

PATHFINDER



Vol. I, No. 41

677-2022

"VOICE OF THE VALLEY"

754-2365

February 26, 1987



Dan Cainan, Seeley Lake, and Wayne Lowe, Placid Lake, posed last week in Seeley Lake with this large "traveling snowmobile trophy" (see story).

Traveling snowmobile trophy escorted through Seeley Lake

A very impressive snowmobile "traveling" trophy literally traveled through Seeley Lake last Thursday and Friday, transported via snowmobile express.

Sixteen people from Lincoln, including Bad Blood Bob, and seven Seeley Lakers, including Dirty Dog Dan (actually there were two dogs—one was built a little closer to the ground), had a battle and roasted some wieners over a fire at the North Fork Bridge. Seeley Lake residents Wayne Lower, Al Castonguay, Ron Froehling, Bud Anderson, Gary and Monty Conlen and Dan Cainan took temporary custody of the trophy.

So far, the traveling trophy has been through California, Nevada, Colorado, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, Utah, British Columbia, Alberta, Montana and Saskatchewan. Clyde and Shirley Ryder (address unknown) transported the trophy 1300 miles in 1986.

The trophy belongs to the Western Chapter of the International Snowmobile Association, and is sponsored by the Alberta Snowmobile Association.

Local snowmobile bandits surrendered the trophy to other snowmobile travelers on Friday, so that it might continue its journey through western North America. Upon completion of its travels, the trophy will be returned to Alberta.

High School trustees look to increase user fees

User fees for high school facilities in Missoula County would skyrocket, if trustees approve a proposal to rewrite the current fee schedule and use regulations.

Current charges for use of the cafeteria, for example, are \$40 per day. That would increase to \$120 per hour for commercial use, and \$70 for the first three hours for community and charitable use (and \$20 for each additional hour).

Charge for use of a classroom would increase from \$10 per day to \$40 per hour.

According to Seeley Swan High School principal Kim Haines, in the past, administrators have had some flexibility in deciding what to charge people for use of high school facilities.

"Now, it will all be spelled out," he said, indicating that the proposed new policy might eliminate administrative flexibility with, say, public groups or charitable organizations.

Missoula County High School trustees will vote on the proposed new user fees at their March 10 meeting, which begins at 7 p.m. at the Missoula County School administrative building, Missoula. For more information, contact Sue Holmes in Condon. She is the representative for Seeley Swan on the high school board.

Cheetah Herders sponsor Snow Joke Feb. 28

Another winter sports spectacular—the 13.1 mile Snow Joke footrace around Seeley Lake—will begin at 11 a.m. at the Seeley Lake Elementary School Saturday, February 28. Registration for runners begins at 9:30 a.m. at the school.

Spectators can watch the runners finish the race starting at about 12:15 at the grade school.

Snow Joke is a longstanding winter sports event in Seeley Lake. Participants are awarded T-shirts for competing in the Half Marathon. According to Pat Caffrey, organizer of the event, between 80 and 100 people are expected to run the footrace around Seeley Lake.

"We've had as many as 110 in years past," he said last week, indicating that Snow Joke is no longer a joke, but a very popular winter event in Seeley Lake. People from all over the Northwest have participated in past years.

Refuse District hearings

On March 6 at 4 p.m., the county commissioners will hold a hearing at the Seeley Lake Community Hall to listen to public comments on proposed fee changes for the Seeley Lake Refuse District. Property owners may send written protests to the Missoula County Clerk and Recorder, County Courthouse, Missoula, MT 59802, by March 24. A final hearing will be conducted by the commissioners at 1:30 p.m. on March 25, Room 201 Courthouse Annex, to review protests and make a final decision on the fee changes.

Proposed fees provide for assessing family residences one unit annually (currently \$28), except that certain residents, who do not have reasonable access to their property for at least four months each year, may be assessed one-half unit. There is also a detailed fee schedule covering a variety of businesses, ranging from a maximum of ten units to a minimum of one-half unit. The complete legal notice will be published in next week's *Pathfinder*.

Hearing on community plan may include evening session

Because many Swan Valley residents have voiced concern about their ability to attend an afternoon public hearing on the final version of the Swan Valley-Condon Community Plan, Missoula County commissioners will decide this week whether or not to also hold an evening hearing session (extend the afternoon meeting) on March 6 at the Swan Valley Community Hall near Condon.

Currently, the meeting is set for 1 p.m. at the Hall. The Missoula County Planning Board approved the plan earlier this month, and after listening to comments from local citizens, commissioners may decide to incorporate this rural plan into the Missoula County Comprehensive Land Use Plan in March.

OPINION

The International Monetary Fund

would have a field-day if invited to Montana. Montana's current economic plight is remarkably similar to that of IMF's clients, and we would benefit immensely from the store of economic wisdom developed over many years by IMF. Regrettably, the IMF probably won't be coming to Montana since their sphere of operations is focused on third-world and developing countries. But, if they did, here's what would happen:

Typically, the first thing which IMF recommends is devaluation of a country's currency — thereby making its exports, particularly commodities, more competitive in world markets. For Montana, which has an economy based almost entirely on agricultural and mineral commodities, that process is well under way. Federal efforts to devalue the dollar have been very effective, and Montana's wheat farmers, among others, may be in for a long-overdue economic boost.

The second thing which IMF would urge is a drastic reduction in government spending — their experience has been that governmental excesses are invariably at the heart of a sick economy. For Montana, this remains a serious issue — and the legislature seems to be doing little about it. In fact, judging from their zeal to impose new taxes, there doesn't seem to be any particular awareness that there is a spending problem.

One can't help but recall the "little chart" which appeared here a few weeks ago — the one showing how state spending has gone through the roof while, to pay for this extravagance, the taxpayer's pocketbook has been looted. The IMF would demand an accounting for this extraordinary, and seemingly unjustifiable, growth in government.

The third standard ingredient in the IMF "recipe" is the creation of a more favorable business and investment climate. An unfavorable climate (and that doesn't mean the weather, Sports Fans) is perhaps Montana's most serious problem. The list of offenses in this category is so long that a full discussion will have to be deferred to a future editorial.

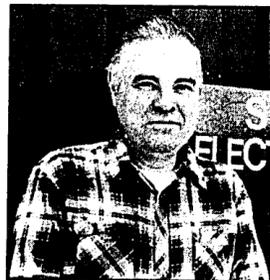
But, maybe the IMF would come and bail out Montana, after all. The governor could send an invitation — as they say, nothing ventured, nothing gained. And, if they accepted, we could all enjoy the spectacle of watching our legislators belatedly become aware of the fundamentals of economics.

— Dick Potter

*Sheri's
Stained Glass*
754-2426

Business of the Week

STINE ELECTRONICS



Stine Electronics has been in operation in Seeley Lake for the past year. Radio communications and electronics specialist Bob Stine moved his business to its present location last September (in the north end of the same building housing Seeley Swan Sports).

Bob's electronics background includes almost twenty years as chief engineer with the state of Illinois Telecommunications Division, and he was responsible for large communication systems while working for Motorola.

Stine Electronics is the only electronics business in the Valley. Bob is a dealer for King and Dixcom FM 2-way radios and he sells and installs scanners, C.B.'s and antennas. New to his business are low-powered walkie-talkies. The popular and inexpensive short-distance communication device is popular with snowmobilers and cyclists. Bob says the device fits right in the helmet so that individuals can talk to each other while riding along the trail.

Service and repairs are his primary responsibilities. And, because of his extensive electronics background, Bob also provides service and repairs for "anything electronic," including televisions, VCR's, stereos, and arcade machines.



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Natty Bumpo

Mt. Henry EIS

To the Editor:

The general enthusiasm for building a ski resort on Mt. Henry leaves me with a deep paranoia. While others are happily imagining *schussing* down the slopes and getting an economic boost for Seeley's winter economy, other visions crowd my mind. I imagine Seeley lake 2007 A.D. as stretching from the Taco John's at Morrell Flats to the Motel 6 at the Mt. Henry turnoff. Seeley Lake, the longest and skinniest town in Montana: "10 miles long and 100 feet wide."

The *Pathfinder's* report in the Feb. 12 issue on the Mt. Henry meeting soothed some of my fears. Porterfield's recommendations of creating a small, family-oriented ski area catering toward Montanans sounds like Seeley's style. Maybe the condos aren't coming. Maybe growing up in Colorado amidst the big bucks, high-tech ski industry that is now "sick" has left me too jaded.

The *Pathfinder* ended the story with questions as to who would conduct and finance the needed environmental studies. I accepted the challenge last Saturday morning. Let me be the first to submit an environmental impact study.

As I drove through Morrell Flats on my way into town, I noticed that the plume of smoke from the sawmill's boiler rose upward and hit an invisible barrier stretched across the Valley. Unable to break through, the smoke drifted southward. The upper edge of the smoke was neatly defined by the unseen lid. Rising up to the mill's flattened pillar of smoke was the smoke from several of the houses along the highway. After a brief and unscientific study, I concluded:

- 1) Seeley Lake suffers from temperature inversions just like Missoula.
- 2) It would not take much growth in Seeley to create a significant pollution problem.

During my study, I also noticed that no smoke was coming out of Mel Ketland's house. Either Mel was carefully conserving his ten-year supply of wood or his catalytic converter really works. A possible ray of hope? Assuming that Mt. Henry development is going to increase the population, the quality of our air will decrease.

Seeley Lakers, please start your own studies on the matter.

Sign me, an ex-Coloradan who loves Seeley, warts and all.

Dan Stone
Seeley lake

Banner vandals

To the Editor:

For the second weekend we have been disappointed by an individual(s).

In an effort to brighten up the downtown area, we have made banners to support an event in the Seeley Lake area. As with anyone, we were pleased with the overwhelmingly positive comments our snowmobile banners received.

The first weekend they were up was the Yamafest weekend. We were a little surprised and disappointed to see one banner disappear, leaving a rather unbalanced effect. Thinking it was an isolated instance, we changed to the Musher Welcome banners. We were right, and the banners flew safely for three weeks.

In promotion of the Snowmobile-avous, we again hung our lone snowmobiler. This time the banner was torn, probably in the act of trying to remove it. These acts of senseless vandalism certainly leave a sour taste in our mouths.

Cheri & Steve Thompson
The Gas Haus
Seeley Lake

PIZZA!!
Hungry Bear

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

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Legislature '87

House approves compromise outfitter bill

Gas tax effective July 1

by Gordon Gregory
Helena correspondent

In what was probably the busiest week thus far at the Capitol, lawmakers acted on a myriad of diverse issues. (The rush is due to the February 25 transmittal deadline. As of Wednesday, all non-revenue bills had to be acted on by one house and transmitted to the other).

It's official now, the price of gasoline and diesel will jump three cents a gallon in July due to a bill signed by Gov. Ted Schwinden last week.

That tax helped fuel the rancor of Rep. Janet Moore, who saw her proposed soda pop tax downed by committee action. The bill would tax pop the equivalent of three cents per 12-ounce can.

Moore was plainly irritated by the defeat of the bill, which was strongly opposed by industry lobbyists who said it would severely damage their business.

Moore said it was ludicrous to continually raise the tax on necessities such as gasoline and not touch luxury items.

"Since 1927, all we've talked about is jacking up the gas tax. That watering hole is running dry," she said.

No action was taken on the House floor because Moore was ill Thursday and Friday (see related article), when the adverse committee report was to be acted upon.

The governor's tax reform package, one of the most complex and far-reaching bills the legislature will deal with this session, received four days of debate in the Senate Taxation Committee.

Schwinden touts the measure as the route to tax equity and simplicity.

The equity comes from the elimination of numerous exemptions and loopholes.

The simplicity is evident in the proposed individual income tax form: one page with 11 lines, as opposed to the current multipage form which has up to 160 lines.

The bill would cut the coal severance tax, restructure the infamous unitary tax and revamp the state's income tax system.

It would cut the top income tax bracket from 11 to 8 percent and trim the present 10 income tax brackets to three.

Under the measure, someone with a taxable income less than \$4,500 a year would pay 4 percent of their income. For people with a taxable income between \$4,500 and \$12,000, the tax would be \$180 plus 6 percent of their income over \$12,000. And for those with taxable income greater than \$12,000, the rate would be \$630 plus 8 percent of their income over \$12,000.

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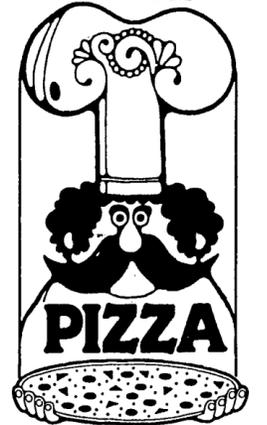
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To The Super People of Seeley Lake

I want to thank you for your love and support during the Seeley Lake 200 Sled Dog Race. Your continued support followed me through the Governor's Cup 500, and I was deeply touched. Your prayers and gifts (M&M's, T-Bone and great 8-hour layover) kept me going. Jack and I will be back!

Love,
Laurie Beckstrom

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community members are invited to submit dates, times and locations of events, meetings and other happenings. Submission deadline: Friday, 4 pm; call 677-2022 or 754-2365.

Events

Feb 28, 8th Annual Snow Joke Half-Marathon, 11am, Seeley Lake Elementary School Gym, Seeley Lake.

Mar 3, *The Prodigal* (film), 6:30pm, Potomac-Greenough Comm Center, Potomac.

Bingo, 2nd & 4th Thurs every month, open to public, 7pm, Comm Hall, Seeley Lake.

Public Meetings

Feb 25, Volunteer Fire Dept Final Org Mtg, 7pm, Rustics, Condon.

Mar 3, Public Hearing - Placid Lake South Shore Subdivision, 7:30pm, Missoula City Council Chambers, City Hall, Missoula.

Mar 5, Review Blackfoot River Fisheries Management Plan, 7:30pm, Leisure Lodge, Seeley Lake.

Mar 6, Public Hearing - Review Swan Valley Condon Rural Plan with Missoula County Commissioners, 1pm, Swan Valley Comm Hall, Condon.

Mar 6, Public Hearing - Seeley Lake Refuse Disposal District Proposed Changes in Fees, 4pm, Comm Hall, Seeley Lake.

Mar 10, Missoula Co High School Board mtg, 7:30pm, Missoula Vo-Tech Center, Missoula.

Mar 10, Seeley Lake Refuse Disposal District Board mtg, 7:30pm, Double Arrow Ranch Landowners office, Seeley Lake.

QRU (Condon), 1st & 3rd Mon every month.

QRU (Seeley Lake), 1st and 3rd Fri every month, 7:30pm, Fire Hall, Seeley Lake.

Rural Fire District, Meetings at Fire Hall, Seeley Lake. 1st Tues, Regular Firefighters bus mtg, 7pm; 2nd Tues, training mtg, 7pm; 3rd Tues, Trustees mtg, 7:30pm.

SOS Trustees mtg, 2nd Mon every month.

Water District, 2nd Tues every month, 8pm, REA bldg, Seeley Lake.

Clubs & Organizations

AARP, 1st Mon every month, Swan Valley Comm Hall, Condon.

Alcoholics Anonymous (Condon), Thurs, 7:30pm, Swan Valley Elem School, Condon.

Alcoholics Anonymous (Seeley Lake), Sun, 7pm, Mill basement, Seeley Lake; Weds, 7pm, REA Bldg, Seeley Lake.

Booster Club, 4th Tues every month, 8pm, Seeley Swan High School Gym, Seeley Lake.

Drifters Snowmobile Club mtg, 2nd Mon every month, 7:30pm, Comm Hall, Seeley Lake.

SeLa SenCi mtg and potluck, 3rd Wed every month, Comm Hall, Seeley Lake.

Senior Nutrition Program, Mon-Tues-Weds, noon. Open to public. Comm Hall, Seeley Lake.

Swan Valley Post No. 63 mtg, 2nd Fri every month, 7pm, Comm Hall, Condon.

Veteran's Coffee Group, Sat, 11am, Swan Valley Centre, Condon.

Other

Mar 4 (Weds), Bookmobile, Potomac School, 10am-12pm; Sunset School, 12:30-1:30pm; Clearwater Junction, 2-3pm; Seeley Lake town, 3:30-5:30pm.

Mar 5 (Thurs), Bookmobile, Seeley Lake Elem School, 9am-12pm; Seeley Lake town, 12:30-2:30pm.

Adult Volleyball, Weds, 7-9:15pm, Elem School Gym, Seeley Lake.

Men's Basketball League, Mon, 7-9pm, Elem School Gym, Seeley Lake.

Refuse Disposal Site, Winter Hours (October 1 thru April 30): Wed & Sat, 10am-4pm. Swan Valley Community Library, Weds, 10am-6pm; Sat, 10am-3pm, Condon.

EMERGENCY: 911 (Seeley Lake or Condon); 1-728-0911 (Greenough or Ovando).

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Condon P.O. space needs studied

SALT LAKE CITY—The U.S. Postal Service is conducting preliminary studies to determine future post office space needs in Condon, Montana Postal Division General Manager/Postmaster Dennis J. Yuhl said last week. The studies will include investigation of various alternatives, including the use of the present facility, other existing buildings and sites for new construction. In a letter to Del Pockrus, Condon, Montana Postal management has asked for community suggestions and offered to meet with local representatives to review Postal Service preliminary plans. Pockrus, who is active in the

Condon Community Club, said on Tuesday that he is writing to the Postal Service, and that the issue will likely be discussed at future Community Club meetings.

At this stage in the planning, the Postal Service is reviewing the growth factors, size requirements, potential locations, and local traffic, geographic, topographic and environmental conditions which should be considered.

Yuhl said the anticipated postal needs are approximately 1,120 square feet of interior space on a site of adequate size to provide off-street parking for customers, employees and postal vehicles. The area under consideration is Montana State Highway 83, within three miles of the present facility.

Suggestions may be mailed to Support Service, Salt Lake City Division, P.O. Box 27117, Salt Lake City, UT 84127-0117.

Good turnout expected for dance

The Swan Valley Post #63 of the American Legion will host an Old-Time Community Dance on February 28 at the Swan Valley Community Hall, near Condon. Music begins at 9 p.m. and refreshments will be available, with sandwiches being served at midnight. Organizers point out that this is intended to be a family social event. According to Ken Wolff, Post Commander, kids are welcome—alcohol is not!

Firefighters organizing in Condon

Another effort is underway in Condon to set up a volunteer fire department, according to one of the organizers, Paul Swinson, Swan Valley. The group met Wednesday night at the Rustics office in Condon to finalize their plans. Training sessions will begin next week and continue for five weeks. (There will be two 3-hour sessions each week.) The group is being assisted with training by the Seeley Lake Volunteer Fire Department. Those interested in volunteering should contact Swinson at 754-2222.

Swinson said that the group plans to hold a fundraiser later this year and to eventually build a firehouse. Plans have also been made for the acquisition of firefighting equipment.

Gossard, Olson to compete

Two Seeley Swan students, seniors Jackie Gossard and Heidi Olson, have been selected to compete for National Honor Society scholarships. Scholarships will be awarded this spring.

Rev. Jesse Jackson to speak in Missoula

The Reverend Jesse Jackson, human rights advocate and 1984 Presidential candidate, will speak at the University of Montana Ballroom in Missoula on March 4, 1987, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

MOOSE FEATHERS & MORE
Fine Crafts Gallery
Opening Soon
Another Seeley Lake Winter Sports Spectacular!
Kraft Creek Road & Highway 83

Spaghetti Feed set for Thursday night

The Swan Valley Elementary seventh and eighth grade students are hosting a spaghetti feed Thursday night, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Swan Valley Community Hall. This is their main fundraiser for their week-long spring field trip.

Spaghetti, "all you can eat," will be served with all the extras, according to dinner organizers. The students hope to raise about \$350 with this, and other, fundraising activities (such as bake sales) this year.

Elk management discussed

Suggestions ranging from closing the elk hunting season entirely to hunting cows by permit only surfaced at the Condon Community Club meeting held last week, which included a lengthy discussion of elk management in the Swan Valley.

Local residents also expressed concern about violations of road closures in the Swan Valley, with many indicating they would support stricter enforcement of road closures.

Fish and Game officials present at the meeting agreed to evaluate suggestions from local residents, and to return for another meeting at a later date to discuss possible options or changes in management.

Cheetah Herders Present



The 8th Snow Joke 13.1 Mile Footrace

--Watch the winners finish at the Grade School at 12:15, February 28th

--DRIVERS: Please watch for runners 11 am - 1 pm

Another Seeley Lake Winter Sports Spectacular!

COMMUNITY

THE PRODIGAL set for March 3

A fast-paced, modern-day allegory akin to the familiar Bible story, THE PRODIGAL, a World Wide Pictures Presentation, will be shown Tuesday March 3, 6:30 p.m. at the Potomac-Greenough Community Center.

Set in a contemporary urban framework and intimately examining the gradual spiritual and emotional breakdown of an American family as each member searches for his identity, THE PRODIGAL was filmed entirely on location in Seattle and various spectacular sites throughout the state of Washington.

Heading the outstanding cast are John Hammond, Hope Lange and John Cullum. Hammond, who portrays the title role of the wayward son caught up in the netherworld web of drugs and sex, recently starred in the hit mini-series "The Blue and the Gray." Award-winning actress Hope Lange stars as his confused and bewildered mother, while noted Broadway Tony Award winner, John Cullum, essays the role of his single-minded, career-consumed father.

World Wide Pictures, producers of such award-winning films as THE HIDING PLACE and JONI, is the film organization of the Billy Graham Association, and the internationally-known evangelist has a cameo role in the picture.

In commenting on THE PRODIGAL, producer Ken Wales stated, "This is both an entertainment and a message piece. Some people will be uncomfortable when they see this film, as it strikes so close to home, paralleling so many of today's family situations. But, we believe that the current trend of the public's willingness to examine its own conscience will place it on the 'must see' list of family entertainment."

The Potomac Bible Church and the Blackfoot Parish are hosting this special showing.

SWAN SONG

Katy Murphy, 33, formerly of Seeley Lake, died of cancer February 23 in Evanston, Illinois. A 2:00 p.m. memorial service is planned for March 6 at the Shining Mountain Center, 475 8th Avenue East-North, Kalispell.



Wieder-Brown Wed

Roxeen M. Brown and Bryon L. Wieder were married in Missoula on January 16, 1987. The bride's parents, Kent and Marie Brown, Kozy Korner; bride's sister, Robin; Ted, Merle and Sadie Linford; and Duane and Lois Dugre attended the ceremony performed by Justice of the Peace David K. Clark.

A reception honoring the couple was held on January 20 at the Kozy Korner Restaurant and Bar attended by close family, friends and neighbors. The couple is now residing at the Jim Dreyer Ranch.

Shorelines

Bob Baier, son of Norm and Rose Baier, Seeley Lake, is making good progress in a Missoula hospital after he received serious injuries in a car accident near Potomac in December. According to Norm, doctors are hopeful that Bob will be able to return home sometime in April.

Senior Nutrition Program

The following noon meals, which are open to the public, will be served next week promptly at noon on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at the Seeley Lake Community Hall:

Monday March 2, Macaroni and Cheese
Tuesday, March 3, Hot Turkey Sandwich
Wednesday, March 4, Meatloaf

March 3 thru 7
Ladie Di
Celebrating One Year!
Anniversary Specials
20% Off Perms & Color
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CORNUCOPIA by Michele Potter

The Microwave Times - it's chock full of microwave hints, recipes and more; I subscribed immediately. With permission from the publishers (Recipes Unlimited, Inc.), I'll be reprinting recipes some of their recipes from time to time. All of the recipes from The Microwave Times are tested in 600 to 700-watt microwave ovens (lower wattage ovens may need some adjustment in timing). For more information about this publication, write to: Box 1271, Burnsville, MN 55337. These recipes are from the Jan/Feb 1987 issue.

Creamy Potato Bake

1/2 tablespoon butter or margarine
2 tablespoons dry bread crumbs
5 medium potatoes, peeled and diced
1/2 inch (about 4 cups)
3 tablespoons butter or margarine
1-1/2 cups half and half

3 tablespoons flour
1/2 teaspoon instant chicken bouillon
1 teaspoon snipped chives
1/4 teaspoon salt
Dash pepper
1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese

1. MICROWAVE (high) 1/2 tablespoon butter in uncovered small microwave-safe dish 15 to 30 seconds, or until melted. Stir in bread crumbs. Set aside for topping. Combine potatoes and butter in 1-1/2 quart microwave-safe casserole. Cover with casserole lid; 2. MICROWAVE (high) 10 to 12 minutes or until just about tender, stirring 3 times. Combine half and half, flour, bouillon, chives, salt and pepper; mix well. Stir into potatoes; 3. MICROWAVE (high), uncovered, 4 to 5 minutes or until mixture boils and thickens, stirring 2 or 3 times. Top with buttered bread crumbs and cheese; 4. MICROWAVE (high), uncovered, 1 to 2 minutes or until cheese is melted. About 6 servings - 285 calories each.

Fish Florentine Roll-Ups

1/2 package (10-oz. size) frozen chopped spinach
1/2 package (3-oz. size) cream cheese
1/2 tablespoon minced onion
1/8 teaspoon salt

Dash pepper
1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
2 fish fillets (about 12 ozs.)
Paprika

1. To thaw half a package of spinach, wrap half the package tightly with foil, fitting foil tightly to the package. Place on Microwave-safe plate; 2. MICROWAVE (high) 2 to 3 minutes or until thawed. Remove thawed part, drain and place in 2-cup glass measure. Wrap frozen portion and return to freezer. Add cream cheese to thawed portion; 3. MICROWAVE (high), uncovered, 30 to 45 seconds or until cheese is softened. Stir in onion, salt, pepper and lemon juice. Spoon mixture onto center of each fillet. Fold over fillet ends with the spinach mixture inside. Place seam-side-down in small microwave-safe baking dish. Sprinkle with paprika. Cover with waxed paper; 4. MICROWAVE (high) 4 to 5 minutes or until fish flakes apart easily with fork, rotating dish once. Two servings - 240 calories each.

VALLEY MARKET FOOD FARM

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Congratulations Blackhawk Boys Basketball on a Fine Season

Trixi's
in Ovando
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Best prime rib in the Valley!

Prime Rib - Friday Night 7 pm - Closing
Barbecued Ribs - Saturday Night 5 pm - Closing
Champagne Brunch - Sunday 10 am - 2 pm

SEELEY LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

MENU - WEEK OF MARCH 2

Monday, March 2 Pizza Burgers
Tuesday, March 3 Chicken Patties
Wednesday, March 4 Tuna Melt
Thursday, March 5 Stew
Friday, March 6 Pocket Bread with Hamburger

Blackfoot Tel-Com, Inc. PTA
721-4417 Kids are Counting on You!
1112 North Russell, Missoula, Montana

SPORTS

Seeley Lake 1-STOP STORE

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Low Diesel Prices
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Fishing Gear

677-2004

M - F: 6 am - 11 pm
S - S: 7 am - 11 pm



Congratulations, Blackhawk Boys Basketball Team for a fine season!
Back row, left to right: Assistant coach Les Gordon, Ken Cadena, Darren Baretta, Bill Van Vallis, Richard Klebenow, Randy Johnson, Craig Tanner, Frank DeLeo, Les Meyer, Coach Kim Haines. Front row: Joe Bender, Derek Broderick, Pat Broderick, Dustin Gordon. (Photo by Varsity Photo.)

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Hawks outflown by Eagles

Thursday, February 19, the Valley Christian Eagles defeated the Seeley Swan Blackhawks by 3 in the final seconds.

The upset for Valley Christian gave them the right to move on to the championship game on Saturday night against the Alberton Panthers.

Despite fairly even scoring by both sides, Richard Klebenow led the Hawks

with fifteen points, followed by Craig Tanner with ten hard-earned inside points.

Eric Henry led Valley Christian with twelve points, including 3 three-pointers. Next in scoring was Jim Black with 11.

The stunning defeat forced the Hawks to play Drummond on Friday night in a consolation game, which they lost, putting them out of District tournament competition.

Hawks beat Hellgate

by Pamela Pohlman

On February 10, the Blackhawks volleyball team came together to defeat the Hellgate Knights 15-4 and 15-9 in a non-Conference game.

Sandy DeLeo blew away the Knights' defense when Tammy Pohlman set up six balls for Sandy to tip and spike. Teresa Mahaffey intimidated one of the Knights' hitters when she went up for a block and smashed it back into the unprepared Knight court.

Hawks beat Eagles

by Terry Bartlett

The Blackhawks were defeated on their home-court against the Big Sky Eagles in volleyball, but when they played in Missoula February 10, they pulled through by beating the Eagles

with scores of 15-6 in both games.

The Hawks' leading ladies in the match were Teresa Mahaffey and Tammy Pohlman with two kills, and Sandy Prazak with two aces in her entire service. The Blackhawks' junior varsity played, and also defeated the Eagles.

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Listen to Your Conscience

The conscience, "A small inner voice that doesn't speak your language." That's a pretty apt definition, isn't it? Have you ever given much thought to your conscience? Where did it come from? What is it for? Why does everyone have it?

Freud explained the conscience as the "superego" which is constructed by parents, the church, teachers, and so on. The superego, Freud said, is a bad thing. It is too strict, making us feel guilty for wanting to express our "primitive wants." If we can just rid ourselves of this primitive conscience, we can do anything we want and still feel good. J.I. Packer, in his book *Knowing God*, comments on this modern notion that the conscience is a defect — "Modern man tends to dismiss a bad conscience in himself as an unhealthy psychological freak; a sign of disease and mental aberration rather than an index of moral reality."

And so, we are swamped today with books and psychologists and preachers and others telling us we're all "O.K." "We need to stop letting our consciences make us feel guilty," they say, "so that we can all have good self-esteem." When we start getting those negative "vibes," we should replace them with positive thoughts. Whatever we desire to do is good for us, and we should never permit guilty thoughts about our actions to pull us down.

God's comments on the conscience are much different, however: "For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness. . ." (Rom. 2:14-15).

Simply put, these words are saying that non-Jewish people, even in Moses' day, who did not have the ten

Young teens can join Mission Mountain Messengers now

As of March 1, eighth grade-age youth are invited to join the Mission Mountain Messengers young adult choir. On Sunday evening, the group will leave the Seeley Lake Elementary School at 5:45 and travel to the Swan Valley Elementary School for practice in their gymnasium.

The choir will hold singing practice, social time, devotions and recreation time, returning to Seeley Lake at 9:30.

The Mission Mountain Messengers will begin "mini-tours" in March with a performance in Charlo Heights (near Hamilton); a performance in Phillipsburg in April, and Spokane in May. On June 14, the choir will leave for their main tour to Edmonton, Alberta.

For more information contact LeRoi or Marge Smith, Seeley Lake.

PIZZA!!
Hungry Bear

commandments, still often obeyed these laws. Why? Because God had given them a conscience for their own good.

To ignore our conscience is dangerous. Dr. Henri Baruk, a French psychiatrist, comments upon the consequences of repressing the conscience. "Whoever acts contrary to his conscience exposes himself to feeling the effects of a very special illness, (characterized by) outward reactions which are incomprehensible in appearance and often terrifying."

The divine remedy for a violated conscience? God's forgiveness. Everyone who knows Christ as their Savior can avail themselves of this promise:

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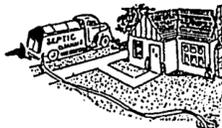
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Water board continues push for metering

At the most recent meeting of the Seeley Lake water board, it was announced that bids are being sought for the 250 meters required for completely metering the district. Along with this, a grant pre-application is being prepared for submittal to the Farm Home Administration. As reported earlier, the primary objective of the water board this year is to meter the entire district.

The board voted to deny a hookup to a prospective new business situated somewhat outside the district's boundaries (south of the Wilderness Gateway Inn on Highway 83). The reason for the denial is insufficient water supply. At such time as the board determines there is a surplus of water, they will reconsider the matter.

The board expressed concern regarding the Environmental Assessment for the proposed Circle Arrow Hydroelectric Project which was recently issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Fishing Report

Higher mountain lakes are reportedly good fishing this week for native cutthroat. Bright-colored jigs and maggots are working well in all of the lakes. Use caution now as there is considerable slush on top of the ice, and springs are starting to thaw the surface of many of the lakes. Look forward to excellent spring fishing in about a month, as it will probably be an early thaw this year, old-timers say.

Wilderness Rally in Missoula March 2

Americans for Wilderness is sponsoring the Montana Forever Wild Rally in Missoula on March 2nd. A public march will start at the University of Montana Oval at noon and arrive at the County Courthouse at 1 p.m. for a rally in support of keeping Montana's wildlands wild forever.

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(FERC). The Circle Arrow project is a small hydroelectric project which has been proposed for the outlet of Lake Inez by Keith and Marilyn Peterson of Seattle, Washington. The board had petitioned to intervene in the proceeding because of concerns that the project potentially threatens the quality of the Seeley Lake water supply. In their view, the Environmental Assessment does not adequately address these concerns and, therefore, they have decided to pursue the matter further with FERC.

Responsibility for coordinating projects was assigned to various board members: Don Larson, funding for metering the district; Dan Cainan, leak test to be conducted in the spring; Steve Thompson, revision of policy and procedures manual, and accounting system computerization; Gary Bender, new maps showing district boundaries, water lines, and shutoffs.

The board also noted receipt of a letter from the state Department of Health and Environmental Sciences stating that the district is in compliance with all water quality standards.

Country Journal

by Suzanne Vernon

Signs of spring? Well, the Bitter-roots are out in the Bitterroot Valley—and they've been out for several weeks! Ken Wolff, Swan Valley, saw some geese headed north—now, that's an encouraging sign.

It is time to get out of the house and look for the swelling of buds on the pussywillows. Might also take a look at the apple trees and prune any water sprouts from last year.

We've noticed dozens of deer along the highway, especially south of Seeley Lake and north of Condon. Some friends of ours saw a spike elk near the highway by Rainy Lake, but the poor thing looked as if he had been hit by a car the way he was stumbling into the lodgepole.

The bald eagles are still here. Saw a pair of them near Clearwater Junction last Friday as I drove home from Missoula through typical spring weather: blizzard one minute, sunshine the next!

Blackfoot River fishery meeting next week

The Wilderness Sportsman's Club, Seeley Lake, is sponsoring a meeting with the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks personnel to hear comments from sportsmen on the proposed Blackfoot River Fisheries Management Plan. The meeting will be held at the Leisure Lodge Resort, Thursday, March 5, 1987 at 7:30 p.m.

FRESHNESS



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OUTDOORS



Kurt Alt, former wildlife biologist on the Blackfoot-Clearwater Game Range, recently transferred to Livingston, Montana.

Elk population increases on Blackfoot-Clearwater Game Range

Wildlife biologist, Kurt Alt, who for the past five years has gathered biological data on the Blackfoot-Clearwater Game Range, recently transferred to Livingston where he will continue his work with the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

He and other Fish and Game officials now have statistics which show a large increase in the elk populations since the game range was acquired by the state in the late 1940s.

Alt recently explained some of the management changes over the years in the area commonly referred to as the Boyd Mountain game range (officially the Blackfoot-Clearwater Game Range).

"When we first purchased the Game Range, we treated all ranges like National Parks," he said, explaining that they fenced the area to keep cows out.

"We've entered a new era—about six years ago—and we are starting to use agricultural means to achieve wildlife objectives. We can utilize grazing, for example. Up to about 6 or 7 years ago, we just didn't do that sort of thing."

Alt pointed out that studies show that cattle and elk can exist quite well on the same ranges—at different times of the year. He believes that sometime in the near future, Fish and Game officials will again begin using cattle grazing, for example, to improve elk winter range.

The Blackfoot-Clearwater Game Range now supports about 1100 elk (the most recent estimate) during the peak winter-range season. That compares to about 200 elk that wintered on the game range in the late 40s and early 50s.

Up until 1980, the highest elk population counts on the game range were about 300.

"Some of those early times, they didn't get a real good count on elk," Alt pointed out. However, he feels that through aerial counts and better data gathering techniques, the present counting methods are quite accurate.

Cow/calf ratios are also quite good on the game range. Alt estimates, with confidence, that there are about 40 to 45 calves for every hundred cows wintering in the Boyd Mountain area. That compares to an estimate of 20 calves per hundred cows made several years ago in the same area.

Bull ratios per hundred cows are also in the upper percentages, compared to other areas in the state. Right now, Alt estimates about 20 bulls per hundred cows, (about 50% spikes and 50% branch-antlered bulls) and attributes this relatively high percentage to the nearby security areas of the Bob Marshall and Scapegoat Wilderness areas.

For the past two years, he and other biologists have been working to place radio collars on a sampling of the elk population to determine herd movement. These studies have shown that 80 percent of the elk that winter on the game range migrate northeast to the security of the wilderness and adjacent roadless areas. About 20 percent migrate due north into the Rice Ridge country near Seeley Lake.

Elk migration patterns will continue to be studied, Alt explained. Trapping success (for placing collars on elk) has been very low this year because the elk are wintering in open areas, rather than being forced into the timber because of cold weather.

There have been a few surprises from the radio-collared elk. One cow collared last winter near Boyd Mountain showed up on a game range east of Helena. A spike bull traveled from the Blackfoot-Clearwater Game Range into the South Fork of the Flathead, deep in the Bob Marshall.

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February Newsletter
by Mary Wessels

March 5: General Meeting, 7:30 pm, Leisure Lodge, Seeley Lake, with guest speaker Dennis L. Workman, Regional Fisheries Manager, Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks.
March 19: General Meeting, 7:30 pm, Leisure Lodge, Seeley Lake.

February 5 Meeting: The WSC was privileged to host the Big Game Tentative Regulations Public Hearing. A brief general meeting of the WSC was held just before the hearing. Merle Gunsch and Jack Rich updated members on the Board of Directors meeting. Members were informed that the WSC would discuss the following items with the representatives attending the hearing: cow elk permit boundary; increase in license fees for in-and-out-of-state hunters, with the funds to be used for land acquisitions and game management; successful cow elk permit holders to have a 2-year waiting period before acquiring another permit; hunting of bobcat and lynx with hounds; mountain lion quota; and non-resident hunters to be sponsored by outfitters or a Montana resident. For more information, contact Jack Rich.

Hearing: Bill Thomas, Regional Information Officer, gave a film presentation. The gains and losses, along with the tradeoffs, that were discussed during the film presentation were: (1) any bull elk legal to all license holders; (2) branch-antlered bull harvest regulations; (3) spike bulls legal to all license holders and branch-antlered bulls legal only by permit; (4) point restrictions; (5) permit-only bull elk hunting. Discussions were held during and after the film presentation with over 50 concerned citizens of the surrounding area, WSC members, Dr. Jim Olson (Fish and Game Commissioner - Hamilton), John Firebaugh (Regional Wildlife Manager), Kurt Alt and Bob Henderson (Area Biologists), Larry Davis (Game Warden - Lincoln area) and Jay Haveman (Game Warden - Seeley Lake area).

With regard to waterfowl hunting, Bill Thomas remarked, "Montana's way is discussing, not just being told... this is the way we're gonna do it." It seems the public needs a lot more information on the subject of steel shot replacement for lead shot—in 1989, steel shot will become mandatory statewide (1991 nationwide). The WSC will have a special meeting on this topic in the near future.

Bill Thomas made it clear that the DFWP wants the public to be completely informed and understand all the tradeoffs involved with any regulation changes. The Department wants to work with the residents of this state and they are interested in what we have to say. Written materials and questionnaires were handed out to those attending the hearing. Any comments or ideas can be sent to John Firebaugh, Wildlife Manager, Fish Wildlife & Parks, 3201 Spurgin Road, Missoula, Montana 59801.

February 19 Meeting: Jay Haveman, guest speaker, suggested the WSC reconsider splitting the Area 285 hunting permits. Since he does not see a problem with the way the hunting area is now set up for permits, he believes that splitting would be a mistake, primarily because the hunting area would be smaller. He pointed out that the elk need a safety zone or they will not return to an area, the population of a herd fluctuates, and the permits can be raised or lowered according to this factor. Send your comments/suggestions to John Firebaugh by February 28.

Ron Ogden expressed his gratitude to the WSC for a wonderful job during both sled dog races. He said Governor Schwinden even remarked that Seeley Lake has started something; by setting a progressive example for other sportsman's clubs in the state with its involvement in activities besides just guns and wildlife. Ron has been receiving calls about Seeley Lake being the World Championship Mid-Distance Sled Dog Races location—more at a later meeting. Ron also said Bill 19 passed with flying colors!

This & That - Kurt Alt will be transferring to the Livingston area as Managing Biologist. His first priority will be the "wind" and then the "buffalo"! Kurt has been a guest speaker for the WSC several times. We wish him the best of luck in his new district. *** Upcoming: Membership Drive (April); FUN DAYS (April 26); OUTDOOR SPORTS & GUN SHOW (May 2 & 3)—500 tickets will go on sale next week.

My heartfelt thanks to all the wonderful people who expressed their deep sorrow and sympathy when Judy K. Larson was taken from us.

Bob Coverdell

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Mount Ovando

by Janell Stott
Reporter
We had a 4-H meeting February 2, 1987 and talked about what we were going to give our 4-H grandmothers for February (flowers). The session was called to order by Jody Hicks. There was a total attendance of 16. We also had thank-you notes from our 4-H grandmothers. We talked about old business such as Winter Fair, Sledding Party, and the Veterinary Science meeting. We also decided to make a class quilt.

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Reflections winners chosen

This year's PTA Reflections is over and the winners have been chosen from the 23 entries in this national cultural arts program depicting the theme: *In Celebration: A Past to Remember, A Future to Mold.*

First place in the primary division (K-3) went to Tom Chaney. Adrian Mantei, Katie Kenney, and Abe Kats received Honorable Mentions.

Intermediate Division first place winner was Paul Johnson. Honorable Mentions went to Jennifer Combs, Joe Weddle, and Renata Marshall.

Renn Anders was the first place winner in the Junior High Division (7-8). Kelly Malone received Honorable Mention.

The entries of Tom, Paul, and Renn will be sent to Great Falls next week for the State PTA competition.

All of the talent is on display at the Seeley Lake Elementary School until next week.

Judges for the competition were Larry Pagett, Jeanne Moon, Pam Sikkink, and Al Richards.

Business Briefs

Health products offered

Three Swan Valley residents are now independent distributors for Cernitin America, which was established in Europe and the United States to bring consumers fine-quality health, nutrition and skin care products from Sweden.

Lois Ekstedt, Marion Seaman, and Marilyn Rose, long-time Valley residents, now offer product presentations, which are held in the home. All three of these women are excited about the quality of these products (including vitamins, food supplements, diet plans and skin care products) and the opportunity to share health and nutrition information with local residents.

On Saturday, February 28, a "get acquainted" seminar will be held at the Seeley Lake Community Hall beginning at 10:30 a.m.

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ART CLASSES for Elementary students begin March 3rd, 3:10 p.m. to 4:10. Students will need supplies and \$2.00 per class. Please call Cathy Wray, 677-2113. Donations of magazines are needed.

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Dr. Doug Hadnot, Seeley Lake Dental Clinic, recently explained some of the principles of dentistry to fifth grade students from Seeley Lake Elementary School. February is Children's Dental Health Month.

McNally honored

by Jackie Gossard

Seeley Swan High School senior Colleen McNally, daughter of Wayne and Eloise McNally, was selected as the Elks' Student of the Month for February. She was honored at the Elks' monthly Tuesday meeting and banquet in Missoula, along with the other Students of the Month from area schools.

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Seeley Lake

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VALLEY MARKET

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 "Freeze Now" **78¢ lb**

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FRESH
BANANAS
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