

Hunters Have More Fun Than Birds, Is Opinion of Visitor to This Area

By LOUISE STACK

We don't own a gun or a bird dog and we've never shot a pheasant in our lives but it would take something mighty important to make us miss the opening of the pheasant season in the Nyssa, Payette, Ontario area.

There are so many things which are traditional in connection with this event in both eastern Oregon and Idaho. First in importance are the Indian summer days which make for a perfect atmosphere, blue skies, bright sun, colorful foliage and the light crisp air that comes with being at a fairly high altitude.

Several days before the season opens the farmers visit the small newspaper plants in the area and buy "No Hunting Without Permission" and "No Trespassing" signs and proceed to post their places systematically. Then the afternoon of the day the season has opened another type of farmer comes tearing in, with the soil from his fields still on his shoes, fire in his eye and wants some of these same signs and wants them in a hurry. That is perfect evidence that some hunter has shot one of his chickens or a bullet has grazed too close to the farmer as he guided the beet loader through the sugar beet fields. Late Saturday afternoon many an automatic press is busily stamping out more "No" signs because no matter how many have been printed the demand usually outlasts the supply.

The day before the season opened this year we saw a house built on a big, impressive truck and on the side of the cab was painted a most attractive and professional sign which read, "A Hunting and A Fishing We Will Go." This was something new and we decided to visit the hunters who had such imagination in equipping their hunting truck. It was early, the sun shone across a golf course still covered with dew and defiled only by our own foot prints.

Doc Biggerstaff, Ted Longworth and Ed Hogan popular golf pro, and all of Portland made up this party and they were most hospitable. They invited us in to inspect a neat and comfortable hunter's dream house. There was an ice box, a well filled larder, two roomy clothes closets, a comfortable double bunk and small gas stove on which was frying most fragrant breakfast sausage. These hunters had bagged their deer near Prineville on their way and were now set for a golf game Friday afternoon and for descending on the birds Saturday morning. You couldn't see these men and talk to them without knowing that here was real, unpretended happiness and good fellowship.

At the hunter's dance Saturday night you could tell by the set of a hunter's shoulders whether he'd had good luck or bad. The hunter's dance is traditional and well worth traveling many miles to see. There are people dressed in their best dance finery but there are also many plaid shirts, hunter's pants and high boots. This year there was a new costume among the dancers and no one seemed to know whether the wearer was paying a bet or advertising something. Anyway he wore an outlandish outfit, had a toy dog which really barked sewed to his shoulder, kept his hat on while dancing and across his suit, among other mottoes, we noticed one which read, "Wash your face every morning and your neck every night." Don't write and ask us because we have no idea what or why.

You've heard all your life about the loyalty of a dog to its master but it doesn't compare with a hunter's loyalty to his dog. We met Doc Biggerstaff again at the

hunter's dance and he and the five who hunted in his party each had shot his limit of pheasants which amounted to twenty birds. Did they take one bit of credit for being cagey hunters, for having been up at the first crack of dawn, for having gone to bed at sundown the night before to have a steady hand and sharp eye Saturday morning? No, indeed no, they gave all credit to the dog. Lots of hunters were complaining about few birds and no luck but not these men. They simply had the dogs which had the birds' address, they led the hunters straight to the pheasants and the rest was child's play.

Another group of Portland hunters didn't have such good luck. Don Douglas, Bill James, John Kent and Kenny Smith didn't look too elated as they came into Nyssa for lunch Saturday noon. They had been out for many hours and had only four birds. Many have reported sketchy hunting this year, which seems to mean the birds are few and far between, and we have been asked why. In turn we asked and received three different answers. You can take your choice:

This year there was a cold, wet spring and the eggs either didn't hatch or the newly hatched pheasants died. A change from wheat and alfalfa fields to row crops of sugar beets, potatoes and onions have given the pheasants less concealing places in which to hide. Last year, for the first time, hunters were allowed to shoot hens during the last few days of the hunting season. Each sounds like a good reason for fewer birds to us.

After the fun of the hunt and the hunters dance are over come the wonderful broiled steaks, this thick, topped with french fried onions and served with the world's finest baked potatoes. The only food which can compare are the breasts of pheasants stuffed with wild rice, browned to a turn and served from a casserole in which they have been covered with a sauce made from fresh mushrooms, sour cream and dry white wine. It makes us hungry to write about it.

All too soon the "No Vacancy" signs will come down or be darkened, the posting signs will turn yellow in the sun, the local stores will remove their shotguns, camping outfits and other artistic fall window decorations, the stores will close a little earlier and the hunters will reluctantly pack their cars and trailers, call their dogs into their traveling compartments and start for home.

What if there have been more hunters than pheasants in the area, all of us enjoy the hunters more than we do the birds.

Local Students Active at C of I

News from the College of Idaho at Caldwell included several Nyssa students in recent activities there.

Miss Keitha Strasbaugh was co-chairman with Beverly Huffman of Ontario of the student side of the Alumni-student coffee hour in Finney hall following the C of I homecoming football game. She also assisted with the Friday night talent production at the college.

Names of two Nyssans were on the dean's list for high scholastic achievement during the spring semester. They were Lurde Bertram, senior and George Schiemer, junior.

Among students currently registered at the C of I are two Adrian high school graduates, Junior McGinnis and Henry Moore.

B-Squad Defeats Ontario, Payette

Nyssa high school B-squad, frosh-soph players, chalked up two victories this week on their home field.

They trounced Ontario B-squad by a score of 13-0 in a game last Thursday and defeated Payette 20-6 here Monday afternoon.

According to Bill Jarrett, coach of the B-squad they will travel to Parma Monday for a game with the Parma high B-squad at 3:30 p.m.

Bulldogs to Vale For Friday Game

Nyssa football fans are anticipating a spirited game Friday night when the Nyssa high school squad plays the Vale Vikings on the Vale field. The game is scheduled to start at 8 o'clock under the lights.

Coach Harry McGinley announced the starting lineup for the game. Vernon Pond will play left end; Bert Chavez, left tackle; Jerry Lankford, left guard; Jerry Leseberg, center; Eugene Maxfield, right guard; John Smit, right tackle; Roscoe Tanner, right end; Dirk Rinehart, quarterback; Dennis Sangers, left halfback; Joe Sanders, fullback and Larry Schenk, right halfback.

Nyssa high school students are organizing a snake dance to parade down Nyssa's main street tonight as a pep rally before the Friday game.

Nyssa has completed its home game schedule and has chalked up one win (Weiser, Oct. 7) and four losses. The last two games on the football schedule are one at Burns, Nov. 4 at 2 p.m. Pacific time and at Payette Nov. 11 at 2 p.m. McGinley stated.

Comic Operetta Set for Nov. 18

The Nyssa high school chorus, under the direction of Ralph Anderson will present "Hearts and Blossoms" a comic operetta Nov. 18 at 8 p.m. in the Nyssa high school auditorium. The two-act production was written by Lida L. Turner and R. M. Stults.

Student directors are Bill Low and Annette Stradley with Carolyn Duffin as pianist. Leading characters for the show are Jeannine Drown as Mrs. Horace Manning, Valene Mitchell as June, her daughter; Nancy Skeen who plays Marie, another daughter; Jack Franklin as Mathew Brandon; Jerry Leseberg as Philip Brandon; Darrell Cartwright portraying Jerry Higgins; Pat Nicholson as Malindy, a lady of color and Eugene Maxfield in the role of Samson Bonapart, a colored bellboy.

Speaking parts are enacted by Nancy House as Elene; Karen Fife as Betty; John Sanders who portrays Bruce and Glenn Griffiths as Bob.

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Gunshot Victim Improves From Sunday Injuries

Condition of Jimmy Points, 19, Nyssa, who was injured by a shotgun blast in his abdomen Sunday, was described by his physicians Wednesday as slightly improved with a 50-50 chance of recovery. The doctor said that Points is no longer considered in critical condition, although some complications have arisen.

Points suffered the shotgun blast Sunday while pheasant hunting in the Sunset Valley district southwest of Nyssa. Hunting with Points were Harland Fox, also of Nyssa, and Georgia Fenrich and Adienna Parsons, both of Ontario. According to reports, the youth was attempting to discipline his dog when the gun discharged.

Fox immediately called for an ambulance which brought Points to the Malheur Memorial hospital where he was treated. All supplies of blood and blood plasma were exhausted at Nyssa and it was necessary to send to Boise for whole blood. A total of 13 pints were rushed from Boise in 40 minutes and by Wednesday 15 pints had been administered.

Points was critically injured in an automobile accident July 25, 1954 west of Vale and was hospitalized at Ontario for more than two months. He was reported in a coma during nine weeks of the time he was hospitalized following the car accident.

Points is employed by the Desert Seed Co. at Nyssa.

Another gunshot victim last Sunday was Donald Douglas, Portland, who suffered minor injuries from shot from a companion's gun, according to officials at Malheur Memorial hospital where emergency treatment was given. The shot entered the right side of his face, his arm and part of his chest. He was released immediately after treatment.

Breshears Suffers 2nd Degree Burns

Phillip Breshears, 22, of Parma sustained first and second degree burns from scalding water while working at the Amalgamated Sugar Co. plant about 11:45 p.m. Monday. He is confined at Malheur Memorial hospital where his condition was reported as good Wednesday afternoon.

Breshears is reported to have been working at the filter presses when the hose containing scalding water came out of the gasket on the opposite side of the filter press and sprayed the hot water directly upon him. He was severely burned about the face, neck, arms, shoulders and right side of his chest.

ATTEND CONFERENCE

Harold Newman, Adrian grade school principal and Walter McPartland, Nyssa grade school principal attended elementary school principal's conference in Salem Oct. 17 and 18.

Hi-Y Halloween Party and Dance At Old Gym Sat.

Plans are complete for the Nyssa high school Halloween party and dance scheduled for Saturday night at 8 o'clock in the old gym. The young people of high school age are invited to attend this school function which is being sponsored by the Hi-Y club.

An exciting program of ghost activities will be an added feature of the evening. Vernon Pond, chairman of the snack bar assures plenty of good things to eat. Eugene Maxfield, club president will supervise the party and guarantees everyone a good time. Donald Dicksen, decoration chairman has done much work toward providing the Halloween atmosphere. Other chairmen for the event are Richard Sweet, advertising; Bill Russell, program and Dirk Rinehart, business manager.

Varied Topics At Grange Meet

Several topics of community interest were discussed at the meeting of the Oregon Trail Grange Thursday evening. A potluck dinner was held prior to the meeting.

George Cleaver, agricultural chairman, mentioned that even though the starch factory had discontinued purchase of potatoes, some were being sold to feeders who are paying a little in addition to the government payment. Garret Stam, who made a recent trip to Holland, talked to a starch manufacturer who stated that he was purchasing potatoes for starch production from Holland as local grown potatoes had low starch content.

Mrs. Fern Runcorn announced that Home Ec club would be held at the Russell Gressley home Nov. 1. Plans were also made to invite members of Mrs. Session's 4-H club to attend Booster night with their parents Dec. 1, and for the Grange to attend joint installation at Willow Creek.

Jaycee Bicycle Safety Program Ends Sunday with Colorful Parade, Picnic

Approximately 70 grade school boys and girls are registered in the annual bicycle safety training program sponsored this week by the Nyssa Jaycees. Elvin Ballou, chairman of the event announced. The week's training school will be climaxed by a dress parade down Main street Sunday afternoon followed by a picnic.

Registration took place Monday with instruction on general bicycle safety conducted Tuesday. Chief of Police E. L. Hansen spoke to the youngsters at a general orientation meeting Wednesday at 1 o'clock at the old gym. He explained the bicycle ordinance and what he expects of bicyclists while they are riding within the city limits.

Training will continue through Friday with riding tests to be given Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock at 7th and Reece Ave. adjacent to Nyssa city park. Certificates will be issued to all passing the tests, Ballou stated.

Prizes will be awarded for the best decorated bicycle and rider in a Halloween dress parade scheduled to move down Nyssa Main street following completion of the tests. Then the young cyclists will proceed to the camp grounds behind the Nyssa Labor camp for a picnic furnished by the Jaycees.

Judges for the dress parade will be George Oxnham and Rev. John Briehl.

Youngsters registered for the training program are divided into three groups for the instruction classes. Those in the 3rd and 4th grades meet at 8:15 a.m.; 1st and 2nd graders at noon and 5th and 6th at 4 p.m.

Among Jaycees assisting Ballou with the bicycle program in various capacities are Dale Bingman, Rev. John Briehl, Dale Overstake, George Oxnham, Lyle Miner and Marvin Wilson. Ron Schoen will take pictures of the Sunday events.

All-School Play At NHS Nov. 1

The public will have the opportunity to view a suspense filled mystery-comedy Tuesday evening at 8:15 at the Nyssa high school auditorium when the all-school play entitled "Drums of Death" will be presented under the direction of Clyde Swisher. Assisting Mr. Swisher is Larry Schwarz, technical director.

Action in this three-act play authored by Howard Reed will be intensified by unique lighting effects.

The cast includes Lyle Anderson as Jules, a Negro servant; Don Nolen as Sheldon Hartley; Paul Knottingham in the role of Newton Cooper, the Sheriff; Clea Wernick portraying Mrs. Gillette; Marilyn Oden and Joan Maulding as Eugenia and Amelia; Mardelle Thompson as Mrs. Oakley; Tom Sallee in the role of Dr. Cameron, a nerve specialist from New York City and Yvonne Edwards portraying Paula.

In important roles behind the scenes during the production will be Catherine Coleman and Margaret Morinaka, prompters and Mrs. Brumbach who is in charge of stage make up. Publicity chairmen are Rose Coburn and Sally Lawrence.

Mrs. Nellie Nowhill, Mrs. Blanche Hite and Mrs. Angie Cook spent the week end at the Hite ranch at Durkee. Mrs. Cook and Mrs. Hite each brought home a deer.

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