

40 couples enjoy 9-hole

Forty couples enjoyed playing nine hole, team chapman on Aug. 10.

Hosts were Earl and Carol Norris, Darrel and Bev Wilson and Les and Jan Paustian.

Low gross: first-John and Pat Edmundson; second-Floyd and Lorena Jones; third-Frank and Neoma Bailey; a tie for fourth-Darrel and Bev Wilson and Roy and Juanita Martin; a tie for fifth-Earl and Carol Norris, Duane and Robanai Disque

and Earl and Peggy Fishburn; a tie for sixth-Jay and Lori Straley.

Low net: first-Roger Schoonover and Anita Boyer; second-Riley and Bebe Munkers; third-Gene and Luvilla Sonstegard; fourth-Elmer and Muriel Palmer; fifth-Mike and Lorrie Smith; a tie for sixth-Doug Gunderson and Lucille Massey and George and Maggie Izzett; seventh-Don and Martha Peterson and eighth-Bob and Suzanne Jepsen.

Arts and Crafts to meet Aug. 28

Morrow County Creative Arts and Crafts will hold a dinner meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 28 at the V & G in Lexington.

Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting to follow at 7 p.m.

The regular monthly meeting has been changed to Tuesdays.

Grant named HHS head football coach



New football coach Greg Grant

Greg Grant, a 29-year-old physical education and health teacher, comes to Heppner this fall to guide the fortunes of the Heppner Mustangs football team for the 1990 season. Grant comes to Morrow County from a five-year stint at Alsea, a class B-8 man school twenty-miles west of Corvallis.

Grant grew up in Elgin and graduated from Elgin high school, a member of the Wapiti league of District 8. Total involvement in athletics marked his high school career. He lettered in five varsity sports including football, cross country, basketball, baseball and track. Grant qualified for the state track meet in three of his four years and was an all league selection as a pitcher his senior year.

Grant attended Southern Oregon State College for two years and competed in baseball his freshman year and ran with the track team his second year. His education was com-

pleted at Eastern Oregon State College in LaGrande. While finishing his educational requirements, he coached the JV football and baseball teams at Elgin High School. Greg finished his college career student teaching at Joseph high school and coaching JV football.

Ironically, Grant's first teaching assignment was as a mid-year replacement for the legendary Milt Durand at Umatilla, a rival Columbia Basin Conference school.

Greg started his tenure at Alsea High School in the fall of 1985, coaching varsity football and basketball and teaching PE and health. He was also the athletic director. Grant's career record in football is 39-12, which includes three league championships and two second place finishes. Alsea played for the state championship last year, losing to Sherman County. Grant was a coach for the class B-8 man allstar game in its inaugural season and coached in this year's shrine game. Greg was also the guiding force behind the B-8 man coaches poll started two years ago.

"I live to compete," said Grant when asked about his philosophy. "I enjoy teaching and coaching is teaching." Grant added that people who think that you must win to be successful are misguided, but winning will happen if you have some ability and you work hard. For the players football will be fun and they will learn "the value of working together toward a common goal." Grant considers himself a disciplinarian and he said, "I let the kids know what I expect."

Grant, a single guy, said he selected the Heppner job because he was ready to get back to Eastern Oregon, loves to hunt, fish and golf and recognizes Heppner as a "community supportive of its kids with a reputation for a successful football program."

Grant intends to be offensive coordinator and will emphasize work with the offensive and defensive backs. Grant will stress the team approach to coaching with overlapping responsibilities.

Les Payne will act as the defensive coordinator this year and will be responsible for the offensive and defensive lines. Payne is entering his 14th year as a football coach at Heppner, having coached with five different head coaches. Payne took the head job for one year after John Sporseen's time in Heppner. Les also was a head football coach for seven years at Tonasket High School in Washington.

Also assisting this year will be Dave Presley. Presley, who volunteered last year with the program, was a head coach in lone for three seasons. Dave was also a graduate assistant at Willamette University for one year and coached at Salem area high schools for three seasons.

Both Payne and Presley will coach the junior varsity team.



by Mark Baggett

Brownlee Bass Bow Under Pressure

The question of what may have happened to all the big smallmouth bass of Brownlee Reservoir has been a topic of concern among many bass fishermen in a two-state region this year—a question that has prompted a great deal of speculation.

In the past, Brownlee's accomplished bass anglers have come to know the period from roughly late March through mid-April each spring brings big, pre-spawn smallmouth to fairly shallow water. But this year, very few big bass

were netted, and anglers puzzled over the showing of skinny, eight-to-10-inch fish.

Rumors immediately saturated the bass-fishing circles of eastern Oregon and western Idaho, including: "The bass have overpopulated and stunted," and "something has happened to the food supply and they are all starving to death."

But Al Van Vooren, state fisheries biologist for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, believes the problem lies not with the bass or their food supply, but with the anglers themselves.

"The fishery in Brownlee is so popular and so many people go there and catch so many small bass that pretty soon everybody's got their own theory of what the situation is," Van Vooren said.

"There's really no problem (with the bass); the situation is that we've got so much pressure on Brownlee Reservoir that as soon as a bass reaches (the minimum size limit of) 12 inches—or even 11 1/4 inches—he goes home with somebody."

The biologist explained that each 10-inch bass there, his department estimates, is caught an average of 2-1/2 times per year, which serves to magnify the perceived number of small, sublegal bass. Citing a 1989 study conducted jointly by IDFG and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Van Vooren said that in an estimated 220,000 angler trips last year, approximately 55,000 12-inch or larger bass were taken from Brownlee waters—much increased from data collected before the size limit was imposed. At times, literally hundreds of the non-legal, 10-inch bass can be caught per angler per day.

"We've gotten comments from people who say, 'you guys are so far off base; there's so many small bass in Brownlee Reservoir that you guys are crazy for not allowing us to keep 10 of those apiece.' Well, if you put that into perspective, you have 220,000 trips to fish that reservoir—and jeez, everybody keeping 10? If everybody kept just one it would be overharvested!"

"So that's what's happening with our big fish," Van Vooren continued. "As long as they're protected—less than 12 (inches)—they get thrown back and get caught again, like I say, a couple of times a year. As soon as they get to 12, there's enough people out there that he's not going to be 12 inches very long before somebody catches him and takes him home. Less than 10 years ago, we estimated there was only about 70,000 (annual) hours of fishing out there; now we're estimating about 850,000 hours."

Van Vooren said his department plans to work with ODFW biologists this fall to review possible options that could increase the size of available bass at Brownlee, such as a "slot limit" which would protect fish after they reach a certain size, yet allowing small fish and trophy fish to be kept.

"People have suggested a 12-inch to 16-inch (protected) slot because they believe there's so many fish under 12 (inches)," Van Vooren said. "But what the public has to understand is, just the slot limit alone won't help. If we allowed people to keep just two bass per trip under 12 inches—again, because of the sheer numbers of people—none of the fish would make it to the protected size."

Van Vooren indicated that whatever options to enhance Brownlee's bass fishery were discussed by Oregon and Washington's fishery departments this fall, the public of both states would be invited to help forge the final proposal.

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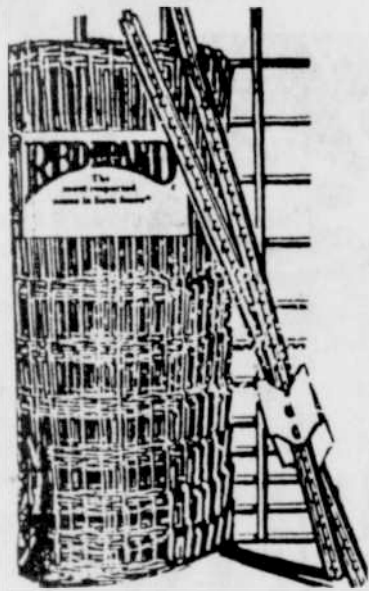
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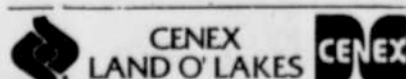
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