

## EASTERN OREGON OUTDOORS



by Mark Baggett

### Sporting Excuses Examined

While suffering incredibly poor fishing at a local lake with my wife and small son recently, we happened by a boat shared by two acquaintances from town; each had also brought a sibling.

"Caught any trophies yet?" they hailed, barely audible over the drone of their small outboard.

"Aw, we just got here a little while ago," I hollered back, "and we've been fighting this wind ever since."

My indirect answer actually meant that we hadn't had so much as a nibble

but, of course, they had no way of knowing that. You see, no self-respecting outdoorsman ever admits to failure when he can offer an excuse in its place.

At the boat ramp later that day, we met the pair again as we were trailering our boat.

"So how'd it do?"

"Aw well, we had the kid with us; you know, it was more or less just to make sure he had a good time," I replied. (As any sporting parent knows, small children, bless their hearts, offer wonderful excuse opportunities for their elders' lack of success, even though the kids had nothing to do with it.)

"Know what ya mean," they agreed. "We brought ours too. We made our minds up before we ever started that we would just help the kids fish and not really try to catch anything ourselves..." Yep, these guys knew their way around.

If we were to examine the typical outdoor person's repertoire of excuses, we would find that the selection of the proper type of excuse for a particular situation. One of the most basic types is the "Simplified Excuse String", which is actually a composite of different excuses strung together by conjunctions like "because," "but" or "and" that is meant to induce befuddlement upon the other party: "I'm late for work because my alarm clock didn't go off at the right time because we got in late last night and didn't realize the electricity had been off for an hour while we were gone."

With the eastern Oregon deer season in full swing right now, there will doubtless be as many "Simplified Excuse Strings" roaming our hills as there are deer. For example, to take advantage of the cliched excuse, "The sun was in my eyes," one might say, "I guess I missed that buck because the sun caused so much glare in my scope because the lens is so dusty from driving on these dirt roads with the windows down in this hot weather."

To take the heat off ourselves in potentially embarrassing situations, we call on the "Blame-Reversal Excuse String." "It's all your fault that I forgot to put the plug in the boat because I kept trying to ask you to remind me to do it but you were still talking about your Aunt Harriet's surgery and I didn't want to interrupt because I didn't want you to think I was unconcerned." You usually will have time for about three 50-to-60-word excuse strings before the average-sized boat sinks.

When returning home much later than usual from an outing, sporting partners often agree (before hand) to assume responsibility for each other's tardiness in the "Traded-Blame Excuse": "I'm sorry I'm so late, honey; I was ready to take off a long time ago but Fred wouldn't leave. Boy, it's great to be home. He has absolutely no regard for..." Meanwhile, Fred, of course, is saying the same thing about you.

To be well-excused (not to be confused with leaving the table, temporarily interrupting a conversation, or impromptu gastric disorders) is a mastery attained only through experience. Yet, sometimes even our best excuses fail and we're faced with the question, "What kind of excuse is that?" Usually something like, "Well, it's of the 'Blame-Reversal String' variety," will prompt just enough confusion to allow a hasty retreat.

## Heppner Game was cancelled

By Bob Krein

The scheduled game between the defending conference champion, the Heppner Mustangs and the Wasco County RedSides was cancelled. The RedSides didn't have enough players to finish the season.

The Mustangs next game will be Friday, Oct. 6 at Heppner against the 0-4 Stanfield Tigers.

### League Season

|               | W | L | W | L |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|
| Umatilla      | 2 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| Riverside     | 2 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| Heppner       | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Wahtonka      | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| Weston-McEwen | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Pilot Rock    | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Stanfield     | 0 | 2 | 0 | 4 |

### The Adventures of Grazelda & Clem

(After Hours)

5:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Grazelda quizzed, "Hey Clem, what are all them folks doin' in the mountains?"

Clem answered, "That feller down at Miller's Mini-Mart & Chevron said all them folks moved out of Portland and came up to the mountains to hunt."

Grazelda scoffed, "Ah Clem, he's pullin' your leg. All them Portland folks didn't move up here."

Clem shot back, "Oh yes sir, 'cause that other feller down there said he was the last one out of town and he turned off all the lights!"



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## Practice pays for Fillies



Fillies down Vikings 16-14, 11-15, 15-7.

After losing Tuesday at Athena the Fillies came back and worked hard at practice in preparation for Thursday, Sept. 28 game against the Umatilla Vikings. The hard practice paid off for the Fillies as they defeated the visiting Vikings, 16-14, 11-15, 15-7.

In the first game the Fillies and Vikings battled back and forth before Heppner got another hard-fought game but this time the Vikings were the victors.

Kim Stookey's serves carried the Fillies to victory in the third and deciding game of the month. Stookey served 11 points in game including the game winner.

Coach Gentry credited the play of Nikki Brisbo who came through on her serves and sets and the net play of Jennifer Currin.

Coach Gentry said she was also very impressed with the Fillies' "excellent team spirit" and the Fillies

hard play throughout the match.

The Fillies are now 2-1 in CBC play and 4-4 overall going into this week's action. The Heppner spikers went up against the Wasco Co. RedSides Tuesday, Oct. 3. The Fillies next game is at Pilot Rock Thursday, Oct. 5 against the Rockets.

The J.V. Fillies lost to Umatilla, 15-9, 11-15, 9-15.

The C-team also lost to the Vikings 4-15, 5-15.

### CBC Standings East Division

|               | W | L |
|---------------|---|---|
| Weston-McEwen | 3 | 0 |
| Stanfield     | 1 | 2 |
| Umatilla      | 0 | 3 |
| Pilot Rock    | 0 | 3 |

|           | W | L |
|-----------|---|---|
| Riverside | 3 | 0 |
| Heppner   | 2 | 1 |
| Wasco Co  | 2 | 1 |
| Wahtonka  | 1 | 2 |

## Cascade locks shocks Ione

By Melissa Rowell

The Ione Cardinals took on the Cascade Locks Pirates on September 22.

The Pirates, with only six volleyball players, shocked the Cardinals and took the first game 12-15.

The second game proved quite dif-

ferent when Jo Cupps served eight straight points to win 15-2.

The third game was very close and could have gone either way but the Cards pulled it out. Darcee Padberg and Brandi Ball each served five points to win, 15-12.

## Ponies travel to Stanfield



Photo by Joyce Hughes

Sam Sumner (85) runs the ball down the field for the Ponies Thursday against Stanfield. Stanfield won 12-7.

By Rick Koffler

The Heppner Ponies traveled to Stanfield to take on the Cubs last Thursday. The Ponies broke into the scoring column first on a long run four minutes into the game. The extra point was good on a pass play.

The Cubs came back on the next series of downs and scored on a long run of their own. The point after touchdown was no good and the Ponies led 7-6.

The Cubs punched another touchdown in just before halftime to take a 12-7 lead.

The second half of the game turned out to be a defensive battle and the final score was Cubs 12, Ponies 7.

The season record for the Junior High team is now 1-2.

The next game for the Ponies is Thursday, Oct. 5 at home against the Pilot Rock Rockets.

Attn: Willow Creek Country Club Golfers  
Final Work Party, Oct. 14th, 9:00AM  
Lunch served at Noon. Bring rakes, shovels, etc. Play golf after work is done. Have a fun day. See you all there.



Pres. Jim Wishart

## BOWLING

| Dime a Dozen | Won | Lost |
|--------------|-----|------|
| No. Eight    | 10  | 2    |
| No. Five     | 9   | 3    |
| No. One      | 7   | 5    |
| No. Six      | 6   | 6    |
| No. Three    | 5   | 7    |
| No. Two      | 4   | 8    |
| No. Four     | 4   | 8    |
| No. Seven    | 3   | 9    |

Splits converted: Lucille Massey 5-6; Bebe Munkers 2-7-8; Chris Lewis 5-8-10; Tom Wilson 5-7; Gary VanArsdale 4-9.

High game: Judy Rickert - 188; Harry Hartley - 198.

High series: Chris Lewis - 488; Harry Hartley - 513.

High team game: No. Six - 763.

High team series: No. Six - 2206.

### Koffee Kup Keglers

September 21

|                      | Won | Lost |
|----------------------|-----|------|
| No Pin Hitters       | 8   | 4    |
| The Gutter Dusters   | 8   | 4    |
| Beecher's Alley Cats | 7   | 5    |
| The Hopefuls         | 6   | 6    |
| M.C.G.G.             | 6   | 6    |
| The Dregs            | 6   | 6    |
| The Three J's        | 4   | 8    |
| The Hi Ho's          | 3   | 9    |

Splits converted: Maude Hughes 5-10; Betty Brown 4-5-7; Betty Christman 7-8.

High game: Billie VanArsdale - 200.

High series: Billie VanArsdale - 531.

### Thursday Site Ladies

Sept. 14

|                    | Won | Lost |
|--------------------|-----|------|
| J&J Ceramics       | 6   | 2    |
| Jordan Elevator    | 5   | 3    |
| Depot Nursery      | 5   | 3    |
| B&C Repair         | 5   | 3    |
| Kinzua             | 4   | 4    |
| Penland House      | 4   | 4    |
| M.C.G.G.           | 2   | 6    |
| Black Horse Contr. | 1   | 7    |

Splits converted: Flo Campbell 4-7-9; Bebe Munkers 5-4-7; Janet Beamer 4-7-10; Arlinda Gates 4-5; Inetia Cantin 5-10, 4-5; Susan Lankford 5-7.

High game: Bonnie Grant - 173; Cathie Pointer - 173.

High series: Cathie Pointer - 504.

High team game: Depot Nursery - 765; J&J Ceramics - 756.

High team series: J&J Ceramics - 2210.

### Thursday Site Ladies

Sept. 21

|                    | Won | Lost |
|--------------------|-----|------|
| J&J Ceramics       | 7   | 5    |
| B&C Repair         | 7   | 5    |
| Depot Nursery      | 7   | 5    |
| Jordan Elevator    | 6   | 6    |
| Kinzua Corp        | 6   | 6    |
| Penland House      | 6   | 6    |
| M.C.G.G.           | 5   | 7    |
| Black Horse Contr. | 4   | 8    |

Splits converted: Joan Scroggins 5-10; Jan Beamer 5-6; Marie Boer 3-10; Gayle Gutierrez 5-10; Bebe Munkers 3-10.

High game: LoRayne Bowman - 200.

High series: LoRayne Bowman - 531.

High team game: Jordan Elevator - 768.

High team series: J&J Ceramics - 2169.

### Koffee Kup Keglers

October 1

|                      | Won | Lost |
|----------------------|-----|------|
| No Pin Hitters       | 12  | 4    |
| The Gutter Dusters   | 11  | 5    |
| M.C.G.G.             | 10  | 6    |
| The Dregs            | 9   | 7    |
| Beecher's Alley Cats | 8   | 8    |
| The Hopefuls         | 7   | 9    |
| Three J's            | 4   | 12   |
| The Hi Ho's          | 3   | 13   |

High game: Renée Ledbetter - 188.

High series: Linda Schultz - 497.

| Dime a Dozen | Won | Lost |
|--------------|-----|------|
| No. Eight    | 14  | 2    |
| No. One      | 11  | 5    |
| No. Three    | 9   | 7    |
| No. Five     | 9   | 7    |
| No. Seven    | 7   | 9    |
| No. Six      | 6   | 10   |
| No. Two      | 4   | 12   |
| No. Four     | 4   | 12   |

Splits converted: Bebe Munkers 2-7, 3-10; Terry Smith 7-2-8; Tom Wilson 6-7; Chris Whalan 5-6-10; Ellis McRoberts 3-10; Katie McRoberts 2-7; Joanie Scroggins 3-10.

High game: Alvina Padberg - 202; Harry Hartley - 212.

High series: Alvina Padberg - 557; Terry Smith - 613.

High team game: No. One - 795.

High team series: No. One - 2302.

## W.C.C.C. Ladies

September 19

Flight A: low gross-Anita Boyer; low net-Bev Wilson and Eileen Padberg; least putts-Lucille Peck; K.P.-Kay Anderson.

Flight B: low gross-Harriett Evans; low net-Doll Campbell; least putts-Neoma Bailey; long drive-Harriett Evans.

Flight C: low gross-Maude Hughes; low net-Debbie Scott.

Sept. 26

Twenty ladies were present for the luncheon and 16 members played Team Best Score. Lucille Peck, Martha Peterson and Debbie Scott were hostess for the luncheon.

Awards for 1989 were handed out "Club Championship" first-Bev Wilson, second-Harriett Pierson, third-Eileen Padberg. "Eddie Skow" first-Bev Wilson, runner-up-Anita Boyer, consolation-Jan Paustian.

Most improved player for 1989 was Anita Boyer. Other award winners are as follows:

Team Best Ball: first-Mary Beamer and Lois Hunt; second-a tie between Dorothy Hawkins, Doll Campbell, and Bev Wilson and Muriel Palmer; third-Lucille Massey and Eileen Padberg.

Least putts: Lucille Massey, Eileen Padberg and Lois Hunt.

K.P. 4th Shot #2: Muriel Palmer in three shots.

Chip In: #1 Dorothy Hawkins; #8 Neoma Bailey; #8 Anita Boyer.

Election of officers 1990-president Barb Gilbert, vice president Jan Paustian, secretary/treasurer-Luvilla Sonstegard, Invitational Chairperson-Bernice Lott, invitational co-chairperson-Jo Pettyjohn, eclectic chairperson-Anita Boyer.

## 4-H News

### Two Trackers

by Amanda Gutierrez, Reporter

On Sunday, October 1, the Two Trackers met at the fairgrounds. The club members discussed upcoming events.

An election of officers was held with Josie Evans, president; Rondi Robinson, vice president; Allyssa Dick, secretary; Amanda Gutierrez, news reporter. Members discussed the horse bowl and assigned committees for the 4-H week projects and Halloween party. After the meeting was adjourned members had a riding session.

## Story hour day changes

Beginning October 9, story hour at Heppner Public Library will be held on Mondays from 10:15-11:15 a.m.

In the past story hour has been held on Thursdays. This change has been made to enable more children to attend.

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