

Morrow Babe Ruth team ends season in third place

Morrow County's Babe Ruth baseball team ended regular season play last week on a sour note, losing 7-6 to Hermiston Auto Parts.

The local team ended the season in third place, with an 11-5 record, one game behind league champion Inland Empire. Tum-A-Lum of Hermiston was second in league standings.

During the farewell game of the 1978 season, Morrow County was ahead 6-4 going into the sixth inning. Auto Parts came back to tie the contest on runs during its final trip to the plate in the seventh.

Morrow County gave up six errors, two of which were costly—including a passed ball with bases loaded. Four of the Auto Parts team's seven runs were unearned.

The Morrow County squad matched Auto Parts' performance at the plate, slapping out seven hits, including two slams by John Bier that struck the outfield fence, just shy of home runs. Bier was 2 for 3, with 2 runs batted in.

Rick Cole was starting pitcher for Morrow County, with Dale Holland stepping to the mound in relief in later innings.

Had Morrow County won the contest, they would have attained a three-way tie for first place.

All things considered, the 1978 Morrow County season was "nothing to feel bad

about," said manager Jim Swanson. "The first year in the league, we were 3-13, then the next year 8-8. This year we were 11-5. We've shown that we're contenders."

Despite the loss of five players—including Cole and Bier—from the Morrow County roster next year, Swanson predicted returning veteran starters and incoming Little League talent will give the local team another shot at the league pennant. "Next year, we'll be hot," he said.

Swanson was named to manage the league's first-team Hermiston League National All Star squad, which will include four Morrow County standouts—Bier, Holland, Cole and John Murray. Practice was set to begin this week, with tournament action slated to begin in Lewiston, Idaho on July 8.

The main district tournament will take place July 12-16 in Pendleton, with winners to vie in a state tournament in Medford.

Heppner-Ukiah forest road to be paved

An 18-mile link of gravel road through the Umatilla National Forest between Heppner and Ukiah is scheduled to be improved and paved by the middle of August.

Work is already underway on a \$370,206 Forest Service contract let last Fall in cooperation with Kinzua Corporation and Morrow County for work on the 18.3 mile section of Western Route No. 53, according to Herb Rudolph, Umatilla National Forest Supervisor.

The road work project will extend from the end of Willow Creek County Road about one mile north of Cutsforth Park, over Coalmine Hill, to the end

of the existing pavement on the Western Route about eight miles west of U.S. 395. L.V. Anderson of Oakridge was awarded the construction contract.

John Bothwell, contracting officer's representative for the project, cautioned that at times, entire sections of the road will be closed to through travel. Detours will be provided where practical.

Correction

Maureen Healy's name was inadvertently omitted from a list of Heppner High Rodeo Club members who competed during the state championship rodeo in Redmond.

Skyline Basin Ski area gets OK

Eastern Oregon skiers will soon have another option on where to go for weekend ski trips.

The development firm of Skyline Basin Associates was recently awarded a special use permit authorizing the construction of Skyline Basin Ski Area in the Umatilla National Forest, about 22 miles south of Dayton, Wash., near Touchet Corral.

The signing of the permit culminated more than 10 years of environmental stu-

dies, planning, financial arrangements and negotiations for construction of the ski area. It is anticipated that construction of the access road and clearing of the ski slopes will begin in two weeks.

Facilities to be constructed

will include a day lodge, a triple chair lift, 4,310 feet long with a vertical lift of 1,135 feet, and a surface tow.

There will be about 74 acres of ski runs, with skill levels ranging from expert to advanced beginner, plus slopes for beginners.

Swimming lessons hours posted

The second session of swim lessons at the Heppner municipal swimming pool will get underway on July 11.

Beginners' lessons will be held from 10 to 11 a.m., with both advanced beginner and intermediate classes to run

Four-wheeler club forming in county

Persons interested in the formation of a four-wheel drive club in Morrow County are urged to contact Bill or Linda Hutchinson at 676-9001.

Hutchinson said a group of people in the area are interested in forming the 4x4 club for the betterment of off-road recreation with regard to four-wheel drives and public and private property.

The club will conduct some public service work and will plan some weekend trips and campouts for members.

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Ione glider soars

he recalled. "He got within about four feet of me before I turned away." Hang gliders like to look for hawks and eagles, Peterson explained, since both the birds and their human counterparts seek the same air currents for cruising.

Peterson remembers flying from his most frequented site at McNab during the opening days of deer season. "Hunters had pulled off the road all over the place to watch." The Ionian admits to appreciating an audience, but noted "I'm glad it wasn't bird season."

Since he was the first in the area to take up hang gliding, many curious local residents took time to watch him perform over his most frequent haunt, the Dick Sherer ranch near McNab. "Nobody gave me a bad time, or told me I was crazy," he said. "They were just interested. They wanted to know what it felt like."

"My folks were a little leery of this at first," he admitted, "but they're really behind me and my hang gliding now."

Peterson carries his folded down glider on a rack above his four-wheel drive rig. When he reaches the top of a hill, he assembles the synthetic cloth and aircraft metal framed kite, a process that takes less than five minutes. Then he dons a harness rig to fasten himself

to the kite, puts on a hockey helmet, makes a last preflight check, waits for the wind, and makes a running jump into space.

"I know it sounds funny," he said, "but I'm afraid of heights. If I stand on top of a building or something, I think I'm going to fall. But when I've got my kite, I'm not

afraid at all...it gives me a secure feeling."

"Most anybody can hang glide," he said. "...It's only as dangerous as the flyer wants to make it."

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NOTICE

Drs. Richard A. Carpenter and Joseph H. Diehl regret to announce the closing of their practice at the Heppner Medical Clinic, effective August 1, 1978.

Patients may arrange for transfer of their medical records to another physician by contacting the clinic at North Thompson Rd., P.O. Box 1109, Heppner, Oregon 97836, telephone 676-9148.