

Tupper YCC put their backs into work

Recent campers at Bull Prairie Recreation Area couldn't help but notice the two dozen denim and hard hat-clad teenagers working in small groups throughout the park—digging diversion ditches here, adding barrier posts there and scraping benches and picnic tables somewhere else.

They were members of the Youth Conservation Corps and for eight weeks this summer, "the enrollees," as they are known, are given a rare opportunity for a first-hand look at what it takes to keep Oregon's natural areas thriving.

With a home base at the Tupper Guard Station about 40 miles south of Heppner, the group and the accompanying seven-member supervisory staff gets involved in projects ranging from land management in the Kinzua forests to a session of improving trout and steelhead spawning beds in the Wilson Creek area. Each project is seen through to its completion and the YCC'ers are introduced to as many aspects of the procedure as possible.

"We emphasize integration of the whole process," says Claire Klock, YCC supervisor. "We'll follow what happens to a tree all the way from planting of the seedling to the finished board."

For example, this year's session on timber management included a discussion with Warren Plocharsky of the Forest Service on pre-commercial thinning techniques, a view of yarding operations and trips to both the Kinzua and Heppner mills.

Although the conservation education angles of the project

are definitely brought into play, the real emphases for the YCC is on the work detail.

Teaching people how to work is a big part of it," Klock says. "And we demand high standards in what the enrollees do."

At the beginning of the season, the enrollees undergo a field and works project orientation along with an intensive tool orientation. They have plenty of opportunities to apply their knowledge in the following eight weeks and the work performed by the YCC is certainly appreciated.

Chuck Ernst of the Heppner Forest Service Office said this year the YCC will complete \$35-40,000 in appraised work.

"It's work that needs to get done but probably wouldn't be completed without the YCC," said Ernst, who also serves as the YCC liaison to the Forest Service.

The appreciation goes both ways as Klock said the Heppner District has been very supportive of the YCC.

"They've given us a lot of projects so we can expose the kids to as many experiences as we can," Klock said.

The YCC program has been on the rise in recent years with the Tupper group in existence since 1974. Klock was a staff member and crew leader that year and he has seen the program grow each year. Last year there were about 15 camps located throughout the state and this year the program was expanded to include 20 more camps.

"We've been building on the

program and knocking the kinks out," Klock said. "The cooperation from the Forest Service is getting better each year."

For their eight weeks of services, the enrollees are paid \$400 and are provided with equipment, room and board. But, Klock says, it is stressed that they aren't at the camp to make money.

"They're given a pre-test and a post-test to evaluate the progress and hopefully they come away with a better understanding of conservation and the environment," Klock said.

The YCC staff is geared to provide a three-prong approach for the teenagers, consisting of 1) a meaningful work experience, 2) a coordinated environmental awareness program and 3) recreational and social activities.

As far as the third part goes, the group takes regular field trips to areas such as Hell's Canyon for camping, the John Day River for swimming or just a weekend of backpacking through the woods. Enrollees rotate on committee duty to plan meals for the weekly field trips and are given the chance to introduce their own ideas in the meal selection. Other members rotate on cooking, tenting and equipment loading crews.

The group members can also make a weekly visit to Heppner to use library and museum facilities or make new acquaintances. Klock said the community as a whole has been receptive to the campers and has been another element in this year's success of the Tupper YCC.



Working with the hands in constructing a pole fence starts in the forest with the cutting of the trees, then peeling of the poles and chiseling notches.

Conservation is an important aspect of the Youth Conservation Corps work at Tupper, like using a hoe to clean growth from drainage areas.



Stoop labor is a way of life for YCC workers. Reforestation projects, watching streams and aquatic life are all part of the environmental protection work and education.

Columbia LL'ers place 7th



Columbia Little Leaguers placed seventh at the District tourney recently at Culver. Pictured, front row, l to r, Chaney Ferguson, Brian Follett, Richard Baker, Andy Bjazevich, Jeff Curnie, Greg Wilder, Scott Pratt. Second row, Rolf Prag, Earl Connell, Pat Seifer and Mike Rothe. Third row, Mike Florence, Bobby Scaplehorn, Daniel Leighton, Trent Douglas, Shane Correa. Back row, Manager Keith Follett, Coach John Neace.

Columbia Little League scored a pair of runs in the fourth and fifth inning as they defeated Willow Creek Little League 4-1 Saturday for seventh place in the District Five Tournament which was held last week in Culver.

Andy Bjazevich and Greg Wilder socked a pair of hits for Columbia. Mike Rothe collected a double for Columbia and Bobby Scaplehorn also had a hit for the winners.

Wilder pitched a complete game in getting the mound win.

Columbia lost to The Dalles 2-1 in their opener.

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Mr. and Mrs. Bill Scrivner and son, Kennon of Spokane, Wash. were week-end visitors with Bill's mother, Mrs. Lee Scrivner and friends.

Kinzua news

• Barbara Pike • 768-2861

Don and Rose Hardwick have been enjoying a very full summer. The early part of July they had several relatives enjoying the hospitality of their Camp Five home. Rose's father, Frank Stoll, Baker; her sister, Dorothy Lott, also from Baker; Dr. and

Mrs. Kron and their daughter Sally of Phoenix, Ariz.; and the Hardwick's son, Don, were all present for the family get-together. Joining the group was Linda Vorres from Sheridan. This Thursday the Hardwicks will visit with Mr. Stoll and Jack and Dorothy Lott.

Mark Peterson, who has been visiting at the Raymond Reid home for the last several weeks, returned home to Hermiston on Thursday. Deena Reid took her nephew to Olex where they were met by

Mark's mother Shirley Peterson. Mark had planned to stay a while longer in Kinzua but a virus called for a change of plans. On Saturday, Raymond, Deena, Lana and Dana went to Pendleton on business. They stopped in Hermiston to visit Ray's father, Robert Reid. They also stopped by the Peterson home to check on Mark's health. I'm glad to say they found him feeling better.

Don and Bruce Pike rode their motorcycles to Nyssa on Saturday to spend the week-end with former Kinzua residents, Lance and Hollie Van Meter and son Clay. Lance is the Pike's son. Don and Bruce arrived home late Sunday evening, glad to escape the heat around the Nyssa area.

Cynthia and Elizabeth Overton, Bend, spent last week at Camp Five with their father Forrest Overton.

Over the tee cup

Kicking off golf action this week was a three-way ladies tournament at Kinzua in which 10 Heppner women participated along with Condon and Kinzua ladies.

Heppner ladies honored were Eddie Skow and Pat Edmundson for their first and second place finish in the one flight contest.

Charlie Rawlins led the field in the Sunday, July 31, men's play with a three over par 63. Dave McLeod took the low net

honors while Charlie Starks and Francis Doherty tied for least putts. Craig Cooley won the long drive contest while C.C. Carmichael won the KP award on the 3rd hole and

Frank Pearson won the same contest on the 13th hole.

In coming events, Willow Creek County Club will hold their annual Men's Medal

Tournament August 14. The event will be a 27-hole contest with an 8 a.m. tee off time.

Betty Lorengel is in Coos Bay staying with her daughter Yvonne and family. Betty was in the hospital in Portland for almost a week with a very painful attack of shingles. Betty will stay in Coos Bay until she is feeling better.

Rita Bowman and Beth Pemberton went to Portland Saturday to pick up Cindy Bowman, Patti Pemberton and Annette Williamson from basketball camp. The Bowman's niece Karen Revis, Eugene, returned home with the group. Karen will be staying at the Bowman home this week.

Betty and Hershel Murdock went to Bend Monday to keep a medical appointment for Hershel.

The campground at Holiday Park just outside of Mt. Vernon was the scene of a family camp out last weekend. The Bob Hire family and Dave Mattison family were joined by Sue and Bob's parents, Harvey and Kitty Spivey, and their brother Frank Spivey and his family from John Day. Saturday they were joined for dinner by Laurie Hires parents, Bud and Barbara Davis, Prairie City, and her brother

Tom Davis and family from Burns. Also with the family group was both of Laurie's grandmothers, Margarette Davis and Norma Long, both from Burns.

Dan and Sharon Bell and John, Prineville, were in Kinzua Sunday to visit her mother, Virginia Kelso.

The Hardwick timber crew and fallers enjoyed a bar-b-que lunch cooked by Bill Bohlender, SAIF representative from Pendleton. Following the lunch, Bohlender gave a short talk on working safely.

Hardwick Logging earned a safety and merit award at the end of May for seven years of working without a lost time accident. The lunch was part of Don Hardwick's continued efforts in safety awareness.

Sue Mattison was surprised to find herself the guest of honor at a birthday party and bar-b-que held at the home of Bob and Laurie Hire on July 26.

Among those gathered for the occasion were Harvey and Kitty Spivey, Baker, and Frank and Earlene Spivey and daughters Robin and Jodi, and the Hire's children Raymond and Kathi.