

# The Fifth Quarter

Sports by Mike Oths

Look around you. The smell of summer is in the air—grass fires, swarming grasshoppers, sweltering Labor Day temperatures. Yes fans, its time to start the NFL season.

Ever since the moguls of the NFL decided that 16 regular season games and four pre-season ones drew more fans than 14 and six, we have been able to celebrate Labor Day with the start of a new season. Since last we saw the NFL, we've only had a complete year of USFL, half a season of Canadian football, and the late August kick-off of the "college" football season. This lack of football entertainment probably has you drooling for some gridiron action, so I'll forthwith proceed to give you the benefit of my crystal ball. Remember, this is the guy who picked Montreal to win the NL East.

AFC Eastern

Look for the Dolphins to take the division. The Jets will be hard-pressed to stay with New England for second. Buffalo and the Colts bring up the rear. Thought for the division: If John Elway didn't want to play in Baltimore, imagine how excited he would have been about Indianapolis.

AFC Central

This one should be up for grabs. The Steelers have no experience at quarterback, and are really in transition. The Bengals have been disappointing since reaching the Super Bowl two years ago. The Browns and Oilers have not shown anything for awhile. Finish: Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Houston.

AFC West

The best division in the AFC. The Raiders are still the Raiders—make them first. The surprise team of '83, the Seahawks, should continue to improve. Chuck Knox' teams have a history of consistency. Make them second and a wildcard team. Make the Chargers a wildcard with Seattle, while Denver beats out the Chiefs for the basement.

NFC East

Look for the Skins to roll here. The Cowboys have some problems, including the holdout of Randy White. Make the Cardinals third, the Giants fourth and the Eagles last. Dallas should sneak in as a wildcard team.

NFC Central

Once again a balanced division, with no dominant teams. Although anybody could win, I'd take Detroit. Follow the Lions with Green Bay, Chicago and then Minnesota. I feel that the Vikes are in for some hard times—drill sergeants are hard to sell these days in pro sports. Tampa Bay trails the field.

NFC West

You have to like the 49ers in the West. I think that Bill Walsh's crew is ready to get back to the top. Go with the Rams for second and the wildcard berth. Another mean mess for New Orleans, then take Atlanta.

General Observations: The NFL is so balanced that anybody could make the play-offs. This might be the year that parity comes fully to bear—even the Cowboys may have to scramble.

No matter what, it sure beats the USFL.

See you at the Super Bowl.

## Bowhunting regulations changed

Hunters should note that there are some regulation changes this year for Oregon's general elk and deer bowhunting seasons that begin August 25. Some areas are closed entirely this year, while others have different bag limits says the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

This year the Chesnimus Unit and private lands in the Heppner Unit within the Heppner Regulated Hunt Area are completely closed to both elk and deer hunting. Other units in northeast Oregon are closed to deer hunting. These units are Catherine Creek, Keating, Lookout Mt., Pine Creek and Sumpter. Also, a portion of the Snake River Unit in the Hells Canyon Wilderness Area

and from the wilderness area east to the Snake River is closed to deer hunting.

In eastern Oregon, bowhunters will be limited to a 4-point or better buck deer in the South Steens permit entry area, and 3-point or better at Hart Mountain. Elk hunters in the Sled Springs Unit will be limited to bull elk with at least one antler longer than its ear. Antlerless or bull elk may be taken in the open area of the Snake River Unit, but the bulls must have at least three points on one antler including the brow tine.

In western Oregon, bow deer hunters in the Rogue Unit may harvest only one buck deer with not less than a forked antler.

## WCCC sets Sept. 2 BBQ

There will be a barbecue at the Willow Creek Country Club Sunday, Sept. 2 at 4 p.m. announced a spokesperson for the club.

Persons with last names beginning with letters "A" through "I" are asked to bring desserts and persons whose last names begin with the

letters "J" through "Z" to bring salads.

Committee for the barbecue includes: Floyd and Lorena Jones, chairpersons; Ralph and Mary Beamer, Marcel and Dee Jones, Carl and Gerry Martin, and Bill and Annetta Padberg.

## DMV announces schedule changes

The Heppner office of the Department of Motor Vehicles has been closed all this week as previously announced. The office will also be closed Tuesday, September 4. Gene Murty has announced because he will be in Hermiston. He will also be "on call" with the Hermiston office for the remainder of next week.

September 5, 6, and 7. Persons planning to visit the office should call 676-5165 to assure that it will be open prior to coming in.

The regular schedule is expected to be resumed by September 10, with the office closed on September 19 while Murty is in Fossil.



'Gremlins' award porch

A Gazette-Times photographer, after receiving an anonymous tip, found this evidence of the "gremlins" work in Heppner. Last Friday, Aug. 24, they left this handpainted "Porch of the month" sign at the corner of Gale and Baltimore streets.

## Lovgren takes rodeo honors

Jacki Lovgren, 18, of Lewis Creek, B.C., Canada is the 1984 high school rodeo all-around champion of British Columbia announced her grandfather, Vic Lovgren of Ione.

Lovgren has recently returned to the area after spending two and one-half months visiting Jacki and her parents, Larry and Joann Lovgren.

Jacki, a senior at Barriere High school began competition in PeeWee rodeos. She was a runner-up for the B.C. championship in 1983, and to win this year's honor placed first in Barrel Racing and Pole Bending, third in Breakaway Roping and fifth in Goat Tying explained Lovgren.

She also competed at Rapid City, South Dakota, in the U.S. National Finals High School rodeo (B.C. and Alberta provinces are included in the U.S. national high school rodeo competition). Because her horse was kicked in the chest and front leg during the first day of competition, Lovgren explained, "she didn't do so well" in competition there.

## Over the Tee Cup

Wednesday, Aug. 22, ladies' golf results at Willow Creek Country Club have been reported as follows:

Low gross-Betty Christman, longest putt-Doll Campbell, No. 6 least strokes-Neoma Bailey and Lucille Massey.

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