Of about 5 million salmon smolts which left the Snake River system for the downstream journey to the sea, only 15 per cent survived the trip in 1972 and 5 per cent in 1973. Steelhead survival followed a similar pattern.

On top of this mortality, a further heavy reduction in numbers can be expected due to the rigors of two to three

more years of exposure to the hazards of the ocean before the fish return as adults. The projected adult returns this year are fewer than 30,000 chinook and under 50,000 summer steelhead. A return of at least 72,000 spring and summer chinook and 80,000 summer steelhead are needed on the spawning grounds of the Snake River and its tributaries just to maintain these magnificent runs of fish.

Last year these goals were not met in spite of a restricted sport and commercial fishery. Since the runs will probably be even smaller this year, fisheries managers are agreed that the fish will need complete protection to insure the highest possible escapement to the upper river system.

The proposed closure would not prohibit salmon and steelhead angling in the Willamette River or steelhead angling in the Deschutes River.

The other item to be considered at the hearing will concern the pronghorn antelope season for this fall. An opening date of Aug. 16 was already set in January along with other major hunting season opening dates in order that people who wished to plan their vacations around a hunting trip could do so.

The other regulations to be set following the March 21 hearing include the length of the season and numbers of permits to be issued in 16 big game management units in southeastern Oregon. Other items that could be considered are permit application procedures, arms and ammunition, and other restrictions on hunting antelope.

Biologists will be conducting their annual aerial census of antelope populations as soon as all snow is gone. Patchy snow has delayed flights somewhat. The most obvious feature of an antelope from the air is its brilliant white rump patch. Spots of snow on the ground make spotting and counting the animals considerably more difficult.

Interested persons may present their data, views, or

arguments concerning either of these matters orally or in writing at the hearing. Written communications prior to the hearing should be addressed to the Oregon Wildlife Commission, P.O. Box 3503, Portland, 97208.

MCGG team wins league

The Morrow County Grain Growers basketball team has finished in first place in the Hermiston City League with a 15-0 record, and finished the season with an 18-2 record.

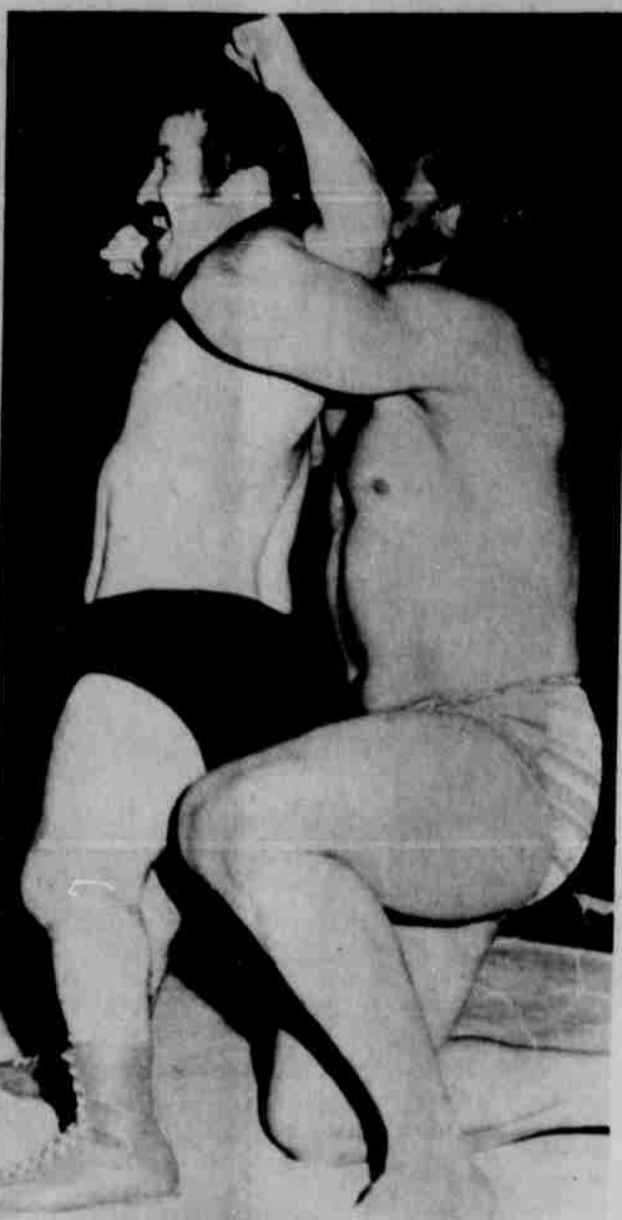
Sunday they played the Hansel Hogs, whom they had defeated previously, and who are currently in third place in the Hermiston City League. The Grain Growers and the Hansel Hogs played in an exhibition game Sunday at Lone for the John Ekstrom benefit.

The teams were tied at 38 each as the half ended. In the second half the MCGG couldn't hit from the outside nor could they stop Larry Raw, who played a fine game for the Hogs. The Hansel Hogs had defeated MCGG 89-74.

The MCGG team is composed of the following players: Marvin Padberg, Frank Halvorson, Lee Padberg, John McCabe, Gordon Meyers, Del LaRue, Ed Sherman, Jim Swanson and LaVerne Van-Marter.



"I take that to mean Alice got her raise."



WRESTLING FANS had a few laughs Monday night as the Portland wrestlers came to Heppner High School. Here Snuka, 275 pounds, gives Billy the Kid, 103-pound midget, a bad time. The events were sponsored by the Heppner Lions Club.

350 enjoy Monday wrestling event

An estimated 350 wrestling fans watched Portland wrestling Monday night at the high school gymnasium.

One of the preliminary bouts featuring two midgets, Cowboy Lang and his opponent, Billy the Kid, drew the applause of the younger set.

The two midgets also teamed up with the big men for the main event, making it a six-man tag team. Their horse-play during the hour-long main entertained the crowd with their fun-filled antics.

This was the second wrestling match in Heppner sponsored by the Heppner Lions Club. Judging from response of the crowd, arrangements will be made to have more of this type sporting events.

The proceeds received by the Lions Club will be used to sponsor the first annual 4-H and FFA show at the Morrow County Fairgrounds, April 19. To date, 4-H and FFA members from 10 counties have been invited to participate in the day-long event.

Granddaughter of Cecil founder buried here

Nora Cecil Rasmus, 84, who was buried in Heppner's Masonic Cemetery last Thursday, was the granddaughter of William Y. Cecil who founded the town of Cecil on north Willow Creek.

Nora was born at Cecil on June 30, 1890 and died in Pendleton on March 3. Memorial services were conducted in All Saints Episcopal Church by Rev. David Blackaller.

Nora's husband J. Orville Rasmus, died in 1956. He was also of pioneer parentage. Nora operated several ladies apparel shops along Heppner's Main Street. At first she located where the Turf Club stands now, then moved to the location of Lott's Electric. Her next shop was in the corner of the old red brick Fair Building, then in the big shop at its center. Finally, her business was located where Elma's is now located. Elma Harshman bought out Nora's business. The old Fair Building stood where the Arco Station is until it was demolished in 1967.

Nora's parents were Wilford Cecil and Elsie Zachary Cecil of Cecil. Her survivors include numerous nieces and nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews and great-grandnieces and great-grandnephews.

According to records in the county museum, the town of Cecil celebrated its centennial in 1967. Its founding was really by accident—a wagon-train accident. As William Y. Cecil and his wife Mary were traveling west in 1862, their wagon train encountered hostile Indians that drove off part of the train's cattle. After they left camp at Wells Springs the Cecil wagon broke down. He stopped at Willow Creek to make repairs. Other members of that same train needed his skill, and almost immediately following, trains began coming to him for repairs.

The Cecils decided to stay there beside Willow Creek, and with the help of the Zachary family they were able to get shelter built and to arrange for the winter of 1863. Their original settlement was where Cecil still stands.

Later, William Y. built the first store, and soon the government established the post office there. He became the first postmaster in the fast-growing, thriving community where he "proved up" his homestead.

William Y.'s son Wilford, Nora's father, took a homestead about three miles down the creek from his father and lived there for many years. That was Nora's birthplace.

Nora Rasmus was a lifelong resident of Morrow County. She was a member of Heppner's Sans Souci Rebeccan Lodge since 1933, a member of All Saints Church and of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Bill to allow children to harvest crops

Legislation was introduced in the U. S. Senate last week which would allow children under the age of 12 to participate in summer harvests.

The bill is sponsored by Sens. Mark Hatfield and Bob Packwood. It would amend a law passed last year through the efforts of organized labor which banned youngsters from picking bean, berry and other crops.

The proposed amendment would allow children under 12 to do summer field work provided they are permanent residents of a state and worked only in summer months with parental permission.

BUY...
Easter Seals
THROUGH THE MONTH OF MARCH

There's no place like the Real Oregon

...and no bank like the Real Oregon Bank

the oregon bank

PENDLETON BRANCH 151 S. Main
Earl Moroni, Vice-President & Manager

Third Annual Morrow County Showing

(Exclusive)

Friday and Saturday, March 14 - 15

Cal's Arco Station, Heppner



Cadillac



Cutlass Supreme



Ninety-eight Regency

★★★★

6 new cars on display

★★★★

Used Cars

- 74 Toronado
 - 73 Toronado
 - 74 Olds 88 Delta Royal
- (Lots of Extras)

FREE

\$55 Arctic Cat Coat will be given to some lucky looker!

Our sales staff



Jim Peterson



Glen Walker



Mac Chase



Norm DuBosch

COMRIE Olds-Cadillac-GMC

511 S.E. Court

Pendleton

276-1921