

Chalk's Stories Buffalo of the Salish and Kootenai Part 5 B

“Helen Bower Dies In Grantsdale, Services Monday

Hamilton – Helen Josephine Bower, 63, died at her home in Grantsdale Thursday.

She was born Nov. 24, 1904, in Uray, Colo., and came to Moiese in 1907 with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Hodges, where Mr. Hodges was first manager of the Bison Range. She graduated from Missoula County High School in 1923. In 1931, she moved to Hamilton, where she resided until 1943 when she moved to California.

She retired from the California State Employment Service in 191 and returned to make her home in Grantsdale. She was a member of the Federated Church and Leona Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, White Shrine and numerous local organizations.

Survivors include two daughters, Mrs. Betty Schilke and Mrs. Clara Dell Kragh, both of Grantsdale; sisters, Mrs. Florence Hamilton and Mrs. Sylvia Ridley, both of Denver and Mrs. Elsie DeMaine, Port Orchard, Wash., eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday in the Dowling Chapel with the Rev. Marvin Northcutt officiating. Burial will be in Riverview Cemetery.

Family members have requested memorials may be made to the Federated Church.” March 23, 1968
The Missoulian

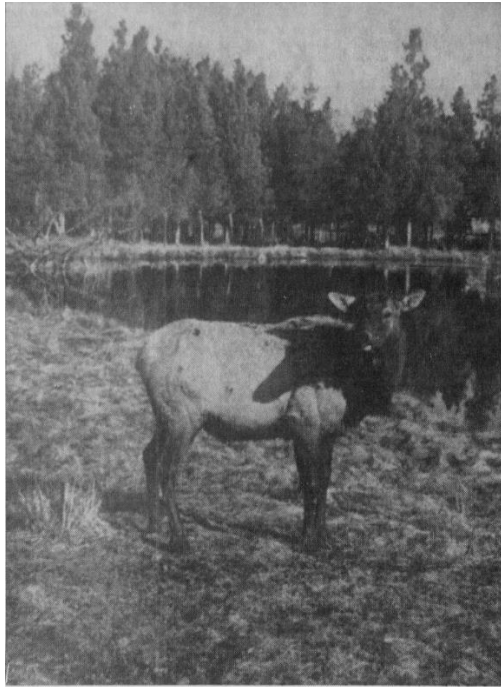


LONGHORNS ON BISON RANGE

The National Bison Range at Moiese, home of a variety of wild animals, is a refuge also for the disappearing Texas longhorn cattle. Range personnel harvest hay from range land as feed for the longhorns and buffalo

maintained in the exhibition pasture during the winter. Here Ernie Craft, a range employee, tries to make friends with one of the longhorns. (Photo by K. A. Eggen-sperger)

April 7, 1968 The Missoulian



SPRING MAKES HIM TIMID

Until the last day of February, this bull elk was lord of the exhibition herd at the National Bison Range at Moiese. But when he lost his antlers he also lost

much of his masculine personality. He'll grow new antlers later in the spring and his kingly demeanor will probably re-turn. (Photo by K. A. Eggen-sperger)

“O’Gara Joins Federal Agency

Dr. Bartholomew W. O’Gara of Missoula has been appointed assistant unit leader by the U.S. Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife. The announcement was made by Dr. John J. Craighead, leader of the Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit at the University of Montana.

After serving in the Navy, Dr. O’Gara entered Montana State University, Bozeman, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in fish and wildlife management in 1964. He entered UM that year on a National Defense Education fellowship.

Dr. O’Gara conducted extensive research at the National Bison Range in Moiese, and in Yellowstone National Park on the reproductive cycle of the female pronghorn.

He received his doctorate in biology at UM.” June 28, 1968 The Missoulian

“Wunsch, Bell, McLaughlin to Talk At Radiation Effects Meet Today

Final sessions of the Nuclear and Space Radiation Effects Conference at the University of Montana will be from 80 to 4:40 p.m. Thursday.

Opening speakers Thursday during the fifth annual Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) conference will be D. C. Wunsch and R. R. Bell of Braddock, Dunn and McDonald Inc., El Paso, Tex. Concluding speaker for the day will be W. L. McLaughlin of the National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C. All formal sessions are in the UM Music Recital Hall.

Approximately 300 scientists from the U.S. and foreign lands are visiting the UM campus for the conference. Wives and families of some of the scientists have been visiting the campus as well as Montana and other western Montana recreational areas during the conference.

Many of the visitors attended a social hour and cook-out Wednesday afternoon and evening at the National Bison Range picnic area near Moiese. The conference program for women concludes a visit to Helena at 8 a.m. Thursday. Women aking the trip will meet at the UM Lodge.

A one-day tour of Glacier National Park for IEEE conference participants and guests has been planned for Friday. Those leaving by bus for Glacier will meet at 7 a.m. Friday at the Lodge. Families are scheduled to arrive back on the campus at 9 p.m. Friday.

Local arrangements for the conference have been under direction of Thomas J. Collins, director of public services at the University.” July 18, 1968 The Missoulian

These following color photographs were taken by family members and Chalk Courchane on a couple tours through the National Bison Range just after the self-guided tours started.



Chalk Courchane and antelope in the late 1960s



Mike Courchane posing at National Bison Range, Moiese, Montana. See the buffalo behind him.



Lilly "Sassy" Jones petting an antelope at the National Bison Range, Moiese, Montana, late 1960's



Mike Courchane and Danny Jones with an elk at the National Bison Range in Montana.



Danny

Jones and buffalo at the National Bison Range in Moiese, Montana (Flathead Reservation)



Chalk Courchane and Danny Jones at Bison Nat'l Range, Moiese, Montana.

“80 American Buffalo Are Offered For Sale

Moiese – The National Bison Range in Moiese is offering 80 live American bison or buffalo for sale, on the basis of a sealed competitive bid.

Bids opened on Aug.5, and will be received until 10 a.m. Sept. 5.

The bison range is a national wildlife refuge administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

The refuge is dedicated to the preservation and maintenance of a representative herd of bison for the enjoyment of the American public.

Annual surpluses must be removed to maintain a proper balance between the numbers of buffalo and available forage. The surplus animals are selected during the annual buffalo roundup which is scheduled for Oct. 3 to 9.

The buffalo are to be sold in lots from one to 13 animals. A minimum bid of \$235 per animal will be required. There are no restrictions on the number of lots or animals bid on.

A descriptive bid form may be obtained by writing to the refuge manager, National Bison Range,

Moiese, Montana 59824.” August 18, 1968 The Missoulian

Sentinel Realty

TOWN FOR SALE
Gateway to National Bison Range tourist area. Combination grocery, hardware, post office and gas station and living quarters. Showing steady increase of gross. Artesian water. Very realistic price and terms. For your own business, call Bruce Nelson, 549-5664 or 542-0351.

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August 19, 1968 The Missoulian

"Buffalo Sold At Moiese

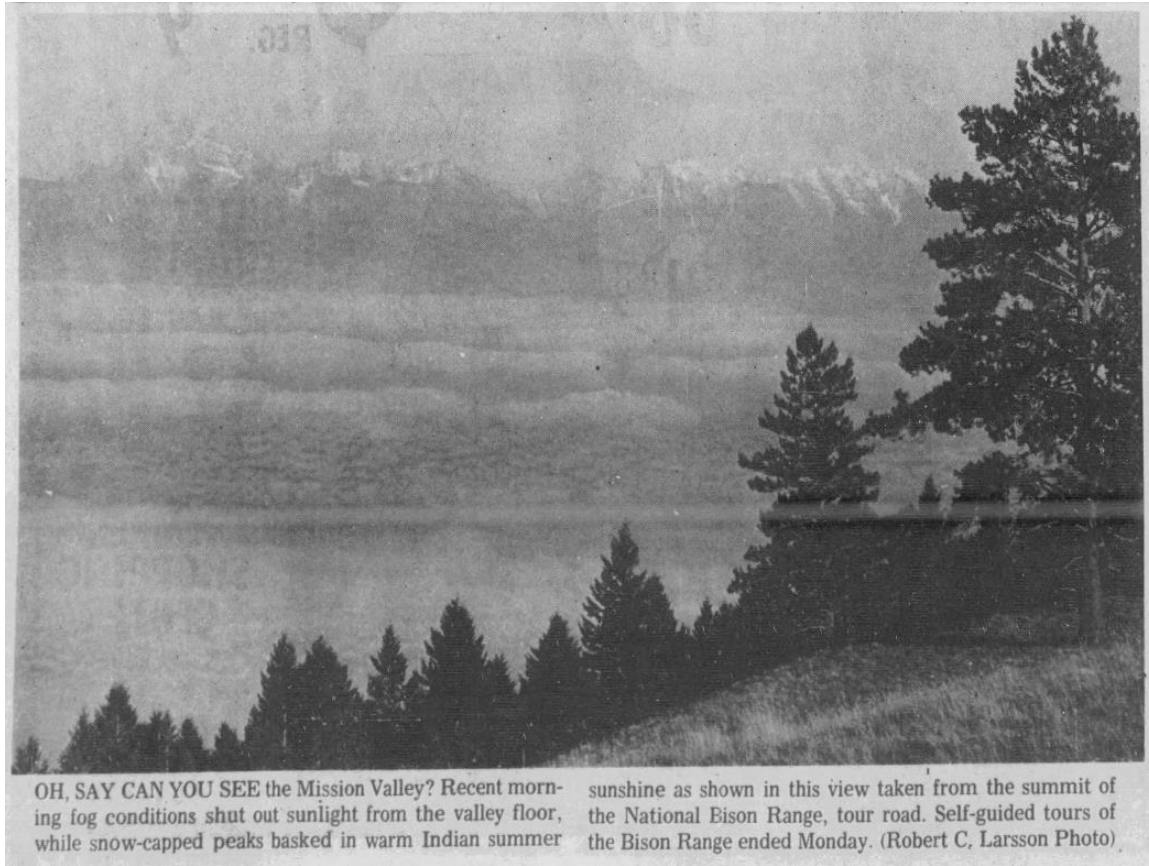
Moiese – The recent sealed bid sale of surplus live buffalo

MOIESE—The recent sealed bid sale of surplus live buffalo at the National Bison Range totaled \$31,773.96, for an average of \$397.17 per animal. This compared with the 1967 sale average of \$412.87 per animal.

The 80 animals sold included mixed age and sex groups ranging from long-yearlings to one nine-year-old cow. The lowest bid was an average \$279.08 for one lot of long-yearling bulls. The highest bid was an average \$525.50 for one lot of long-yearling heifers.

the live sale program, the need for refuge butchering continues to diminish, range officials reported. With the advent of the sealed bid sale in 1967, the butchering program has gradually been decreased from an annual average of 80 to 90 animals to only ten this year.

September 27, 1968 The Missoulian



October 3, 1968 The Missoulian



By Jim Crane

"This old bull, weighing about a ton, is the herd patriarch. Even though bull calves are not castrated, there is very little fighting among males, says owner Bob Schall. Despite bulk, buffalo are very quick."



HERD OF BUFFALO moving easily across the high bench northeast of the Schall home near Arlee evokes misty memories of what the area must have been like a century ago. Although Schall's buffalo can be troublesome when corraled, in the open they're docile. Photographer Jim Crane, feeling completely safe, took this shot from about 30 feet away.

A BUSY MAN last week was Bob Schall, trying to get ready for the sale of almost half of his herd of 120 buffalo. Schall is an energetic, loud-talking rancher who grew up in the Arlee area. Not content to limit his energy to ranching, he has been a rodeo producer, a supplier of fighting roosters and a dirt moving contractor.

“Bob Schall has a home where the buffalo roam. More properly, he has a ranch where there are about 120 buffalo, almost half of which will be sold Monday at the first private buffalo auction in Montana.

“I was down at the Bison Range one day when John Schwartz was refuge manager,” Schall recalled this week. “There was this bunch of little buffalo calves milling around the corrals there and I said I’d sure like to have some. John called my bluff and asked how many I wanted. I had to say I’d take a dozen.”

That was ago about 20 years ago. Schall and his wife Marge and their six children raised the calves around the ranch house, getting them accustomed to calling the ranch, not the Bison Range, home.

“They’ve never done anything but make me money,” Schall said.

He said he decided to sell about 50 head of buffalo because five of the six children in the family are away from home this fall and the many ranch enterprises demand more labor than is available.

“We’ve got too many irons in the fire,” Schall said in that booming voice that was earned him fame around Arlee.

So, starting at 1:30 p.m. Monday about 50 buffalo, including two herd bulls, will began running through the auction ring at the Missoula Auction Co. yards.

Schall admits his buffalo tear down fences once in a while and that they've caused one neighbor to complain to law enforcement officials. Still, he likes to have them around.

"We started this as a hobby, but it's turned into a financial success," he says.

Schall doesn't limit the ranch to a couple hundred head of beef cows and the buffalo. A former rodeo producer, Schall recently bought about 15 bucking horses for his only son to practice on. His son is a freshman this fall at Montana State University, Bozeman.

Then there is his dragline, bought with the aim of digging ditches and draining swampland along Jocko Creek. "Now we're doing ditching for everybody but Schall, seems to like it.

There was a time he raised fighting cocks for rooster fight fans in the Missoula area. And the portable sawmill the Army Reserve used on Blue Mountain this summer belongs to him too.

Buffalo are easy to manage, Schall said, except for their propensity to ignore fences and their tendency to go a little crazy in a corral. He feeds them during the winter on hay that wouldn't keep beef cows in good condition. Heifers have no trouble calving. There's no dehorn or castrating to do.

"They're real long livers, too" he said. We've got one 18 years old and she's got a calf at her side."

Schall said that contrary to popular opinion, 90 per cent of his buffalo cows calve every year. Big buffalo cows weigh between 1,200 and 1,300 pounds. One of his herd bulls weighs about a ton.

Surprisingly, a lot of buffalo are going into feedlots where they gain fast and produce meat that can compare with beef.

An added steak-lovers benefit is that buffalo have 14 ribs, than than 13 as in beef cows." October 6, 1968 The Missoulian

12—The Sunday Missoulian, October 6, 1968



BUFFALO ROUNDUP is underway at the National Bison Range at Moise. Each year a roundup is made of the approximately 460 buffalo on the 19,000-acre refuge. Shown is a part of the herd being driven through a line gate into a holding pasture. Monday the animals will be brought to sorting corrals. (Robert C. Larsson Photo.)

“Kenney Leaves Ninepipe Job

Moiese – Joe Mazzoni, manager of the National Bison Range, announced Tuesday that the Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife will no longer have resident personnel at the Ninepipe Refuge.

Frank Kenney, who has been working at the refuge, will be transferred to Cheney, Wash., where he will be assistant refuge manager at the Turnbull Water Refuge.

Mazzoni explained that the decision was an economy move necessitated by the fact that the Bureau felt it should redistribute its personnel. Administration of the Ninepipe and Pablo Refuges will be handled from the National Bison Range at Moiese, Mazzoni explained.” October 9, 1968 The Missoulian



LAST ROUNDUP for the Detroit Tigers and St. Louis Cards Thursday in the final game of the 1968 World Series won by the Tigers, 4-1, found cowboys on the last day of the annual buffalo roundup at the National Bison Range at Moiese taking a lunch hour break to check progress of the big game. (Robert C. Larsson Photo)

October 11, 1968 The Missoulian

“Bison Range Gives Tally On Annual Herd Roundup

Moiese – The annual buffalo roundup was completed a day and a half ahead of scheduled, according to Joseph P. Mazzoni, manager of the National Bison Range.

A total of 420 animals was tallied, including four large bulls which couldn’t be rousted from their range haunts.

Calves counted totaled 91, with 35 males and 55 females – a birth sex ratio not uncommon in bison. This represented 85 per cent of 107 cows of calving age returned to the range in 1967.

Calf production has averaged 89 per cent for the past 15 years. Animals returned to range numbered 329 – 18 bulls and 175 cows.

Most of the 80 live sale animals were loaded Tuesday. Major sales were 17 head to B. L. Tiffany, Cazenovia NY.; 29 head to r. W. Gregory, Longmont, Colo.; and 23 to Gold Rey Ranch, Central Point, Ore.

Only seven head will have to be butchered this year, Mazzoni said. Meat goes to clubs on basis of public drawing conducted Oct. 1. Of 39 applications received, 16 clubs were drawn. Successful applicants included Charlo and Dixon Lions Clubs, and Kootenai Christian Service Camp of St. Ignatius.” October 17, 1968 The Missoulian

“Bison Range Distributes Money to Two Counties

Moiese – A total of \$6,066.83 in receipts from the National Bison Range during fiscal year 1968 has been recently distributed to Sanders and Lake counties, according to Joseph P. Mazzoni, refuge manager.

The money was allocated proportionately, on the basis of refuge acreage in each county, with \$2,964.85 going to Sanders County and \$3,101.98 going to Lake County.

Counties in which National Wildlife Refuges are located been allocated a portion of the net proceeds from sales of surplus buffalo, from products such as gravel and furs, and from such privileges as grazing, timber harvesting, concession operations, and recreational user fees. A total of \$305,738.00 in receipts from federal refuges during this period has been distributed to counties in the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife’s Region 1, which encompasses the six western states, Alaska and Hawaii. Of this amount, \$43,53.00 was distributed to 16 counties in Montana, with the largest payment, \$15,000.00 going to Beaverhead County.

The amount of the annual allocations to the counties is determined by the following methods:

1. A county containing a refuge which includes reserved public lands receives 25 percent of net revenues from those public lands.
2. A county which has a refuge with lands that were acquired in fee receives 25 per cent of ne revenues from those lands or three-fourths of one percent of the adjusted cost of the lands, whichever is greater.” October 23, 1968 The Missoulian

“Bison Range Manager Transferred to Portland

Moiese – Joe Mazzoni, manager of the National Bison Range for the past 3 ½ years, is being transferred to Portland, Ore.

Mazzoni will become wilderness coordinator in the regional office of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

The appointment will be effective in mid-December. His wife, Nancy, and their four children will accompany him to Portland.

Marvin Caschke [Kaschke] has been named to succeed Mazzoni. Caschke presently is employed at the Charles M. Russell Game Range near Ft. Benton.

In another announcement Mazzoni said the annual slaughter of excess buffalo will begin Dec. 2. Only about 10 animals will be butchered this year. The carcasses will go to clubs and organizations already designated by drawing.” November 19, 1968 The Missoulian

“Dixon Woman Dies Of Bullet Wound

Dixon – Mrs. Robert L. Middlemist, 37, as found dead in her home ere at noon Wednesday by her husband when he returned for lunch from his work at the National Bison Range.

Sanders County Sheriff-Coroner Richard J. Cote said that Mrs. Middlemist died from a bullet wound through the heart and that a rifle was found near the body.

A Ronan physician was summoned and pronounced Mrs. Middlemist dead at the scene. The body was taken to the Fearon Mortuary in St. Ignatius.

Mrs. Middlemist was born Nov. 3, 1931, at Hardin. She graduated from Mission High School in 1950, and married Robert Middlemist in August of 1950.

She is survived by her husband, two daughters, Renee and Diane, one son, Ross; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Walker of St. Ignatius; two sisters, Mrs. Bob McVey and Mrs. Walter Freshour of St. Ignatius; one brother, Al Walker of Arlee; and a brother-in-law, William Middlemist.

Funeral services for Mrs. Middlemist will be at 2 p.m. Monday at the Methodist Church in St. Ignatius with the Rev. Grant Moore officiating. Burial will be in the Pleasant View Cemetery in St. Ignatius.” November 28, 1968 The Missoulian

“Officials Comment On Pesticide Report by Robert Larsson Missoulian Correspondent

St. Ignatius – The report on the use of tordon pesticide in Mission Valley issued this week specifies that a spring originating on the National Bison Range which supplies water for the Flathead Agency at Dixon contains significant amounts of the pesticide.

The report issued by Dr. Arden Gaufin of the University of Montana states the water from the agency tested had shown .024 parts per million of tordon.

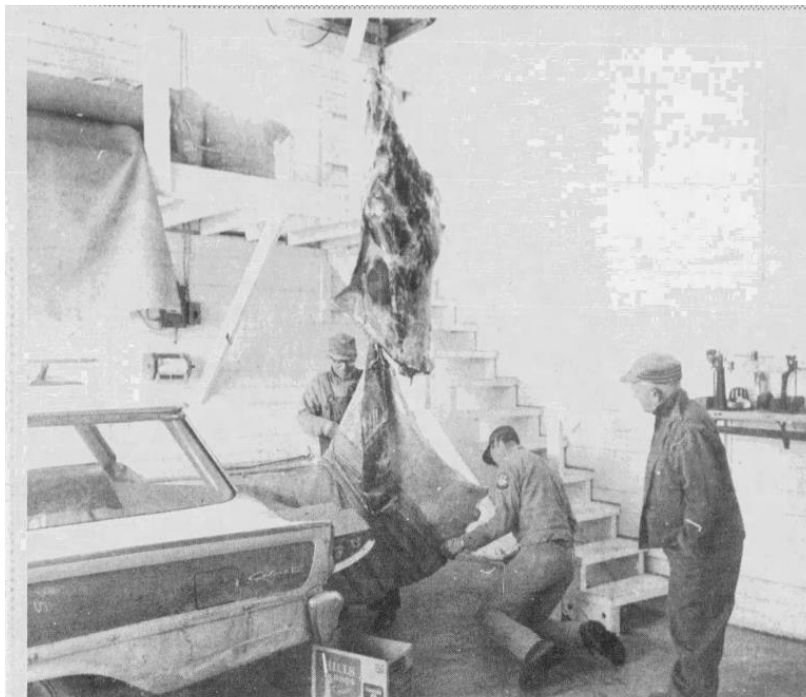
Joe Mazzoni, Bison Range manager, said Wednesday he was surprised to hear that tordon had been found in the water and if the condition does indeed exist, “we ought to follow up and determine the sources and amount of contamination.”

Mazzoni also said that no tordon had been used within a quarter of a mile of the spring in question and then only in very careful spot treatment of Canadian thistle on d ty land. Mazzoni indicated that tordon applications were in the summers of 1967 and 1968.

Other official reaction in the valley expressed puzzlement as to where the contamination was coming from.

The Lake County weed control supervisor, A. J. Rosenbaum said that no tordon had been used by his crews on any alley ditch banks, but stated that some had been used in dry-land areas along the foothills.

Ed Bratton, Lake County extension agent, reminded that a wide range of chemicals is available to the general public and “we have no way of knowing how much of anything is being used generally.” November 29, 1968 The Missoulian



HALF A BUFFALO IS PREPARED for transport from the National Bison Range at Moiese to the Daniels County Sportsman's Club. Working on the buffalo are Ernie Kraft (left) and Grant Hogue, employees at the range. Foster Fritz (right) of East Lake Shore picked up the

455 pounds of buffalo meat for the sportsman's group. This represents the end of the 1968 reduction program at the Bison Range. Officials at the range say they phase out the meat sale program. Ten buffalo were butchered this year and 55 sold live. (Photo by Robert Larsson)

December 11, 1968 The Missoulian

“Smart Ducks Thwart Banding Operation

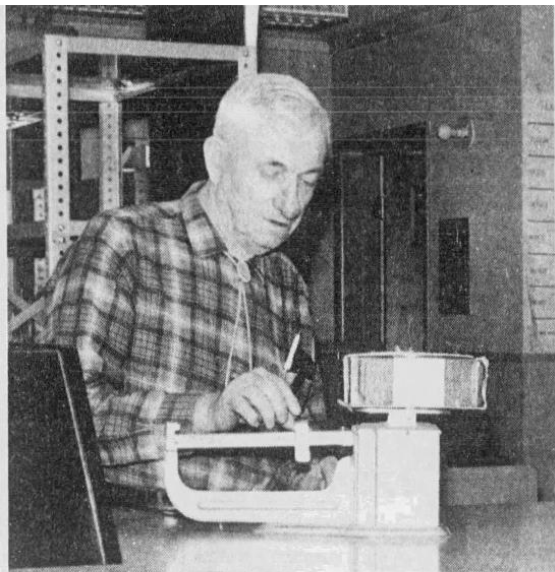
Moiese – Mission Creek on the National Bison Range has “some smart ducks.”

Marvin Kaschke, range manager, said plans have been to shoot a net over the ducks and band them with a U.S. Fish and Wildlife tag. Most of the 800 ducks are mallards.

The birds had been fed on shore getting them ready to shoot the 40 by 80-foot net that would trap them for banding.

Kaschke commented: "It didn't work Wednesday. Possibly some of them remember being trapped last year."

He also reports about 200 Canadian geese on the creek." January 19, 1969 The Missoulian



POSTMASTER BILL PARRISH, here weighing a parcel post package, has retired from his job at Paradise. (Photo by C. I. Ekman)

“Postmaster Completes Long Government Career

Paradise – Local postmaster W. A. Parrish is living the life of leisure these days. Parrish has retired after serving in various capacities for the government for a total of 15 years and seven months.

Bill Parrish began as a machine operator for the Department of Interior at the National Bison Range at Moiese in 1935 where he was also in charge of maintaining the trucks. He and his wife, Gladys, moved to the Flathead Indian Agency near Dixon, in 1937, where he was employed as a mechanic.

In 1938, the family moved to Paradise where Parrish operated the Chevron Service Station for our years.

Bill then accepted the as custodian for the Paradise Grade School where he worked for 12 years, from 1942 to 1954. In June of 1954 his appointment as postmaster at Paradise was confirmed, a position he held until his retirement.

The Parrish's plan to remain at their home here." January 19, 1969 The Missoulian

"Robert Barber Joins Refuge

Moiese – Robert L. Barber has assumed the duties as assistant manager of the National Bison Range, according to Marvin R. Kaschke, refuge manager.

Barber replaces John G. Augsburger, who returned to New Mexico State University to work on his Masters degree. Barber transferred from the Benton Lake National Wildlife Refuge, near Great Falls where he had held a similar position since 1962.

Barber is a 1962 graduate of Colorado State University at Fort Collins, Colorado, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in wildlife management." January 23, 1969 The Missoulian

"Mazzoni Gets New Position

Moiese – Joseph P. Mazzoni who was manager of the National Bison Range here from 1965 until last month has been promoted to the position of biologist in charge of wilderness studies on national wildlife refuges in the U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife regional office on Portland, Ore.

John D. Findlay, director, announced that Mazzoni will coordinate the bureau's wilderness program in the eight states of the Pacific region. The states are Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Nevada, California, Hawaii and Alaska." January 24, 1969 The Missoulian

Botanist's Profession No Bed of Roses

By JOHN KUGLIN
Tribune Capitol Bureau

MISSOULA—Montana is Frank Rose's garden, so naturally he was saddened when "the Highway Department sprayed and killed every last *Penstemon albertinus* where I used to collect up the Blackfoot."

Penstemon albertinus is a wildflower and Rose, who will be 83 this April, is one of the few surviving collectors of native plants. The Missoulian is a world-renowned authority on plant identification. He can name thousands of species by merely glancing at them.

Rose said his business, "Native Evergreens," was "capitalized on nothing, but with a million dollars worth of trees and plants growing wild and needing only collecting and marketing."

Believing that "Montana plants should be shared with the world," the rambling Rose has collected throughout the western part of this state, northern Idaho and northwestern Wyoming.

The collector has long been known to rock gardeners and nurserymen in all parts of the world for his lengthy and comprehensive list of plants and seed of the choicest species of the northern Rocky Mountains. His only nursery is the thickly-foliated quarter of an acre around his home.

Rose used native trees and shrubs to landscape construction areas in Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks. He is critical of highway "beautification" and the destruction of native wildflowers and shrubs by spraying for weeds along highways.

"Sides of roads should be left for native plants. This would minimize many maintenance problems. Tourists should be able to see what Montana looked like at the time of Lewis and Clark.

"If they'd confine their spraying to those species that are noxious, I wouldn't object. I do object when they spray to kill

beauty. The Highway Department has no men who understand our native plants."

Rose objects to interstate highway beautification when it is done with foreign grasses and shrubs. He termed the sides and median strips of interstate highways "a park from New York to San Francisco."

The collector has a shock of hair as white as a dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*) gone to seed and likes to tell anecdotes about his years in the field. Frequently he has clashed with the Forest Service and other agencies.

"Many agencies object to plant collectors," Rose said, recalling a sign off the Beartooth Highway near Red Lodge which says "Don't Molest Wildflowers." Rose had no intention of molesting the flowers—he wanted to dig them—and the last time he was in the area a flock of mountain sheep was decimating the foliage. "I only wanted to dig a few, but it takes a good many wildflowers to make a lambchop," Rose quipped.

One of his best tales concerns a bear in Glacier National Park. The bruin received a mauling when it tried to enter Rose's tent one night—through the side. Rose slugged the moving canvas. The next morning, he said, "I noticed a bear with a black eye; naturally, it was a black bear."

Rose talks of plants in human terms. Alpine plants, he said, are small and used to lots of exposure and little cultivation. "Most alpine don't like someone looking over their shoulder."

Rose usually has no trouble digging on private land. "I ask permission before I start digging up a rancher's field. There is a problem, though. They don't object to my collecting, but they want me to take all the plants they want to get rid of, especially the cacti."

Rose is an authority on *Lewisia rediviva*, the bitterroot, Montana's state flower. There's plenty of bitterroot left, he said, but its range has diminished south of the Garden City. The problem: suburbanites are growing lawns on the "Missoula Flats," and bitterroot won't grow where there is irrigation.

"The old botanists saw the plants in the field," Rose said, but "the new botanists see only the pressed specimens."

"There are about 10,000 varieties of green plants in Montana, and more than 1,000 species of mushrooms in the Missoula area —then there's my wife's yeast."

The walking botanical encyclopedia was born on the plains of Kansas and spent his boyhood there and in Oklahoma where he started his collecting ways by accumulating bugs, birds' eggs, leaves, tadpoles and opossums.

He attended the universities of Colorado and Oklahoma and in 1915 became a Forest Service ranger in Colorado, where "I rode a wonderful, wild country, fed my brain with trout all summer and found enough time in the nine-month winter to read up on forestry and grazing."

From 1920 to 1930 he was warden in charge of the National Bison Range near Moiese. There he banded about 12,000 mallards in his spare time and collected 42 species of grasses from the range, "about the same number you'd find on any uncluttered township in the country."

Some gardeners have black instead of green thumbs, Rose said, because "they try to grow too many rare and exotic species. They should grow plants that do well in their area. Lack of or too much drainage is another pitfall."

Rose's eyesight is failing and his doctor won't let him collect above 8,000 feet where the choicest of the alpine plants flourish. Other problems make Rose's profession no bed of roses. He is allergic to the much-prized lady slipper and to poison ivy, which he called "one of the best fall colors."

"You don't just pluck plants. Beargrass, for instance, has sensitive roots that are easily skinned."

He has no plants named after him (Rose doesn't count), but the collector did discover *Phlox missouensis*, which grows only in his area. On the subject of phloxes, he wonders, "How did Lewis and Clark get through Montana without seeing a dwarf phlox? At least they didn't record them in their journals."

Rose's wife, Louise, has a master's degree in plant physiology, though she admitted her "first love is slime molds." She agreed with her husband that the most beautiful wildflower "is the one you saw last, growing at its best."

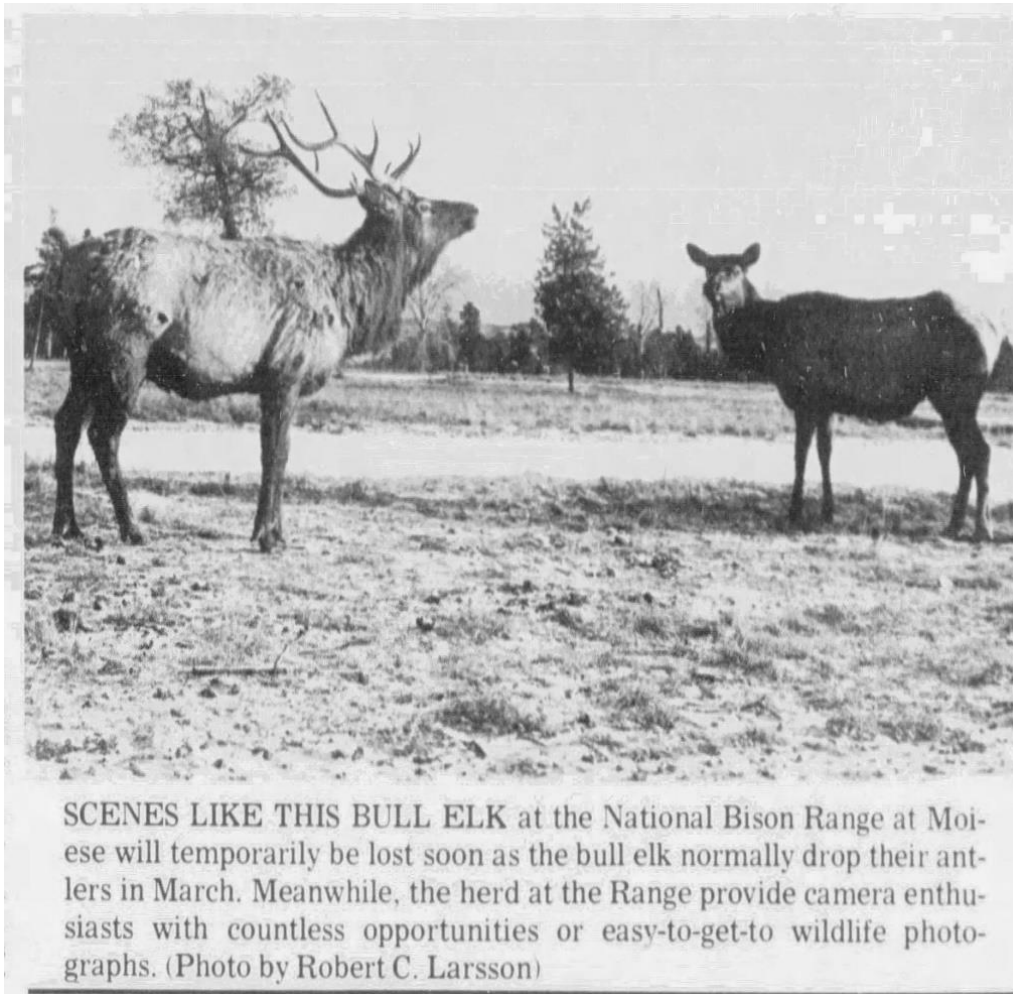
Rose's acquaintances in the nursery business say he has always underpriced his plants, and he admits, "I have never made my business financially attractive." He has driven hundreds of miles, taken a jeep road and climbed a small mountain just to provide a few hard-to-get plants for a valued friend in another state.

Wild plants are fickle, and Rose's plant list says, "Sometimes there is no crop, or more likely I am not there at the right time. You will have to hurry. Each year the hills I climb become higher and steeper."

"Let's become acquainted while I still have youth."



MONTANA'S HIS GARDEN — Frank Rose, who holds a bunch of Montana's State Flower, the bitterroot, is one of the few surviving collectors of native plants. Rose, 82, once was warden of the National Bison Range at Moiese. (Kuglin Photo)



“Buffalo Leftovers Bring Big Prices

Moiese – Buffalo leftovers, hides and skulls sold this week at the National Bison Range for substantial prices from successful bidders.

Marvin Kaschke, refuge manager, said the highest prices paid were \$78.88 for a hide from a nine-year-old cow and \$121.15 for the skull of a mature bull. Both were purchased by Hugo Eck, a professor at Montana State University at Bozeman.

Other buffalo hides sold for as low as \$22 and the lowest price paid for a skull was \$13.17. A number of deer and elk hides also were sold.” March 21, 1969 The Missoulian



Spring Has Sprung at Moiese

Marvin R. Kaschke, manager of the National Bison Range at Moiese, reports an increase in visitors recently with the warmer weather and this is one trip we personally recommend to those wanting a good drive and a good luck at wildlife.

Kaschke reports there were more than 200 cars on the tour around the exhibition pasture a weekend ago and likely the number will grow. You'll find a wide variety of wildlife to photograph at easy range in the exhibition pasture, although Joe, the bull elk, has lost his antlers.

April 8, 1969 The Missoulian

“Bison Range Trail Ride Set Sunday

The annual Bison Range trail ride will be Sunday at the National Bison Range, Moiese.

Last year the ride drew 200 mounted persons. Starting point this year will be at the range headquarters. The ride will begin at 10 a.m. and should be completed by 4 p.m. A \$3 registration fee will cover the cost of a lunch.

Interested persons should bring their own horses and pack. No stallions will be allowed. The ride covers between eight and ten miles. The Mission Rangers Saddle Club is sponsor.

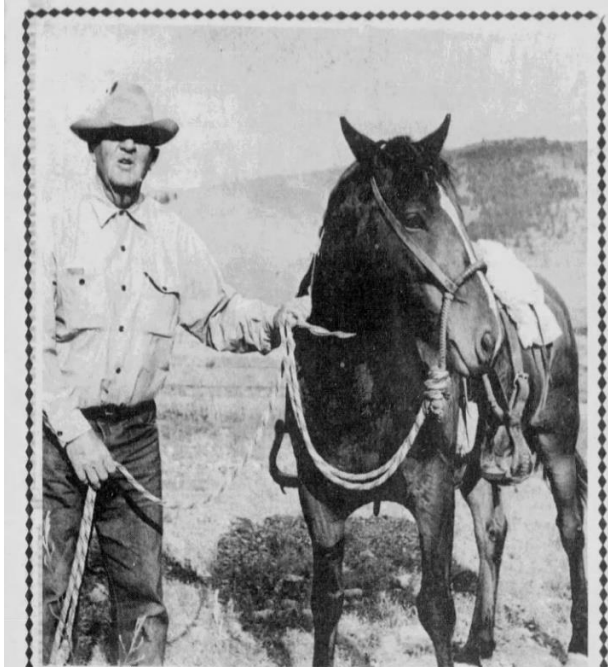
An overnight campground for participants will be available Saturday at Ravalli.” May 21, 1969 The Missoulian

“Bison Range Motor Tour Opens Friday

Moiese – The National Bison Range at Moiese, will open its 19 mile self-guided auto tour route May 30 instead of June 1, as previously scheduled. The tour will be open from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. daily until Sept. 30.

Tour fees are \$1 per car, or the \$7.00 Golden Eagle Passport is valid. Tickets are available at the tour entrance. There is no charge for the picnic or exhibition pasture areas, but overnight camping is not permitted.

Refuge Manager Marvin Kaschke reported the native flowers are blooming and all vegetation had made exceptional growth due to favorable moisture conditions. In general the area offers spectacular views and a variety of native game animals and plants, he said.” May 25, 1969 The Missoulian



TRAIL BOSS FOR RIDE—Chuck Glover, 77, served as trail boss for the ride that covered 370 miles from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, to the National Bison Range at Moiese. (Photos by Liz Fisher)

Horsemen Cover Ride Over 370 Mile Route

By LIZ FISHER

Missoulian Correspondent
HOT SPRINGS—Over 100 tired riders, horses and drivers pitched camp just outside the gates of the National Bison Range at Moiese last Friday to end a journey that began at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, eight days before.

This was the 22nd annual Gentlemen's Horseback Ride arranged and managed by Chuck Glover of Veradale, Wash. Glover, 77, plans to continue these rides for three more years.

Dwight Miesner, 91, of Mesa, Ariz. was the oldest rider with the group, making his fifth trip. The youngest was a nine-year old boy from Spokane.

Over 30 vehicles accompa-

nied the riders, including trucks, pickups with horse trailers and the cooking crew. A catering service out of Spokane furnished grub for the trail riders. The vehicles had covered over 370 miles of rough terrain and had 14 flat tires — seven in one day.

The riders left Coeur d'Alene June 13 and camped the first night at Horse Heaven. They made it to six miles below the McGee Ranger station the second night, and to the Shoshone work camp the third night. Monday night they camped at Trout Creek, Tuesday at Willow Creek, Wednesday at Little Rock Creek, and Thursday at the Bill Christensen ranch near Hot Springs.

All the riders furnished their own horses and equipment.

“NYC Program Begins Monday On Reservation

St. Ignatius – The third Summer Neighborhood Youth Corps program on the Flathead Reservation begins at 9 a.m. Monday with an orientation meeting to be held in the St. Ignatius Community Center.

Alvin E. Sloan, director of the program, said that all enrollees who have signed up must attend this meeting, which is open to other interested persons.

There will be 110 high school youths employed for 32 hours per week at the rate of \$1.30 per hour, Sloan said. He said it would amount to nearly \$37,000 in wages being paid during the summer.

Sloan said three additional staff members, all residents of the area, will join the program for summer. They will serve as a counselor and two work supervisors in charge of work crews at either end of the reservation.

The counselor will conduct weekly sessions with enrollees on a variety of subjects dealing with the lives of the young people, Sloan said.

Work assignments will include all public agencies, cities, the National Bison Range at Moiese, cemetery boards, hospitals, schools, the Reservation Ranger Program, and a variety of other agencies offering valuable work experience and training for the enrollees, Sloan said.” June 8, 1969

The Missoulian



Mrs. Warren Jean Scammon

Scammon-Oxford

ST. IGNATIUS — Sharon Ann Oxford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert R. Oxford of Arlee, and Warren Jean Scammon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Orin E. Scammon of St. Ignatius, were married in a double ring ceremony in the Methodist Church Aug. 8.

The Rev. Gordon Stokke officiated.

Miss Denise Oxford, sister of the bride, was maid of honor. Miss Marjorie Scammon, sister of the bridegroom, and Mrs. Richard Hubbard were bridesmaids.

Wayne Scammon, brother of the bridegroom, was best man. Ushers were Richard Hubbard and Gary Plouffe.

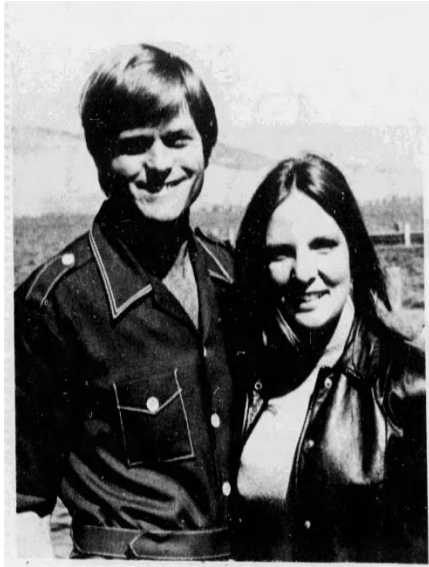
Kathy Rae Spence was flower girl. Bert Oxford, brother of the bride, was candlelighter. Mrs. Ralph Morrison was soloist and organist.

A reception followed in the Equity Hall.

The bride attended Arlee High School and Montana State University. She is employed by the U.S. Department of Interior on the National Bison Range.

Scammon attended St. Ignatius High School and served in the U.S. Army. He is employed by Lake County.

The couple will reside in St. Ignatius.



DATING GAME COUPLE—Californians Brian Cutler and Tamara Lucier are visiting in the Flathead Valley as their prize in the television show Dating Game. (Photo by Marge Anderson)

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The Missoulian

In Neighborhood Youth Corps

Youths Earn Self-Confidence

By MARGE ANDERSON
Missoulian Correspondent

DIXON — A shopping spree for fall school clothes can be a dream come true for one petite brown-eyed girl. For the first time in her 16 years she can enter the classroom confident that she is dressed as well as other girls. And she earned the money for her new wardrobe herself.

The teenager in this case was only one of 110 youths who earned money, gained experience and confidence this summer while engaged in the Neighborhood Youth Corp Program sponsored by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Council under the Manpower Training Act through the Department of Labor.

Under this program, youths between the ages of 14 and 22 years from poverty level families are placed at jobs with non-profit organizations. They are

paid \$1.30 per hour for their work, and generally work four days a week. The program is open to both Indian and non-Indian youths.

In return for the extra pair of hands, the organization is obligated to supervise and train the enrollees. Some of the NYC girls serving in hospitals have later become regular employees at the hospitals where they received training. Others have developed office skills that will make it easier for them to enter the business world after they graduate from high school. The NYC program provides its enrollees with the opportunity to try different types of occupations through this exposure.

Some of the boys in the program have been employed at jobs at the Bison Range and at the Reservation Ranger's fisheries department. One youth with an artistic bent has been doing

drafting work for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Other NYC youths were employed this summer as janitors, gardeners, clerks, hospital aids, kitchen help, and at city, county, state, and government offices throughout the reservation. Last summer a crew from NYC cleaned up the St. Ignatius cemetery. This summer they tackled the cemetery at Ronan, doing the tedious grounds work that can't be handled by machinery.

According to Alvin Sloan, director of the program, the NYC program made it possible for these youths to gain experience at work that would not otherwise have been available to them. At the same time they have gained confidence in themselves, learned good work habits, and earned badly needed money, he said.

The NYC program also func-

tions during the school year, and includes a program for dropouts. Where youths have left school, the program tries to locate further training programs that will benefit them, and place them at steady jobs.

Sloan says his favorite example of the boost NYC can offer is a young Indian girl now employed by the Tribe. According to Sloan she was a dropout, pregnant and unmarried, and welfare-bound. "NYC provided the means for her to receive the special secretarial training that led to her steady employment," Sloan said.

The success of the project depends upon the active participation of the non-profit organization that does the supervising, officials said. Close supervision helps develop good work habits, it was reported.

September 5, 1969 The Missoulian

"Bison Roundup Scheduled by Robert C. Larsson Missoulian Correspondent

Moiese — The thundering of stampeding "buffalo" will again be heard, starting Oct. 1, when the annual roundup gets under way at the National Bison Range.

The purpose of the roundup according to Refuge Manager Marvin Kaschke, is to thin out surplus animals to keep the size of the herd in balance with the available food supply.

For the first time, no animals will be slaughtered for meat, Kaschke said. Instead, 79 head will be sold alive to predetermined sealed bidders.

The average price paid this year is \$370.17 with a high of \$525 being paid for a yearling heifer, weighing approximately 600 pounds. R.J. Gress of Ennis was the high bidder. Prices ranged down to \$311.11 for a two-year-old bull, bought with 18 other bulls by Don Haight of Murdo, S. D.

Largest buyer was B. L. Tiffany of Lafayette, New York, with 22 head, Haight was second, and Durham Meat Co. of San Jose, Calif., was third with 14.

Oct. 1-3 the cowboys will comb the 19,000 acres to bring the herd together and on Oct. 6-8 will

sort the animals through the corrals.” September 17, 1969 The Missoulian



Herding Bison at Moiese September 17, 1969 The Missoulian



ROUNDUP TIME — Cowboys at the National Bison Range stampede a number of the buffalo into sorting corrals as part of the annual roundup near Moiese, which began Monday.

The processing of the 400-plus animals will continue through Wednesday, according to Refuge Manager Marvin Kaschke. (Robert C. Larsson Photo)

October 7, 1969 The Missoulian



THUNDERING HERD—A herd of buffalo is stampeded into the pens at the National Bison Range at Moiese with refuge manager Marvin Kaschke riding herd with other members of his staff. Although the

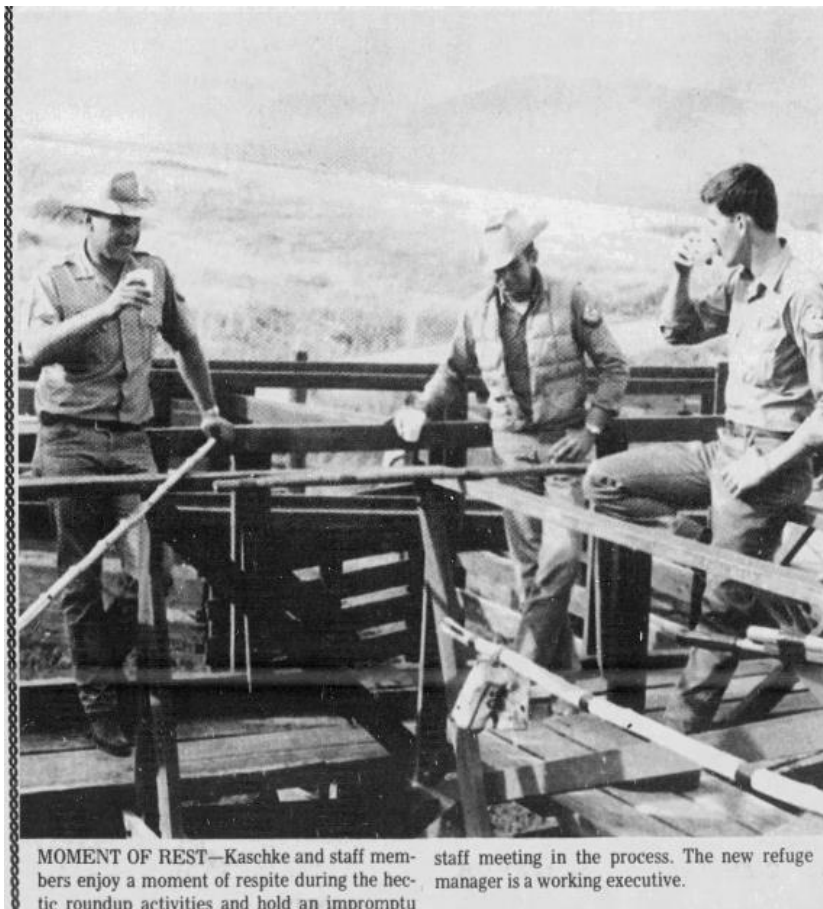
roundup has been going on for many years, this is the first in which Kaschke has participated. (Photos by Robert C. Larsson)



Marvin Kaschke



AN ACTIVE HAND—Kaschke helps man the gate on one of the buyer's trucks into which buffalo were loaded.



MOMENT OF REST—Kaschke and staff members enjoy a moment of respite during the hectic roundup activities and hold an impromptu

staff meeting in the process. The new refuge manager is a working executive.

“On Moiese Buffalo Roundup

‘Tremendous Riding Thrill’ by Robert C. Larsson Missoulian Correspondent

Moiese- Marvin Kaschke, refuge manager of the National Bison Range here, is a life-long horseman but he had his greatest ride last week.

Kaschke has ridden a lot of horses since he used to gather in the milk cows, astride a gentle pony, on the Nebraska farm where he was born. However, by his own testimony, none of his previous rides had given him the thrill he experienced this past week when he joined some of the “cowboys” under his supervision in galloping after buffalo during the annual roundup at the Bison Range.

The roundup, a necessity in keeping the herd size in balance with its food supply, keeps the refuge manager hopping with a sudden load of added responsibilities.

The 400 plus bison or “buffalo” must be gathered in from the 19,000 acres of rugged hills, valleys, and timbered slopes that make up the refuge.

Then, each individual animal must be separated from the herd, inspected, perhaps weighed and/or vaccinated, and returned to the range or set aside for live sale. If the latter, then it will be given a numbered tag.

The manager must look out not only for the welfare of the animals but also for his own crew, and hordes of onlookers and photographers for whom the occasion is “better than a rodeo!”

Kaschke, who became manager last December, voiced some of his impressions of his first roundup.

“This certainly generates a lot interest, and that’s to our liking, but I can see that we’re going to have to make some changes,” he said. “The key word is safety. We want to maintain our primary objective of keeping native animals in a native habitat, so that people can enjoy them. The roundup gives a splendid opportunity to view the bison at close range, so this is good, but as it is now, someone could get hurt, and we can’t really handle the crowd so that everyone can see as much as they and we like for them to see.”

Kaschke said he was thinking in terms of maybe hinging the roof to the branding chute so can see the action there, and possible constructing a small bleacher section.

This may involve a nominal user fee, or possession of the Golden Passport or something like it. Kaschke said, but added that he wasn’t sure what would be done.

Kaschke said his staff wanted to do a lot of careful planning first. He said a staff meeting would be held soon to evaluate the roundup and if possible come up with suggestions to improve the operation in every way.

“Take our new pens built with welded pipe set in concrete, for instance. From a maintenance standpoint, they’re wonderful but from the animal management view, they’re trouble,”

Kaschke said. “The bison seem confused as to where the gates are and they don’t give near enough on impact. Possibly, we’ll cover them with removing panels of plywood or something. For sure, we’re not going to build more until we work out the problem with these.”

The refuge manager had praise for the new program of live sale of surplus animals in preference to the old method of butchering and selling meat by the quarter. The refuge was created to preserve bison, not to kill them, he observed, but noted that reduction was a part of conservation, too.

The Kaschke family, Marvin, his wife Janet, son Wayne 10, and daughter Melanie 6, are enjoying their stay in Western Montana. Prior to their coming here, he was stationed at the C. M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge about 73 miles northeast of Lewistown.

He has other plans for the bison range, involving increased public enjoyment, and possibly including a visitor’s center, and the keeping of more bison on exhibit during the winter. We’re not interested in catering to the masses, however,” Kaschke said, “and having cars through here bumper to bumper like some of the national parks. We want people to visit the national Bison range, but we want to keep their visit something real special!” October 12, 1969 The

Sunday Missoulian

“Buffalo Bob’s Bison and the Action Auction by Jim Cotter Missoulian Farm Writer

Novels depicting the Old west in the middle 1800s always referred to herds of buffalo as “thundering” and with good reason.

The average bull weighs about 1,200 pounds. Multiply that figure by 3,000 and place a total weight at a 30 mile-per-hour lope across hardpan prairie. The noise is as close to thunder as you can get. Of course, this is mere speculation due to the fact that there are not 3,000 buffalo in any one herd in the U.S., or in the world, for that matter.

However, two of the nation’s largest herds are in western Montana – at the National Bison Range near Moiese and the Bob Schall ranch near Arlee.

Annual Event

Each year in early October the Bob Schall family, along with a few stout-hearted friends round up the Schall herd in readiness for the annual buffalo auction in Missoula.

This year Schall, his wife, Marge; daughter, “Little” Marge; Delos Robbins, operator of the Missoula Livestock Auction Co., and George Cates, a Missoula rancher, served as roundup crew.

The number of riders used to gather the 170 head of buffalo cannot be too many or too few. Too many riders only stir the beasts up. Too few can’t get the difficult job of “bringing in the bison” done.

The Schall crew saddled their horses and left the ranch about 8 a.m., expecting to return sometime around noon – considering the normal delays such as chasing a stubborn cow, avoiding a bull who would rather fight than go and edging on a balky calf.

This year’s roundup went remarkably smooth. The buffalo trailed in with little or no difficulty although the horses had to work harder with the bison than with a herd of cattle.

As Robbins so aptly put it, “Chasing buffalo is guaranteed to take the early morning frost out of a horse.”

The air was still cool under the 10 o’clock sun when the herd, trailed by now weary riders, loped out of the hills toward the corrals. In spite of the wide gate, the incoming herd decided to add to the width and committed what was to be the first of many transgressions against the corral. Buffalo have an aversion to being cooped up, which possibly explains to historians why Indians never managed to domesticate them.

Buffalo are impressive, not only to ranchers like Schall who raise them, but to those anonymous figures who name things. The buffalo has been called upon to lend his name to various objects, such as heavily armored military vehicles and, something far removed, a tap dance.

Regular Steamroller

Two minutes in the same corral with a herd of bison will bring home the “whys” of the nomenclature. First, the buffalo’s love for the “wide open spaces” is capable of overwhelming any fear of self harm. Things that stand in the way of its longing for the range, such as eight-inch corral poles, can be removed with a stout blow with the skull. This is the “why” of the armored vehicle’s name.

As for the tap dance, the buffalo is the original artful dodger. A 1,000 pound buffalo moves with the style and grace reminiscent of the heyday of Fred Astair.

Any item that looks firmly rooted, as rocks, stone walls and vehicles that weigh more than two tons (vehicles under two tons are considered fair game) will be avoided with what is best described as the “buffalo shuffle.”

When working buffalo it must be remembered that a bull can get up a full head of steam (about 30 mph), in 20 feet. And a bull weighs close to a ton.

In spite of the speed, a bison can stop on a dime and give you eight cents change. In comparison, according to the Montana Highway Patrol, an equivalent vehicle takes 45 feet to stop, not counting reaction time. However, the wily buffalo knows that turning to avoid a head on collision is easier than setting the brakes. The results of that knowledge make it hazardous not only to be in front of a moving buffalo, but at either side as well.

Meanwhile, back at the old corral this writer's education began with an alteration of the old adage, “three men and a boy” becomes “four men and two horses” when cutting out buffalo. The horsemen ride through the herd singling out three or four head. The object is to chase the buffalo into a corner with two gates. The ones you want to sell go into one corral, the ones you want to keep go out another gate. In theory it's a beautiful plan. In practice it becomes dangerous, although exciting.

Plans Its Moves

A buffalo has the ability to see a great distance and, believe it or not, plans its moves. You can run a wild range cow right up to a corral gate before the bovine sees what's going on. Not so with the burly buffalo.

They are indifferent about gates anyhow and just because some cowboy, (or writer, as it turned out) was pushing on a gate was no reason to make the critters change their minds.

During the process of cutting out the buffalo to be sold from the herd, George Cates, a longtime cowboy, who is tougher than a 50-cent steak, tried to close the gate in the face of a charging cow. Needless to say the cow went on into the corral in spite of George's efforts. As George said later after his third prayer, “You only try to close a gate in the face of a buffalo once.”

That was only part of the problem for George that afternoon. In order to watch the incoming male, George had to turn his back on the bison already in the small corral with him. Being in the same corral with 10 or 12 buffalo is bad enough. Not being able to watch them is twice as bad.

From my vantage point (safely behind a bigger gate) I could see several passes at George's south end. He was busy watching for new arrivals so he didn't notice, although he said later he felt a “breeze.” I kept silent so as not to disturb him, besides Schall needed his help at the moment. If a cow or bull managed to “get hold” George would find out soon enough.

It was high noon before the 78 head had been cut from the main herd. Delays were caused three or four times when it was necessary to take time to repair the holes left in the corral by exiting buffalo.

Loading the buffalo was surprisingly easy. The trucks were backed to a loading chute, the buffalo were then stampeded into the chute, up the ramp and into the truck. Bulls are hauled separately. They don't take to crowding.

In order to keep the calves from getting their horns broken by the cows, they too were hauled separately.

The bison were taken to Missoula Saturday to await the sale the following Monday. By moving the animals early Schall allowed them time to "calm down."

Buyers started arriving in Missoula the day before the auction to examine the buffalo in the pens and make pre-sale selections.

Due to the small numbers of buffalo in existence in the world, buyers came from all parts of the nation, including California, Oregon and Utah.

Paper Necessary

Buying a buffalo involves a good deal of paperwork. Like many livestock animals, buffalo must have the proper papers guaranteeing freedom from disease before they can be allowed to leave the state.

Robbins, the livestock company operator, has the buffalo inspected by a vet and certified before the sale so as to allow the buyer to move the

Animals with as little delay as possible.

By sale time Monday an overflow crowd had gathered, some buyers, some just curious onlookers, and the bidding soon began. Bidding for buffalo is different from bidding for cattle in the respect that a buffalo is sold as an individual regardless of weight. Cattle are sold by the pound on the hoof.

The first cow sold for \$390 and the first calf brought \$310. Several persons throughout the sale bid for a quarter or half on a butcher cow or bull. The average quarter went for \$115.

Confining a buffalo in a small ring, with several hundred curious people, the ringing chant of the amplified auctioneer's call and the pop of whips, is asking for trouble. That's why the curious came to the sale, and the buffaloes were glad to oblige.

Hazers for the sale were Robbins and Schall. A hazer's job is to walk around in the ring with a whip in order to keep the animals moving about so that bidders can see all sides of the beast.

Buffalo, being irascible at best, do not like the idea of a sale ring, let alone someone walking around behind them with a whip.

At times it was difficult to tell who was hazing whom.

The huge bulls demanded, and got, the attention of everyone. The auctioneer repeatedly had to remind the crowd, both buyers and curious alike, that the show was fine, but the bidding was the point of it all.

In contrast the cows were generally better behaved, although the hazers might argue the point. One cow refused to leave the sale ring despite the repeated efforts of the hazers. A few spectators got into the act at one point by twisting the cow's tail, (from behind a fence, of course).

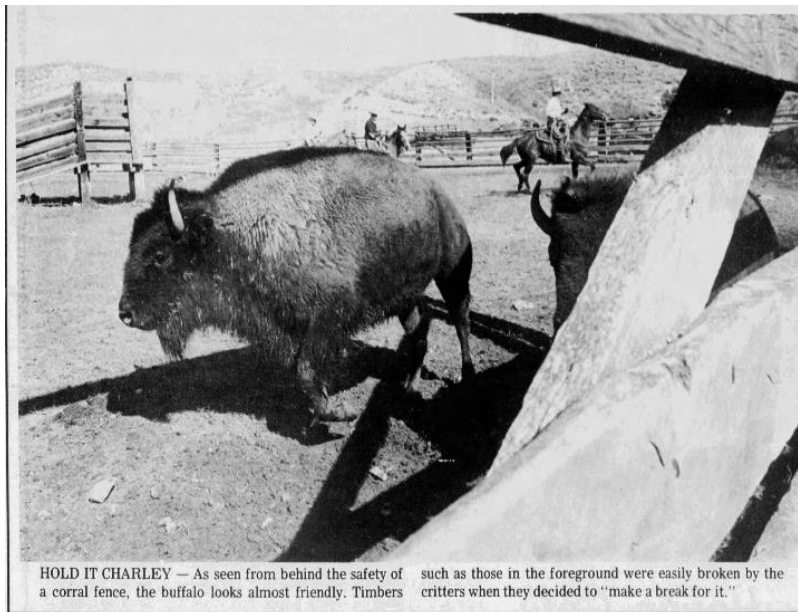
Attempts were made to get the cow out by running other buffalo into the ring, believing she would go out when they did. She steadfastly held her ground. A try at a bullfighting routine with a coat was equally unsuccessful. For time the sale went on, somewhat disrupted by the cow who gallantly stood her ground, rebuking all attempts at eviction. Eventually she tired of charging the hazers, goring the other buffalo, and pawing the floor and charged out the open door in a cloud of sawdust, drawing a loud cheer from the onlookers who had suddenly become her fan club.

The calves made only feeble attempts to gore the hazers, who grew amazingly braver as the calves got smaller. The majority of calves tried to jump the fence in the bleacher section, causing a few spectators to scramble.

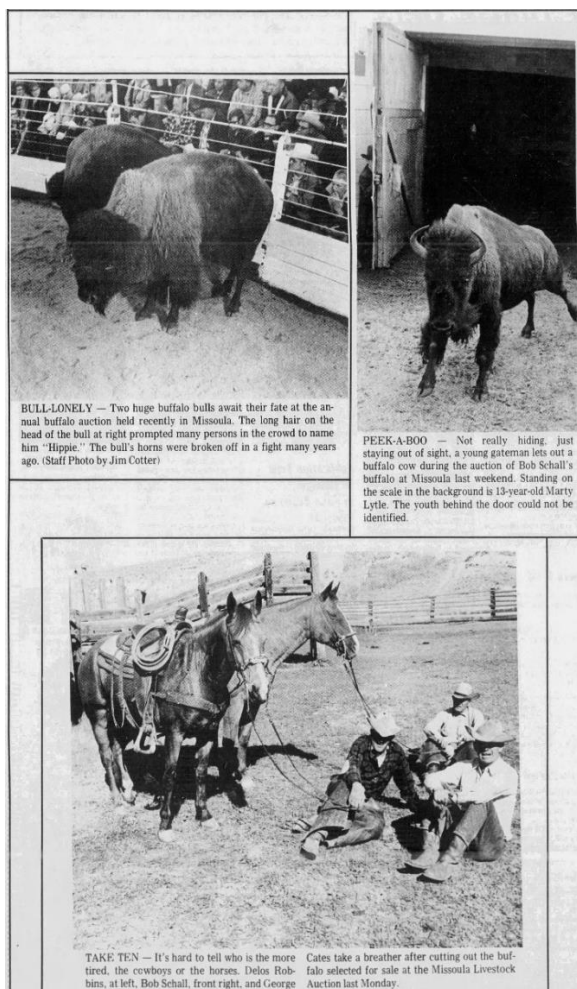
The sale was over by 4 p.m. The 78 head of noble buffalo were sold for a total of \$28,640.

The business of raising buffalo is lucrative. The hardships are many. The efforts are worth it.

The private buffalo ranchers are important. They have the better part of the buffalo population in the world today and so long as families like the Bob Schalls continue to raise buffalo, the mighty bison will not become extinct.” October 12, 1969 The Sunday Missoulian



HOLD IT CHARLEY — As seen from behind the safety of a corral fence, the buffalo looks almost friendly. Timbers such as those in the foreground were easily broken by the critters when they decided to "make a break for it."



October 12, 1969 The Sunday Missoulian

“Buffalo Sale Nets Money for Sanders

Moiese — Sanders County treasurer Gloria Watters was presented a check for \$2,689.45 as this county's share of proceeds from the sale of buffalo and by products of the National Bison Range. The check was presented to Mrs. Watters by Robert L. Barber, assistant refuge manager.

The county's share amounts to 25 per cent of the net proceeds received by the range during the past fiscal year.

The money received by the counties is designated by law for roads and schools.” October 6, 1969 The Missoulian

Final Services Pend For Frank Rose, 83.

Funeral services are pending for Frank Rose, 83, of 1020 Poplar St., who died in a local hospital Saturday morning.

Mr. Rose was born April 18, 1886 in Scammon, Kan., and attended high school in Galen, Kan. Prior to entering the University of Colorado in Boulder.

After graduation he worked as a ranger for the U. S. Forest Service and for seven years was manager of the National Bison Range at Moiese during the early 1930s. [1920-1930]

Several years ago, he started his own business in Missoula, which provided plants and seeds to greenhouses.

He married Louise Ewan in Cuba, Ill., June 16, 1951. She survives, along with a son, Robert R. of Corvallis, Ore., a daughter, Mrs. Rachel Thomas of Albany, Ore.; a brother, Clarence W. of Denver; five grandchildren; a nephew, and a niece.

Squire-Simmons-Carr [at] Rose Chapel is in charge of arrangements.” December 28, 1969 The Missoulian

Frank Rose

“Rose – Frank, 83, 1010 Poplar, passed away at a local hospital Saturday morning. He was born April 18, 1886 at Scammon, Ka. He is survived by his wife, Louise, 1 son, Robert R., Corvallis, Ore.; 1 daughter, Mrs. Rachel Thomas; 1 brother, Clarence W., Denver, Colo.; 5 grandchildren; a nephew and a niece. Funeral services will be 1:30 p.m., Tuesday at Squire-Simmons-Carr [at] Rose Chapel. Interment will be in Missoula Cemetery.” December 29, 1969 The Missoulian

“Frank Rose

Funeral services will be conducted for Frank Rose Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. in Squire-Simmons-Carr Rose Chapel by the Rev. Homer Crisman. Pallbearers were Meyer Chessin, Henry Eide, Roland “Bud” Fournier, Claus Mackschewitz, Henry Pennypacker and Reuben Stempke. Burial will be in Missoula Cemetery. Mr. Rose, 83, of 1020 Poplar St., died Saturday in a Missoula hospital.”

December 30, 1969 The Missoulian

“Men Will Present Paper at Meeting

Moiese – Marvin Kaschke, manager of the National Bison Range, and Joe Zacek, range conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service, are on the program of the American Society of Range Management in Denver, this week.

They will present a paper entitled, “Range Management on the National Bison Range.” February 9,

1970 The Missoulian

“Sale of Hides Nets \$1,050.50

Moiese – The National Bison Range hide sale brought in \$1,050.50, according to Marvin Kaschke, manager of the refuge.

The highest bid, \$346, was offered by Fred Hagel, Kalispell, for 112 deer hides, while the highest single bid was \$201 paid by Jim Handford, Ocean Grove, N. J., for a bull bison head and cape suitable for mounting. The second highest was \$200 from Banff Indian Trading Co., Banff, Alberta.

Kaschke added that the eight buffalo hides sold averaged \$27.72 each, and the 11 elk hides, \$6.14, up from \$4.56 each last year.

There was a total of 36 bids.

The \$1,050. 50 received is sent to the U. S. Treasury with a 25 per cent return to Lake and Sanders counties where the 18, 541acre range is located.” March 14, 1970 The Missoulian

Trail Ride Set At Bison Range

Moiese – The annual trail ride on the National Bison Range at Moiese is scheduled for Sunday.

An entertainment program is planned to begin at 8 p.m. Saturday at the camp in Ravalli, according to Molly Sanders, secretary of the Mission Rangers Saddle Club, which sponsors the ride. She said any talent would be appreciated for the program.

The ride is slated to leave headquarters near Moiese at 10 a.m. Sunday, with the return to headquarters about 4 p.m. The fee is \$3 includes lunch. Pre-registration is required.” May 22, 1970 The Missoulian

“Bison Range Presents Payment

Thompson Falls – Sanders County Treasurer Gloria Wtters has been presented a check for \$3,169,14 as the county’s 25 per cent share of receipts of the National Bison Range at Moiese.

The money represents one-quarter of the receipts by the range for sale of buffalo and other use fee.

The check was delivered Thursday by Robert Barber, assistant refuge manager.” November 3, 1970 The Missoulian

“Annual Bison Range Trail Ride Sunday

Ravalli – The annual Moise Bison Range trail ride will begin Sunday at 10 a.m.

All riders are urged to check in before the starting time at the registration point at the top of Ravalli hill on Highway 93. There will be a \$3p pen registration fee to cover the noon lunch which will be served at Highpoint on the range.

For those persons wishing to camp overnight Saturday prior to starting the trip Sunday morning, a special program is being planned in Ravalli Saturday beginning at 7 p.m. The program will be an educational presentation of the history of the Moiese Bison Range and an explanation of the trail ride which is sponsored by the St. Ignatius Saddle Club each year.

The ride, covering about 10 miles, will be finished about 4 p.m. Sunday. No stallions are permitted on the ride, according o St. Ignatius Saddle Club officials.” May 22, 1971 The Missoulian

Western Montana News Briefs

Bison Range Opening Set

MOIESE — The 19-mile self-guided auto tour route through the National Bison Range here will open for the 1971 summer season Saturday.

The gates will open at 8 a.m. each day and remain open until 7:30 p.m. from Saturday until Sept. 30.

In addition to the auto tour, a half-mile wildlife walk trail has been completed for this season's visitors. There is no charge for the tours.

Refuge Manager Marvin Kaschke reported that most of the buffalo calves in this spring's calf crop have been born. He said deer and elk calves are due any time, and the first antelope young were born last week.

May 29, 1971 The Missoulian

“Bison Range Plans Sale

Moiese – (AP) – Seventy-four buffalo are for sale at the National Bison Range near Moiese, northwest of Missoula.

The rare animals are being sold because the 18,451-acre range is overpopulated, Range Manager Marvin R. Kaschke said.

The sale of the animals will reduce the number of buffalo to about 400, which the range can sustain.

He said animals of all age classes will be sold by sealed competitive bids. Interested buyers should send for a bid list and return bids by 10 a. m. Sept. 8.

Last year, 86 animals were sold. Prices ranged from \$280 for a yearling bull to \$551 for a three-year-old cow. The average price was \$343.” August 23, 1971 The Daily Inter-Lake (Kalispell, Montana)

“Stockmen to Hear Speakers

Kalispell – Stockmen from four counties are expected for the annual fall meeting of the Western Montana Stockmen’s Association on Sept. 11 at the Tamarack Inn on the west shore of Flathead Lake.

During the morning session, directors will open the meeting to all members for general business. Three speakers are scheduled for the afternoon.

They include Keith McCurdy, a Polson attorney speaking on trespass law and land owner liability; Joseph Zacek, range conservationist with Soil Conservation Service; and Marvin Kaschke, manager of the National Bison Range at Moiese.

The meeting ends with dinner and dance. Members expected are from Flathead, Lake. Missoula and Sanders counties.” September 8, 1971 The Missoulian

“Parents Without Partners Meet

The Five Valley Chapter of Parents Without Partners (PWP) will meet Friday at 8 p.m. in the basement of the Missoula Elks Club. A social hour and dancing will follow.

The group will also sponsor a potluck picnic at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at the Bison Range.

PWP is open to all parents who are divorced, separated, widowed or never married.” September 10, 1971 The Missoulian

“Bison Range Funds Given to Sanders

Thompson Falls – Sanders County has received a check for \$3,268,23 as the county’s share of 25 per cent of the net receipts from use privileges on land at the National Bison Range at Moiese.

The payment is made in lieu of taxes, and federal law requires that the money be distributed to school and road funds in the counties receiving it.

Both Lake and Sanders counties share in payments from the bison range. Most of the range's receipts come from the sale of live buffalo in the fall." December 10, 1971 The Missoulian

8—The Sunday Missoulian, April 23, 1972

COLBURG:
"It must
be a lifetime
thing."



WHITE:
"The law
should be
changed."



KASCHKE:
"They are
often a kind
of oasis."



ZACEK:
"Look at
that pretty
flower."



Subject: Environmental Education

By JEANETTE INGOLD

Four people with differing viewpoints agreed on one thing last week. Environmental education is important and should be encouraged.

Dolores Colburg, Montana superintendent of public instruction; Dr. Ray White, University of Montana professor of education; Marvin Kaschke, manager of the National Bison Range at Moiese; and Joe Zacek, a representative of the Soil Conservation Service, presented their views on environmental education Thursday at the state Parent-Teacher Association convention in Missoula.

COLBURG

Colburg led off the discussion with an outline of what her office is doing and will do in the future to promote environmental education in Montana's grade schools and high schools.

According to Colburg, to do an effective job of fostering environmental and conservation education, her office needs an environmental education specialist to work with schools.

She said she has asked past legislatures to fund such a position, and will continue to ask for the funding. So far, though, it hasn't been approved, and she is pinning her hopes on a proposed federal grant that would provide initial funding for an environmental education specialist.

The grant proposal is being cosponsored by Colburg's office and the Montana Association of Conservation Districts, she said.

She has received no word from Washington on the status of the proposal, she said.

The employment of an environmental education specialist would help her office carry out projects such as a recently completed Environmental Education Curriculum Guide to be published for print use in schools throughout Montana, she said.

The specialist would also work with schools, parents and agencies concerned with the environment to help them develop workable environmental education programs, she said.

"The approach should be interdisciplinary," Colburg said. "Most existing courses can serve as vehicles for fostering environmental education."

Environmental education should include outdoor educational experiences, Colburg said. "It should focus on man-made environmental problems as well as natural environments," she said. "Urban and rural garbage are as significant as the Bob Marshall Wilderness Area. Vandals are as cancerous as rampant pollution."

Colburg said she believes the goal of environmental education is to "generate in all people an environmental ethic which makes all members of society sensitive to the role played by all living things on earth."

She said environmental education must be more than just a ritual. "It is not a sacramental thing like Save the Puddletich in the Upper Fort Peck Reservoir," she said. "Rather, it must be a lifetime thing."

WHITE

Environmental education is a matter of survival — "crucial for us as a species and survival of an environment we want to live in," according to White.

White focused his talk on efforts currently being made to prepare future teachers to teach environmental education.

Montana law requires colleges of education to provide opportunities for education students to take courses in environmental education, he said.

"I think the law should be changed to require all teachers to take courses in environmental education," White said. "The need for environmental education in our schools is much greater than the commitment we have today," he said.

There are three aspects to the environmental crisis, White said. There is man living with man, including his racial problems, the problems of the inner city and the problem of the middle class citizen who rejects a college student because he has a beard, White said.

The second aspect of the environmental crisis is man living with technology, according to White. "We have a technology developing many times faster than we can think of ways to use it," he said.

The third aspect of the environmental crisis is the one that has received the most attention, he said: man and his relationship with his life-support systems, the whole ecological process.

White said one graduate student is looking into the possibility of using the state lands that provide income to the public school system as laboratories for environmental studies.

White said it is his understanding that persons who leave such land can be sold to it. "We want to get the state done first, but probably one recommendation that will come out of it would be for contracts leasing the

land to certain classes guaranteeing access to the land for educational purposes," he said.

KASCHKE

Kaschke presented the problem on the other side of the coin. Getting people to make effective use of a ready-made environmental education laboratory.

He said 40 to 50 school groups visit the bison range annually. "Our problem is getting the school groups to come to us for something specific," he said.

Usually the groups just come for a general tour, and sometimes a student takes the general tour eight or 10 times before he completes his schooling, Kaschke said.

If his staff knows what specific help or studies a group wants, the staff can give it, he said.

Kaschke said the first national game refuge — one in Florida for pelicans — was established to save a species from extinction. Other refuges have been established and managed since then to save other species, but the nation's 229 game refuges do more than just provide shelter for those species: birds and animals.

Insects, plants, reptiles that might otherwise be in danger of dying out have been inadvertently saved on the game refuges, he said.

Some refuges have probably been blessed in that they haven't been given lands for development. They are often a kind of oasis. You can often look at a refuge and say, "This is the environment we are looking for." They are often the environment of 50 or 100 years ago, Kaschke said.

One of the purposes of national refuges is to provide outdoor classrooms for studying the environment, Kaschke said.

Through education we can get our people aware of what is in the environment so generations to come can enjoy the mountains, trees and animals as we know them," he said.

ZACEK

Zacek's concern is with the private land owner.

One of his jobs is to work with schools and persons interested in establishing outdoor classrooms.

"An outdoor classroom doesn't have to be 40 acres," he said. "In New York they have outdoor classrooms

under doormats and in pots, although here in Montana we are blessed with large land areas."

Much of the area is under the control of private owners, he said, pointing to the 50 per cent of Montana's grazing land that is under private ownership and the 65 per cent of Montana's big game refuge that is on privately owned land.

"Most of what we hear and read about private landowners is derogatory — Mr. Rancher is digging around, Mr. Rancher is shooting eagles, Mr. Rancher is doing this or that," Zacek said.

Actually, he said, some private landowners are doing a variety of things to improve the environment — practicing contour farming and windbreak cropping, planting private nurseries, using irrigation ditches, building irrigation dams, using riparian systems and seeding ditches and banks with soil-binding crops, he said.

Environmental education is important, he said, so people can know why and how the environment can be preserved and improved.

"People get shook up over 40 acres of cleared, but they can drive through thousands of acres of beat-up, run-down range land and say, 'Look at that pretty flower.'"



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KASCHKE:
... "they are
often a kind
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The OUTDOOR PICTURE

—By Dale A. Burk—



Kudos to Lipke, Kaschke

Congratulations are due Howard Lipke of Stevensville and Marvin Kaschke of Moiese. Both have received recognition for outstanding work in regard to role as managers of major wildlife areas in western Montana.

Lipke was cited for his efforts in maintaining a healthy natural plant community at the Ravalli National Wildlife Refuge near Stevensville, for which he is manager.

The Soil Conservation Society of America presented Lipke with the award. A graduate of wildlife management at the University of Montana, Lipke has been manager of the refuge for three years.

Waterfowl Habitat Improvement

Kaschke, manager of the National Bison Range at Moiese, received his recognition for work few people realize he's doing or that it is even part of his assignment.

The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, of which the Bison Range is part, also has responsibility to manage waterfowl habitat improvement areas in the vicinity of the Bison Range and in this capacity Kaschke has spearheaded efforts to improve waterfowl habitat in the recently acquired area at the north end of Flathead Lake.

Consequently, the Northern Continental Conservation Committee has passed a resolution commending Kaschke for his "cooperation and leadership efforts for work involved in the public waterfowl habitat improvement area at the north end of Flathead Lake."



“Orphan Buffalo Rules at Moiese

Moiese – Newest star attraction at the National Bison Range is an orphan buffalo calf being raised on a bottle at the range headquarters by range personnel under the guidance of Manager Marvin Kaschke.

The little bronze calf was found by Ed Kranz, range employee, while he was checking the herd. He noted the calf was alone and appeared under nourished. It attempted to follow Kranz.

Foreman Victor “Babe” May took the calf to a bison cow in the exhibition pasture. The cow was friendly, but the calf panicked, so now range personnel are bottle feeding the infant and she’s thriving.

Kaschke said Sunday they had not been able to determine what happened to the calf’s mother.

The friendly youngster gets four feedings daily of two quarts of commercial milk replacer. Kept in a barn at first, the calf lonely for companionship rubbed hair off its forehead while nuzzling a board.

Kaschke explained it is a natural instinct for buffalo to follow others and the calf is no exception. She follows range employees and their children around the headquarters area and likes to rub against them.

The calf is not the first orphan to be raised by range personnel. One of the buffalo cows seen in the exhibition pasture for the past few years is Klunk, a bottle-raised orphan who now is a mother

several times over.” May 26, 1972 The Missoulian [One of Klunk’s calves was featured in the Lassie movie filmed at the National Bison Range at Moiese.]

“CowBelles Meet at Bison Range

Moiese – The picnic grounds at the National Bison Range will be the meeting place Wednesday for the western Montana CowBelles. The meeting begins at noon and everyone is asked to bring a lunch.

Children are welcome and a program for them is planned.

Anyone interested in the promotion of beef is invited to attend the picnic and business meeting to follow, according to Penny Jarecki, a CowBelle member.” June 2, 1972 The Missoulian

“Bison Range Beckons Visitors by Don Brunell Missoulian Sports Writer

Looking for somewhere to go for a leisurely Sunday afternoon drive or a short weeknight trip? Try the National Bison Range located 48 miles north of Missoula near Moiese.

The range, operated by the Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife’s wildlife in the beautiful surroundings of the lower Flathead Valley.

About 300 to 500 bison graze the 19,000 acres of grassland and sparsely timbered refuge along with deer, elk, pronghorn antelope and bighorn sheep. Several species of birds and small rodents also inhabit the range. There is also a variety of plant life.

For the historical buff, the range was established in 1908 with the aid of a \$10,000 grant by the American Bison Society. Bison were released on the range first in 1909 as 34 from the ABS’s Conrad herd at Kalispell along with seven others from Montana, Texas, and New Hampshire composed the initial herd.

The range is one of the last refuges for this animal which once roamed the prairies of America and numbered more than 60 million in the early 1800s. After a 40-year slaughter ending in 1883, only about 20 remained in the United States by 1900.

A visitor may choose to take a 19-mile auto trip of the range which is available from June 1 to Sept. 30. The tourist will climb more than 2,000 feet to the top of Red Sleep Mountain which

is 4,865 feet in elevation. From there, the visitor can get a panoramic view of the rugged and majestic Mission mountains to the east and the green grasslands punctured by the Flathead River to the west.

On the 19-mile tour the motorist should see most of the bison on the range as well as deer and antelope, although the bighorn sheep and elk might be more difficult to find.

Even if one doesn't see bison, deer, antelope or elk along the tour, the visitor is sure to see them in the exhibition pastures near the headquarters building. Also on display there are a few Texas longhorn cattle.

Near the headquarters building one also might run into Susie the antelope. She usually can be seen near the headquarters begging for food from passersby and will accept it from a visitor's hand.

Also located near the headquarters is the picnic area which is open until 10 p.m. every evening throughout the summer. There are 60 tables along with barbeque pits, latrines and water in a shaded cottonwood and ash setting, carpeted with trimmed grass." June 18, 1972 The Missoulian



Bison Range patriarch and smaller cow. Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife Photo

June 18, 1972 The Missoulian

“Moiese

Self-guided 19-mile tour of National Bison Range. Off U.S. 93 between Polson and Missoula. No fee charged. Antelope and buffalo can be seen." June 28, 1972 The Missoulian

Wild Goose Chase

By DON BRUNELL
Missoula Sports Writer

The Canadian geese that you shoot for Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner next fall may not be as wild as you think.

If the bird has a shiny metal band around one of its legs, it has a computerized identification number registered with the Bird Banding Laboratory, Migratory Bird Population Station, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife at Laurel, Md.

Banding information primarily is used to determine mortality rates of birds from individual nesting grounds. The mortality rate of an area then determines the length of hunting season.

Initially, banding was used to determine migratory patterns, but as routes were established, the mortality count became the prime concern.

Each year, while the adult geese (branta canadensis) are grounded because of molting, and the goslings are not yet able to fly, state fish and game officials and bureau managers cooperate in banding projects.

The banding is done during a two-week period, usually the last weeks of June. Sex, nesting location and banding age are noted and shipped to the Laurel, Md., center.

Montana Fish and Game officials in cooperation with the bureau managers from the National Bison Range at Moose, spent June 19-23 banding geese at the Parshall Wildlife Refuge near Stevensville, north shore area on Flathead Lake near Dayton, Big Arm and Polson and the Nisqually Wildlife Refuge south of Bonanza. A total of 230 geese were captured. Some adult birds were recaptured, but the bulk were goslings.

The birds were flushed from their nests by boat and into one large gullie in deep water. The boats were used to herd the geese toward a wing or dove trap at the water's edge. Once the geese were secured in the trap, they were hand-caught by the men and distributed to others to be banded.

Banding at Nisqually included 55 of the

estimated 170 goslings at the refuge. Three adults also were captured which had been banded previously.

Marvin Kacchke, assistant manager of the National Bison Range which includes Nisqually, said if one-third of a nesting area's birds are captured and banded, it is considered an adequate sampling.

Kacchke noted that banding at all sites was successful this year. Crews were able to capture enough birds for the true samples.

He said the Nisqually Refuge had an above average year for goslings. An average of six eggs were laid with nearly 4.5 goslings hatched per brood.

Here is their eggs from April 1 to May 15. The eggs are incubated for 28 days. Some hens that lose their eggs reneil which may stretch the incubation deadline.

The goslings weigh only a few ounces when born, but within 10 weeks they become airborne and are nearly full grown. Kacchke said a big goose in Montana weighs about 12 pounds.

The geese found in Montana are mostly Great Basin Canadian geese which nest from as far south as Lake Tahoe north to central British Columbia.

Kacchke said officials have been banding in the Nisqually area since 1953, so the migratory patterns of the resident birds are well known. Most either fly on the eastern fringe of the Continental Divide through Ft. Collins, Colo., and south or down the western side of the divide through Salt Lake City, Utah. The divide is the general boundary separating the Pacific from the central flyways.

Hunters that down banded geese are requested to turn the band in to a Montana Fish and Game office or send it to the Laurel, Md., lab. The hunter will receive notification from the lab about the goose including where it was banded, sex and age when banded.

The lab also notifies the nearest office of the Fish and Game Department or the bureau to report approximately how many geese were killed from the area in a season.



Don Shepard prepares to hand another goose to banders.

Photos by Harley Hettick

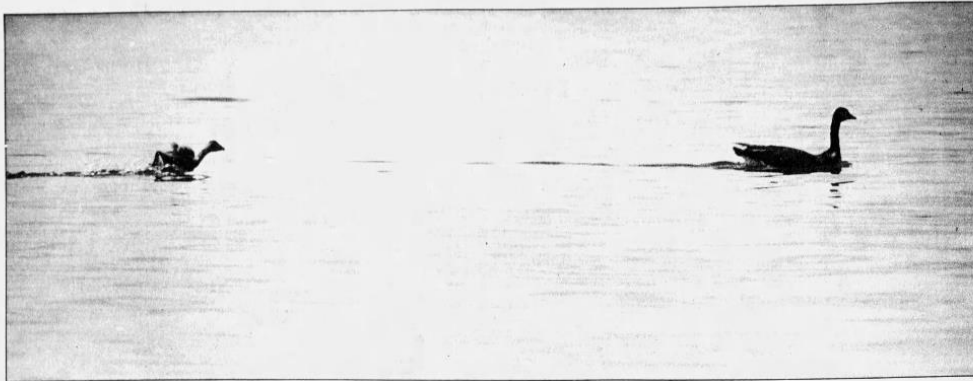
SUNDAY
IN WESTERN MONTANA
The Sunday Missoulian, July 2, 1972



Bob Lambeth, Polson Fish and Game warden, guides the geese toward land.

more photos next page

July 2, 1972 The Missoulian



'Hey Ma, wait for me.' Gosling finds his mother after banding.

Banding Geese At Ninepipe



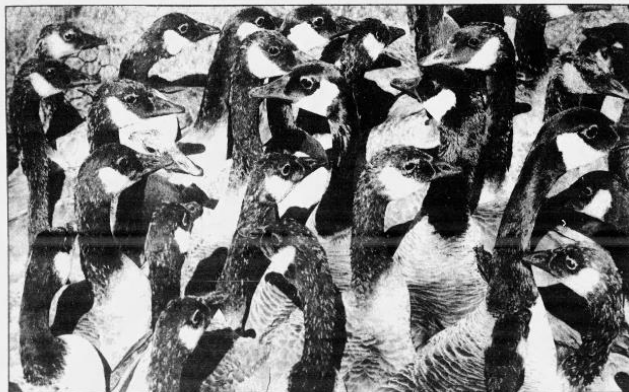
Marvin Kaschke, left, and
Babe May watch for birds.



Marvin Kaschke drives the birds into the trap.



A young honker is banded.



A total of 55 geese were banded at Ninepipe.

July 2, 1972 The Sunday Missoulian

“Visitors Flock to U.S. Bison Range by Steven Rosenfeld Associated Press Writer

Moiese (AP) The National Bison Range, where golden eagles and wild buffalo are commonplace, continues to draw record numbers of visitors

This remote 18,541-acre spread of grass and timberland on the Flathead Indian Reservation of western Montana attracted more than 11,000 visitors last summer and Department of Interior officials predict a record 125,000 attendance this year.

Milton Haderlie, assistant manager of the range, one of the nation's oldest big game sanctuaries, said 313 head of buffalo easily survived the severe winter and as many as 85 calves are expected to be added to the herd from mating this spring.

The refuge staff rounds up the animals each October to harvest the herd and keep it below 500 head. Each fall a pre-determined number of American bison are sold alive to start private herds and for meat, Haderlie said.

“We try to go through the winter with 315, but we usually lose a few from fighting,” he said.

Nestled between the Cabinet Mountains to the west and the cloud-scaping snow-capped Mission Mountains to the east, the range also boasts a population of mule and white-tailed deer, elk, bighorn sheep, antelope, Rocky mountain goats and 186 species of birds – ranging from the golden eagle to the American coot.

“In recent years, visitation has increased by a rate of 15 per cent a year,” the official of the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife said. “Last year we had an increase of 20 per cent and this year we already have a 20 per cent increase in tourists from comparable periods last year.

The range, primarily upland area varying in elevation from 2,500 to 4,885-feet, was purchased from the Indians in 1908 in an outgrowth of public sentiment – largely inspired by the efforts of the American Bison Society.

In 1900 only 20 known wild buffalo were known to exist, when only 60-years earlier as many as 60 million had been estimated in the United States, the Department of Interior says.

The American Bison Society raised more than \$10,000 by popular subscription to buy animals to stock the range, about 50 miles north of Missoula, after President Theodore Roosevelt obtained appropriation to acquire and fence the Indian land to protect and preserve the vanishing species.

Buffalo hunters slaughtered millions of the immense beasts for their valuable hides and tongues in the latter part of the 19th century and now only 20,000-22,000 buffalo remain in the U.S. and Canada according to recent surveys.

The few thousand U. S. head are scattered throughout the nation in federal reserves in Oklahoma, Nebraska, Montana, Colorado and Wyoming and in state and private herds throughout the western states.

“For the past few years there’s been a real good trend in range conditions here,” Haderlie said. “There’s no feeding program on a bison range, the winter doesn’t bother these hardy animals and they forage quite well even in rough weather.”

The national Bison Range, with its steep hills and narrow canyons, offers some protection from the severe Montana winters, but the buffalo, often weighing more than one ton and standing five to six feet high at the shoulders, can take pretty good care of himself, he said.

“They’re quite independent and very unpredictable,” Haderlie added.” July 9, 1972 The Missoulian

“Scout Tour Enlist Flathead Chamber

Hungry Horse – Glacier Gateway Chamber of Commerce volunteers are providing the drivers and more than a dozen private automobiles to transport 72 girl scouts from various states through Glacier National Park.

Mrs. Bill Krall, Hungry Horse, heads the Chamber of Commerce committee that is meeting the girl scouts from various states at St. Mary at 8 a.m., July 19 and will provide lunch. Their buses, being more than 30 feet long, aren’t permitted over Logan Pass.

The event is part of the Treasure Trails Girl Scout national tour of Montana from July 17-30.

The tour is arriving at Westana, Girl Scout camp on Stillwater Lake above Whitefish after touring the park. There to greet the visitors with dinner will be Girl Scouts from the Flathead communities, who will return in the morning to serve breakfast.

Other events for the Girls Scout tour in the Flathead includes riding the chair lift up Big Mountain July 20, visiting the National Bison Range at Moiese July 23 after spending two days swimming, boating and horseback riding near Bigfork and viewing a performance of the Bigfork Summer Playhouse.

Mrs. Thelma Nauck, Choteau, is chairman for the tour. The first national Girl Scout tour for Montana. She said care had been taken in selecting girls from all parts of the nation, and they are coming from as far away as Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Canal Zone.

Mrs. Nauck said the Big Sky Council is hoping Girl Scouts and civic organizations along the route will respond with help by sending aid to the Big Sky Council located at Holiday Village, Great Falls, to sponsor some of the activities as the Glacier Gateway (formerly Hungry Horse) Chamber of Commerce is doing.

The Treasure Trail Girl Scout tour will be stopping at the Museum of the Plains Indian in Browning, tour the smokejumper school at Missoula, see Columbia Gardens at Butte, visit Lewis and Clark Caverns, Virginia City, Frontier Town, Helena and go through the Gates of the Mountains in a Holter Lake boat trip.” July 10, 1972 The Missoulian

City to Host Scouts

Host families in Missoula will greet 72 girls from throughout the nation when they arrive here Sunday evening to spend the night.

The visitors are participating in a national Girl Scout opportunity called “Treasure Trails.” The bus tour is designed to cover many state highlights over a two-week period.

Gayle Babcock, member of Troop 326 in Missoula will represent the Shining Mountains Girl Scout Council in the tour. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Babcock, Piltzville. Her troop leaders are Joanne Cody and Eva Dryself.

The tour is sponsored by the Big Sky Girl Scout Council which has its headquarters in Great Falls. It is the first such national Girl Scout event in Montana.

Three years of intricate planning have gone into the project, according to Mrs. Thelma Nauck of Choteau, chairman. Care has been made to select girls representing all parts of the nation. There will also be delegates from Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Canal Zone.

Mrs. Nauck said the Big Sky Council hopes local Girl Scouts and civic organizations along the route will respond with help during the tour.

While in Missoula, the group will tour the Forest Service Smokejumper Center and view the university campus. Other places to be visited during the tour include a trip to the Moiese

Bison Range; a chairlift ride up Big Mountain at Whitefish, horseback riding, swimming and boating at a dude ranch near Bigfork.

They will view the Plains Indian Museum at Browning, take a boat trip at Many Glacier and hike to Grinnell Glacier; take a car caravan over Going-to-the-Sun Highway, and hike to Hidden Lake.

From the Missoula area, the girls will travel to the historic town of Butte, explore the Lewis and Clark Caverns, view Virginia City and Frontier Town.

They will travel to Helena for a look at state government and a meeting with the governor, then eastward for a launch trip bound for the Gates of the Mountains, and up the Missouri to cover a portion of the trails discovered by Lewis and Clark.

The tour will end in Great Falls with a farewell banquet the evening of July 31.

ANOTHER TRAVELING SCOUT

Misty Lehman, a senior Girl Scout member of Troop 643, Missoula, will represent the Shining Mountains Council at the Region Six “Follow the Lewis and Clark Trail” Canoe trip, Aug. 10-26.

Misty is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Lehman, 300 Kensington Ave. Her troop leader is Mrs. Robert Duvelle.

Sponsored by the Mid-Columbia Girl Scout Council with headquarters in Richland, Wash., this event will host 32



Misty Lehman

participants from seven western states and 18 councils.

The group will travel by canoe from Lewiston, Idaho down the Snake River to the Columbia River then north to Kennewick, Wash., following the route Lewis and Clark traveled on their historic journey in 1805.

The terrain of the journey, for the most part, is still the rugged primitive country which Lewis and Clark opened up for the first time to white men. However, the river itself has changed with the construction of three dams erected to provide slack water for navigation and to harness the power of the river. As the travelers go downstream they will go through the locks of the dams and have an opportunity to observe first hand their ecological effect.

July 19, 1972 The Missoulian

“Mass on Sunday At Bison Range

Moiese – Mass will be celebrated at 1 p.m. Sunday at the picnic grounds of the National Bison Range at Moiese. A potluck picnic will follow the mass, and both are open to all interested, according to Mrs. Nick Herak of Charlo.” July 22, 1972 The Missoulian



Land Bathed in Sunlight Can Only Be Cleaned By You!

The Story

Sunlight makes valley grasses glisten, snowy peaks sparkle and littering cans glitter. It can make a natural scene shine with warmth and beauty or illuminate the litter and trash left by thoughtless visitors. Cleaning our landscapes, roadsides and campgrounds can only be done by you — through tax money spent for cleaning crews or by your own willing hands. But isn't it better to keep the land pure and let its bath of sunlight be the only cleaning it needs?

The Commercial

The First National Bank believes that personal habits such as cleanliness are important and that the people at First National can help you develop the thrift habit. The thrift habit begins with

knowing where your money goes and a checking account can be the first step. The First National offers a regular checking account or the convenience of checking FREE when you maintain a \$100 minimum balance. With the money you save, First National's instant interest earns you more each day from the day of deposit to the day of withdrawal. Thrifty people bank at the First National Bank.

The Picture

This spectacular picture was taken by Paul Russell, Missoula photographer, on the highest point of the National Bison Range just 45 miles from Missoula on Highway 93. This is

looking southwest from the fire lookout on the range. There are 19,000 acres of grassland and timbered mountains over which several hundred buffalo graze and a 19 mile self guiding tour for visitors. Russell took this picture with a 4x5 Speed Graphic camera on a tripod with a Weston meter. The film was Isopan Ansco; 4x5; ASA 40. Lens setting F8; shutter setting 1/25 sec.

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IN A RUT — Two buffalo bulls, a ton each, tangle over the favors of a cow (at left). The action took place at the National Bison Range at Moiese.



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Char-Koosta August 11, 1972

“Buffalo Roundup Bid Opens

Moiese — Bids for 65 surplus buffalo at the National Bison Range at Moiese will be accepted between August 10 and September 7. Successful bidders will be able to pick up their bison following the annual roundup at the range, the first week of October. The range management says no deposit is required on bids but a minimum \$200 has been placed on the animals.

The superintendent says the bison to be sold are in good health and certified brucellosis free. Mature cows to be sold should have been bred in August and the Moiese range usually enjoys as much as 90 percent breeding success.

High bids last year were \$450 for breeding cows, low successful bids were \$256.22 for aged

COWS.” Char-Koosta, August 11, 1972, Page 9



STUDIES THE BUFFALO. Dale Lott, a professor at the University of California at Davis, posed

in front of the bison he has been studying for six years.

“Studying the Buffalo As The Indians Used To

“Stub-right and Shining-five are facing off – Stub take a hook and comes back with a jab – Shining moves Stub back – Stub breaks off by turning a broad side.”

Just as it sounds, that is a blow-by-blow of a heavy-weight prize fight – only here the hooks and jabs are made with horns, the fighters weigh a ton each and are covered with hair, and the prize is a mate. His is behavioral-psychologist Dale Lott’s description of a breeding fight between two Moiese National Bison Range bulls during the rutting season now underway.

Lott, a son of former Bison Range Superintendent, A. F. Lott, has been studying the habits of the range buffalo for six years. In real-life Lott teaches psychology at the University of California in Davis but during the summer and whenever he can get away, he returns to his native hills to study his boyhood playmates, the buffalo. [Abner Francis Lott worked at the National Bison Range but was not the superintendent.]

400 bison on the range by first name and has the identification cards to prove it. This season he is studying the rutting habits of the bulla and keeps a running record of every fight and every breeding. After his study, (which is financed by the National Geographic Society) is completed he will tabulate the information on cards and send it through to determine whether bison have any common behavioral traits with other animals and, perhaps man.

Although Lott’s running accounts on tape are scientifically objective (he won’t even bet on a winner), he does have sentimental favorites. For instance Stub-right, a ten year old bull who lost to a seven-year-old Shining-five, is a favorite of Lott’s because “inspite of the fact he usually loses, he is always in there fighting! Lott was visibly proud of Stub-right last Tuesday when the old bull whipped both Roman-four and Ragged-four, two prime eight year olds for the favors of a cow.

Lott's studies of the Moiese herd, as well as another bison herd on Santa Catalina Island, off the southern coast of California, include calving etiquette and grazing manners. But Lott is hardly the first person to pay careful attention to the behavior of the buffalo.

The intense study of the plains buffalo is probably as old as the Indian society in North America. The results of these early studies had to be accurate because the plains Indians, including the Bitterroot Salish and Kootenai, relied heavily on the buffalo as a source of food. The information from this constant study was accumulated through generations and many plains tribes developed specific systems of words referring to the individual buffalo, conditions of the herd and even words that indicated precise buffalo hunting conditions.

Different tribes implemented this vast wealth of buffalo lore into distinct hunting techniques, among the most unique was that of the Bitterroot Salish.

According to an account by Father DeTrui, a Jesuit Missionary, the Salish, who called the buffalo Qua-Quie, trapped the buffalo in a large corral after a well coordinated drive.

The Salish hunts were carried out once or perhaps twice a year (depending on the food supply and the presence of enemy tribes in the buffalo hunting grounds east of the mountains). Discipline for the drive and procedure leading up to the drive was unusually strict and everybody involved was assigned a precise responsibility

To head the hunt, the tribe selected a Wah-Kon, (medicine man). He coordinated the preparations and devined the most propitious time to conduct the hunt.

An acre sized corral was built of logs and stone between two projecting hills and ridges along the plain. Placed in the center of the enclosure was a medicine mast containing a piece of red cloth, tobacco and a buffalo horn to lure the animals.

Runners were sent out constantly to report on the position of the herd and, as the buffalo came closer and other conditions became better, the medicine man would begin beating on his drum to assemble the driving party. The party would conceal themselves along a line running out from the opening between the two hills and one horseman would go out to meet the herd. He would cover his horse and himself in a buffalo skin, attract the herd's attention with the cry of a young calf and lead them into the line of herders.

After the buffalo were confined and killed, a harvest ceremony began. Much of the unpreservable meat was eaten on the spot – the rest was carefully stripped and dried to be carried back to the Bitterroot for winter larder.

It was during one of the last of these hunts that Walking Coyote, Pend d'Oreille, captured four calves – two heifers and two bulls – which led to the foundation of many of the herds now in existence.

Walking Coyote's small herd prospered in St. Ignatius and, by 1884, had grown to 13. Ten of the animals were purchased by two other tribal members, C. A. Allard and Michael Pablo, who

managed the herd for some years bringing it up to a large enough size to provide foundation stocks for Canadian and U. S. preserves.” Char-Koosta August 11, 1972

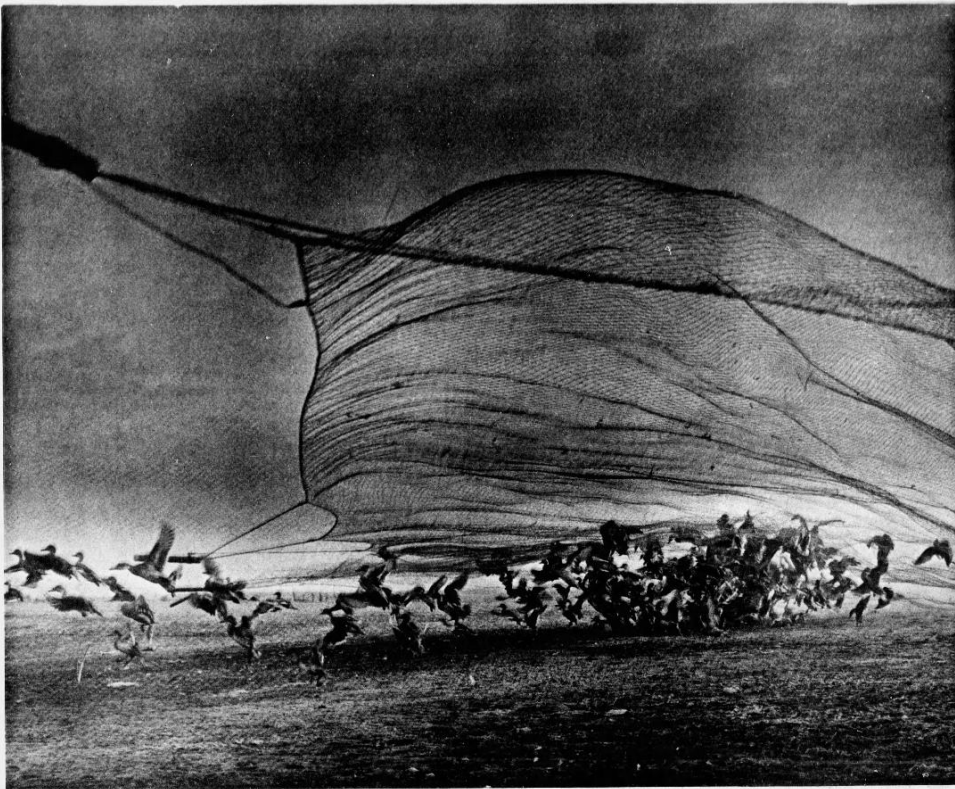
“65 Head of Buffalo Sold

Moiese – Twenty-three of 56 bidders were successful when 85 head of buffalo were sold at the National Bison Range.

The highest price paid was \$50 1.11 each for two two-year-old cows. Lowest price was \$275 for a yearling bull. The average price was \$35.

This year bids were received from Montana, Utah, Wyoming, Washington, Colorado, Idaho, California, Kansas, Oregon, Georgia and Wisconsin.

Bison range officials said the animals will be picked up during the annual roundup Oct. 2-3.”
September 16, 1972 The Missoulian



Quack

Quack

Quack

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Quack

SUNDAY
IN WESTERN MONTANA
The Sunday Missoulian, October 1, 1972

Catching and banding 1,000 mallard ducks is a mad circus of flapping wings, kicking webs and ruffled feathers.

But to Marvin Kaschke it's no circus; as refuge manager of the National Bison Range, it's as common as — well, as common as nursing a sick buffalo.

The problem of corralling 1,000 mallards is somewhat reduced through cooperation. If Kaschke and his men have trouble trapping the ducks at Nine Pipes and Pablo refuges, a call to the Ravalli National Wildlife Refuge, near Stevensville, will produce both a number of helping hands and ducks.

There are several ways to catch the wily ducks. Some trap the birds in a funnel-like device which lets the duck in but not out. The most common method of capturing groups of birds is with a net.

The trick to netting is to somehow toss the net over the ducks while they're attention is distracted. Refuge men in the midwest developed a netting device which shoots a net over birds baited into the area with grain.

Kaschke and his men have been using the cannon net approach since 1965. Nets vary from 60 x 40 feet to 100 x 40 feet. The cannons are powder filled tubes about 1.5 feet long, and pack enough wallop to completely unfurl the nets.

Since a duck's attention is largely controlled by his stomach, the trap is baited with grain. The birds feed up to the net. Concealed nearby, game management men wait for the right moment, then slam down on the plunger. What follows is a mad moment of frenzied motion.

"We can trap from 500 to 600 per shot, but prefer to catch a few hundred instead — this prevents the ducks from injuring feathers and trampling each other," Kaschke said.

Tagging is a two to three man operation. One records data, while the others catch and tag the birds.

The tag, made of an aluminum alloy, closes easily with pliers around the leg of a duck.

The tag is numbered, providing a mark of identification.

"When a tagged bird is found — captured, killed or shot — the tag is sent to the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Maryland," Kaschke said.

In turn, the center mails cards to the person who sends in the tag and the place where the duck was banded.

Kaschke said their banding efforts have resulted in returns from 21 states, four Canadian provinces and a few from Mexico.

Each year the research center asks Kaschke and his men to catch and band a certain number of ducks. This year's request was 1,000 tagged mallards before the opening of the hunting season and the same number after.

The center coordinates all banding of migratory birds from Canada to Mexico. Banding is strictly administered by the center, with unrequested bird banders often receiving a sharp letter of reprimand.

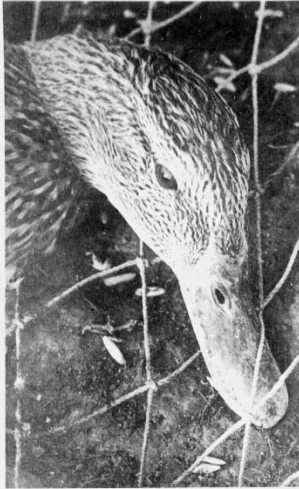
"About eight years ago the center began coordinating all the migratory banding efforts," Kaschke said. "Before that any qualified bander could tag birds."

The Maryland nerve center brought order to gathering field information by computerizing its operations. Now all banded birds — from starlings to Canadian Geese — end up as bits of data on a piece of tape.

As in all computerized operations it's garbage in, garbage out if the raw data isn't gathered correctly. And that's where Kaschke's problem begins — catching the raw data.

Story by Tom Ellerhoff

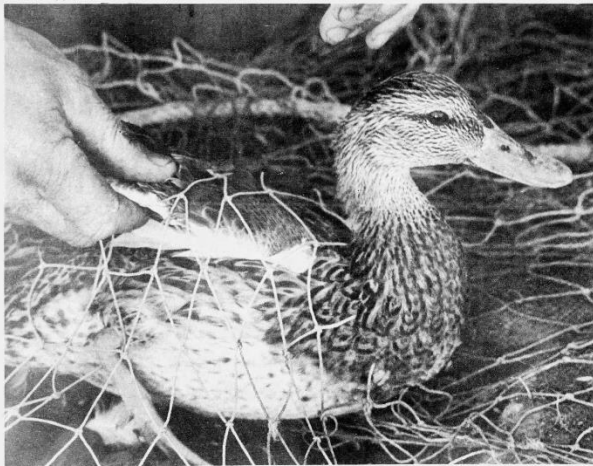
Photography by Harley Hettick



"Just come strolling up for a little breakfast and look what happens."



Bison Range Manager Marvin Kaschke (with hat) un-nets bird as assistant manager Milt Haderlie stuffs another in a holding box



Trapped hen mallard about to be taken from net and banded.



"Fancy footwear for a simple country duck."



"Uh oh. Here comes Haderlie."



And awa-a-a-y we go. Banded bird wastes no time winging out of the place.



ROUNDUP TIME — Cowboys at the National Bison Range stampede a number of the buffalo into sorting corrals as part of the annual roundup near Moiese, which began Monday.

The processing of the 400-plus animals will continue through Wednesday, according to Refuge Manager Marvin Kaschke. (Robert C. Larsson Photo)

October 1, 1972 The Missoulian

“Buffalo Roundup Begins at Moiese

Moiese – The National Bison Range here began its annual buffalo roundup Monday with crowd of 1,000 persons on hand to watch.

Approximately 400 bison were stampeded from the 18,500-acre range west of St. Ignatius and run into corrals. The animals will be sorted, branded and vaccinated during the three-day roundup.

Marvin Kaschke, range manager, said 85 buffalo will be cut out of the herd and delivered to buyers. He said that three of the animals will be butchered.

Kaschke said that 62 of the buffalo will be used in developing private herds.

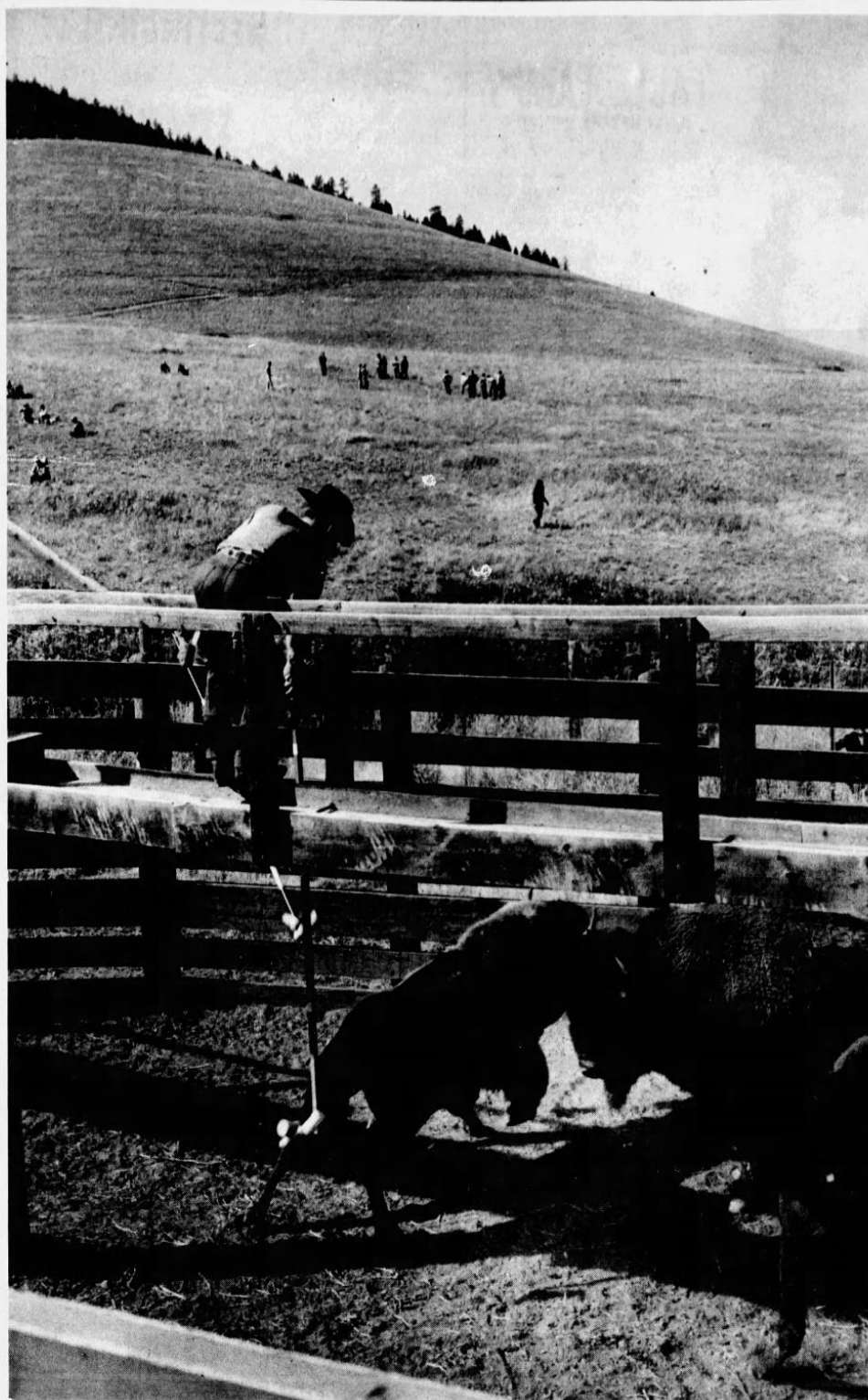
Successful bids on the animals ranged from a high of \$501 for two two-year-old cows down to \$275 for a yearling bull. Kaschke said that 23 of the 56 bidders are to receive the animals at an average price of \$362.80 per animal.

Hal Peterson of Logan, Utah, purchased 18 of the buffalo, more than any other single buyer.

Kaschke said the sale is conducted annually to keep the herd between 300-400 animals, which he said is the maximum amount the range will support naturally.

He said crews on horseback combed the range Monday, forcing small bands of buffalo into the corral.

One old buffalo with a history of independence evaded the cowboys and remained in his creek bottom home. Called “Old Creek Bottom,” the 18-year-old, 2,000-pound buffalo has never been forced into a corral, Kaschke said.” October 3, 1972 The Missoulian



Crowds Cheer As Buffalo Confound Cowboys

By LIZ FISHER
Missoulian Correspondent

MOIESE — The annual three-day buffalo roundup got off to a fine start Monday and a capacity crowd took advantage of the beautiful Indian summer weather to view the rare spectacle.

One young bull lost no time in demonstrating the independent and obstinate nature of the American Bison by breaking off from the main herd and heading back for the hills, as approximately 200 head were hazed down from their high pasture to the corrals. The bull had to be roped and dragged to the corral.

Cameras were much in evidence as representatives from newspapers in the area, several magazines, a TV cameraman from the Utah State Department of Education, and tourists recorded the colorful scenes.

After bringing the big herd to a pasture close to the corrals, the cowboys cut out a dozen or so at a time to bring in for further attention. The animals were then sorted into various categories. Some were weighed, some driven into a squeeze chute where they were tagged, branded and a blood sample taken. They were then put into sorting pens or released back to pasture.

None of the bison found the proceedings to their liking and objected by every means at their disposal. And only brute strength and scare tactics persuaded them to go where they were supposed to. The buffalo drew more cheers than the cowboys.

Sixty-five of the animals were sold at a recent auction, to keep the herd within the 365 average head kept year-round at the Bison Range. The average price paid for the animals sold was \$362.80, with a two-year-old heifer bringing the high bid of \$501.11, and a yearling bull bringing the low of \$275.

A LITTLE HELP FROM A FRIEND — When a stubborn bison refuses to move, a gentle prod in the hinder serves as a reminder. This photo was taken Monday at the annual National Bison

Range roundup at Moiese. A crowd was on hand to cheer the bison on as they stubbornly resisted the efforts of the cowboys. (Photo by Liz Fisher)



FOUR DEARS — While the adults were off watching the annual bison roundup at the National Bison Range earlier this week, these

youngsters slipped off to visit with a more friendly animal, a young buck mule deer. (Photo by Liz Fisher)

Supreme Court Will Get Buffalo Roast

Thompson Falls — The nine members of the U. S. Supreme Court are going to be treated to a dinner featuring a choice roast from a Montana buffalo purchased recently by the Thompson Falls Lions Club.

Jack Fisher, president of the club, said a 11-pound roast from the 3-year-old bull bought by the Lions from the National Bison Range at Moiese is being sent air express to Washington, D. C.

Fisher said James M. Brown, a former Montanan, made the request for the roast to Marvin Kaschke, manager of the National Bison Range, who in turn relayed it to the Thompson Falls Lions.

Brown said he wanted a choice roast large enough to feed the nine justices. Leonard Lovhaug and John Rusher selected a choice roast from bison and froze it. It will be taken to Spokane soon

and dispatched by air to the nation's capital." October 28, 1972 The Missoulian

"History has forgotten Dixon by Arthur Hutchinson Gazette State Bureau

Helena – Joe Dixon who?

Joseph M. Dixon, U. S. Senator and congressman from Montana; governor from 1921 to 1924; county attorney; state legislature; publisher of the Missoulian; lawyer, dairyman; ally; confidant and campaign manager for Theodore Roosevelt; assistant secretary of the interior and aide to President Herbert Hoover.

If all that doesn't ring a bell, you're not alone. Dixon is generally known only to those interested in Montana political history, and not nearly well enough known to them.

Politics, as historian and critic K. Ross Toole observes, "... makes myths. It elevates the mediocre and deifies the threat."

But in the case of Dixon, a contemporary of Sens. Thomas J. Walsh and Burton K. Wheeler who are known to every Montana schoolboy, history has played a dirty trick. It sentenced him to obscurity despite nearly four decades of service to his state and nation.

Trying to explain the obscurity, Toole feels that perhaps "the past never really forgives a man who is already ahead of it. Joseph M. Dixon was nearly a half century ahead of his time.

"It is true that except for one significant tax reform, he failed," Toole says. "His enemies prevailed and he was a one-term governor.

"But as we look backward, the victory of his enemies proves more phrrhic with every passing year and we begin to realize how remarkable and dedicated a man he was.

"Dixon should not be missed from the list of the finest politicians of his age," Toole says. "He should probably top the list."

A group of Montanans has been working to restore Dixon to his deserved place in Montana history. A bronze bust of the former governor by sculptor John Weaver will be placed in the Capitol rotunda Friday in ceremony at 4 p.m. Funds for the bust were raised by private subscription by the Dixon Memorial Committee led by John H. Toole, Missoula. The bust was authorized by a resolution of the 1971 legislature.

One of Dixon's old political foes will be present. Former Se. Burton K. Wheeler, now 90, who has practiced law in Wahington since his 1946 defeat, will return for the dedication.

Much has been published about Walsh and Wheeler but little except a few monographs about Dixon. Joseph Kinsey Howard in his "Montana High, Wide and Handsome," and most recently K. Ross Toole in his "Twentieth Century Montana" both write with admiration of Dixon and tell us what is known of him.

One reason Dixon remains enigmatic, his true being still to be fleshed out, is that the former governor's papers have been restricted in the University of Montana archives. More of the shroud around Dixon should be stripped away with publication expected soon by the University of Montana Press of the first volume of a two-volume biography of Dixon by historian Jules Karlin.

Dixon arrived in Missoula in 1891 where he studied law with Judge Frank H. Woody, a cousin of his father, and was admitted to practice. He had been born 24 years earlier in North Carolina to Quaker parents.

Politics came naturally he was a fine orator and he served as county attorney and state legislator before moving to Congress as Montana's lone representative in 1903.

Ambitious and energetic, Dixon, using a growing friendship with President Theodore Roosevelt, was instrumental in establishing Glacier National Park, the National Bison Range at Moiese and the headquarters of Forest Service Region One at Missoula.

When the Republicans split in 1912 between William Howard Taft and Roosevelt, Dixon was in the Bull Moose camp. He managed Roosevelt's unsuccessful bid for the GOP presidential nomination.

Dixon joined Roosevelt in the Progressive Party and managed Roosevelt's presidential campaign, but lost his own senate seat – won in 1906 – in the Republican split.

Dixon, who had rejoined the Republican Party, returned to active politics again in 1920 to win the GOP gubernatorial nomination.

He defeated Wheeler handily in the November election, largely because the radical Nonpartisan League had temporarily gained control of the Democratic Party.

The new governor proposed an income tax, a license tax on public utilities and the great corporations (meaning ACM) and taxes on the production of coal, oil and the rich metal mines.

He proposed an independent tax commission to devise an equitable system of taxation and he called for reappropriation of the legislature.

Toole writes of Dixon's 1921 state message in "Twentieth Century in Montana," saying it was striking because the program, if adopted in 1970, would have made state government better than it now is.

Toole said the message was remarkable for the insight Dixon had into fundamental economic, political and social problems that plagued Montana in 1920 and which still linger today.

Although Dixon's own party controlled the legislature, the body was a tool of the corporate interests. Dixon's reforms were rebuffed by the 1921 session, again by a special session he called that year and still again in 1923.

The corporate interests ganged up on Dixon in 1924. He lost his bid for re-election by nearly 15,000 votes to John E. "Honest John" Erickson.

But “the company” and its allies had made a tactical mistake in concentrating their fury on Dixon. His initiative calling for a metals mine gross profit tax passed by 20,000 votes.

Toole writes that in 1924 election killed Dixon politically, but he had brought about the only real economic reform in Montana since 1889.

President Hoover named Dixon assistant interior secretary. He was slated to become interior secretary, but Franklin D. Roosevelt’s new deal doomed those plans and Dixon returned to Montana in 1933. He died a year later.” November 12, 1972 The Billings Gazette



November 12, 1972 The Billings Gazette



November 12, 1972 The Independent Record (Helena, Montana)



“Wandering ... a young buffalo bull moves from one browse patch during a snow storm at the National Range in Moiese.”

Char-Koosta January 15, 1973

“Bison Range Makes payment

Thompson Falls – Two federal government checks have been received by Sanders County Treasurer June Thayer. Included is the second half federal revenue sharing check \$63, 178.

Marvin Kaschke, manager of the National Bison Range, presented a check for \$2,964.87 to Miss Thayer as Sanders County’s share of 5 per cent receipts from the bison range for 1972.

Miss Thayer said the share from the bison range is slightly lower than the amount received last year.

Federal law provides that 25 per cent of the receipts earned by the bison range from the sale of surplus buffalo and other fees be returned to the counties in which the range is located. Lake County also shares in the receipts.” January 21, 1973 The Missoulian

“Bison Range Open, Needs Rain

Moiese – Mid-April at the National Bison Range sees need for rain.

Marvin Kaschke, manager of the 18, 541 acres range, said: “We are short of moisture, though the grass is coming. We need rain before long.”

There are 325 buffalo, and the outlook, Kaschke said “is for about 75 calves with arrivals starting late this month.”

The refuge established in 1908 also has about 50 elk, 50 bighorn sheep, nearly 100 antelope and more than 300 deer mule and white tail.

Self-guided tours are to resume May 29 covering 19 miles through the refuge located between Missoula and Polson. There’s no charge.

Open year-around is the headquarters area where there are a few buffalo and elk easily observed.

There’s also a picnic area.

Kaschke said about 250 persons visit each Sunday now. During a year the refuge attracts more than 125,000 visitors.

Effective Jan. 1, the National Bison Range was included in a newly defined Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife region at Denver with a Billings area office. Previously the Moiese facility reported to regional offices at Portland which continue to serve the coast states.” April 17, 1973 The Missoulian

“Pious, Sentimental’ Fiedler Reminisces of Missoula by Sharon Barrett Missoulian Staff Writer

Warning his audience that he planned to talk “shamelessly” of “how it feels to return to Montana” and that his speech would be “pious and sentimental,” former University of Montana professor Leslie Fiedler described personal memories of a state and city he first encountered 32 years ago.

Before an overflow crowd in the Music Recital Hall Friday night, Fiedler, writer and critic, describes Montana as a place from which “I never departed” and “a place o which I never really got.” And he recalled his youth, when he was “a young man full of strange outmoded notions,” including “what it means to grow old.”

Missoula “was utterly alien to me,” Fiedler said, remembering his first arrival here. He had been moving west, from New York, Newark, N.J., Madison, Wis., and suddenly found himself in a truly lunar landscape.”

He recalled feelings of claustrophobia upon first being surrounded by mountains, and disorientation because “the river was running the wrong way” to “the wrong ocean.”

“But the place I come to now, He said, “is a familiar place.” “I am now unredeemably and forever Not that young instructor, green and fresh,” who arrived in Missoula 32 years ago. Now, he said, “I am an old-timer, brought back to celebrate someone’s 25th anniversary.

Fiedler’s speech was in honor of sociology professor, Dr. Gordon Browder’s 25th year at the UM.

“Montana, Missoula, this university ... exist for me in an eternal present,” Fiedler said, and the surest way to return to those things, is to dream.

The short man, with an expansive girth, graying hair and beard, and black-rimmed glasses, described a small community of young UM instructors who “once inhabited” Ft. Missoula. “There they lived, drank, played poker, shared the same telephone and the same dreams, and tried to imagine the world their children would grow into.

“It was a world we could not rationally foresee or predict,” Fiedler said.

“But the world of Missoula several decades ago was one in which “nothing belonged to anyone and we knew it.”

Fiedler recalled Indian women digging roots in the fields around the fort, and chokecherries which “still grew for anyone foolish enough to pick them.”

The only “real owner of that territory was the river,” he said, remembering that the river “Claimed the life of one small boy out of our little society.”

Fiedler said he never killed or caught anything but ticks, “but I did have one encounter with the animal kingdom in Montana – the old albino bull” that presided over the Moiese bison range.

“I saw myself in that shaggy white buffalo,” he recalled. “But he’s dead.”

“All old men come to resemble albino buffaloes,” Fiedler added.

“In this evocation of good things that I’ve lived in Montana,” Fiedler said, it should be remembered that we were and are surrounded by a world of war, violence, deceit and betrayal.

“I know all that,” he said remembering also “a Missoula which sometimes I hated and which sometimes hated me.”

But “in any case, we have survived,” and “that’s something.” And there’s still hope for a world of people loving one another.

“Maybe,” Fiedler concluded, “maybe life is beautiful. But don’t report to anybody that I said so.”

Fiedler is Samuel L. Clemens professor of English at the State University of New York, Buffalo, and author of several books and articles.” April 29, 1973 The Sunday Missoulian, page 8.

Entomologists Seek Solution To Pine Butterfly Problem

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the third in a series of Sunday articles about entomology at work in the U.S. Forest Service.

By PEYTON MONCURE
Forest Service Writer

I remember the time my wife and I first saw all those white butterflies fluttering around in the woods up in the Lolo and Fish Creek drainages.

"I wonder what all those cabbage butterflies are doing way up here in the mountains," she remarked. "The only places I've ever seen this kind of butterfly before was down in alfalfa fields and local vegetable gardens."

But these weren't cabbage butterflies, although they certainly looked like them. They were pine butterflies, one of the insect scourges of pine forests. An insect survey by the Forest Service in 1972 revealed that the pine butterfly infestation in the Nezperce National Forest in Idaho increased over the preceding year about seven-fold and about ten-fold in the Bitterroot Range north of Hamilton, with the insect populations concentrated along the east face of the Bitterroot Range north of Hamilton. Smaller outbreaks occurred on the Lolo National Forest, National Bison Range near Ravalli and on the Flathead Indian Reservation.

Aerial surveys are made of defoliated areas, and ground counts are also made to sample egg density from these insects. These eggs and the caterpillars that will hatch from them the following spring determine the defoliation damage for that year.

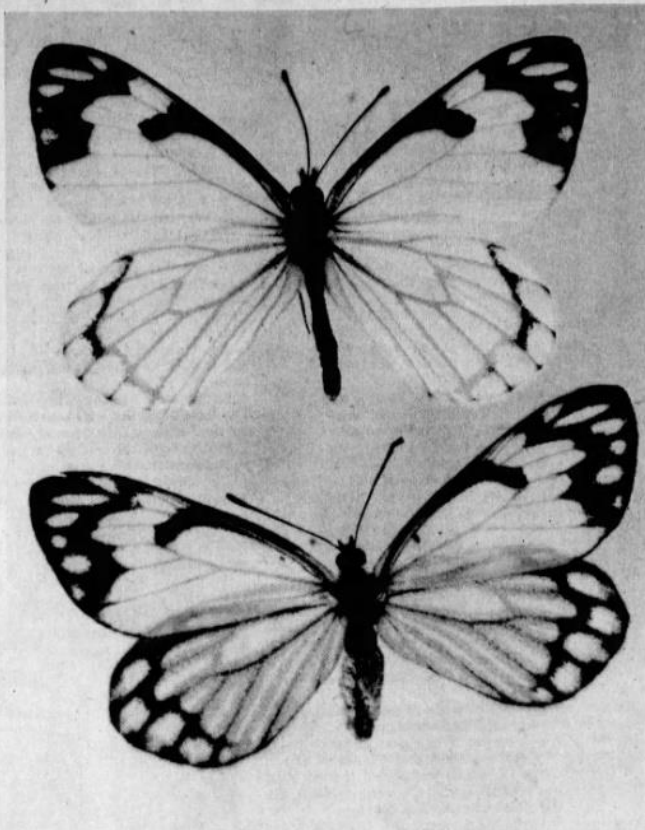
In spite of the epidemic explosion of pine butterflies there are indications that the worst is over and that the infestation will taper off rapidly this year. Pine butterfly infestations come in cycles lasting from three to five years and then subside quite abruptly. For one thing, natural predators and parasites of the pine butterfly are increasing rapidly in numbers, and field studies have shown that parasitic wasps and flies have killed up to 50 per cent of the pine butterflies while in the cocoon stage.

Forest Service entomologist Jerald E. Dewey said there are no registered chemical or bacterial controls available, but the Forest Service and the State of Montana are cooperating in a field experiment to evaluate the effectiveness of several selected insecticides and a biological agent on the pine butterfly as well as the impact on the ecosystem. This test will be conducted in the Bitterroot Valley this June and will consist of both aerial and ground applications.

"In addition," Dewey said, "a microbial (bacterial) insecticide is to be tested. This is a true form of biological control because one type of organism is being used to control another type. Hopefully, this testing will lead to the registration of one or more control methods to be made available to land managers."

Rural residents and those who spend some time in the woods fishing and camping are probably familiar with pine butterfly damage, or have at least seen the butterflies. But most people aren't exactly sure of what kind of damage the pine butterfly does or at what stage of its development it does this damage.

"It isn't the adult butterfly that does



The Pine Butterfly

the damage," Dewey explained. "It's only while in the larval or caterpillar state that it's destructive. That's when it has a voracious appetite for pine needles. And this begins around the first part of June when the eggs hatch. Feeding continues until around mid-July. Then the larva goes into the pupal or resting stage for from 10 days to two weeks. Finally in late July or early August the white butterfly emerges and the flights begin. That is the period when most people become aware of the insect."

In recent years, adult pine butterflies have been numerous enough in the Bitterroot Valley and in the vicinity of Missoula to arouse public attention. Wayne Bousfield, another Forest Service entomologist who is working on the pine butterfly problem, seeks an

approach to predictions of future infestations.

"The intensity of a pine butterfly infestation can be predicted by counting the number of eggs which occur on pine branches," he said. "Systematic counts are made in the fall to predict the infestation for the following year. Egg counts were lower this year, although enough could be found so that some defoliation can be expected."

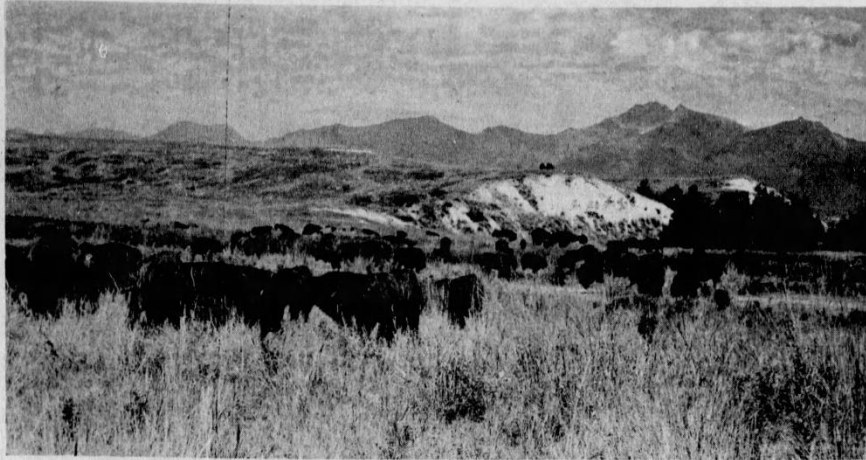
Looking backward in time the records of epidemics indicate that heavy defoliation can result in 80 to 90 per cent mortality in ponderosa pine forests. And, although the pine butterfly can survive on various pine species, it is only the ponderosa pine that is damaged. So, although the pine butterfly is an "eager eater," it's also fussy what it eats.

Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Margaret Farrar

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By D. J. Crossito	Christian.	103 Bird call.	12 European	67 French
ACROSS	58 Desert wind.	104 Egg: Lat.	fish.	philosopher.
1 Clippers.	60 Guam harbor.	108 Northumber-	13 Infernal.	69 Water lily.
6 European	61 Science of	land river.	14 Diplomacy.	70 Clothes.
currency.	being.	109 G. I.	15 William Tell's	71 Continually.
10 W. 3. 111	63 Pampered.	cartoonist.	canton.	72 Imposing.
	65 Glass trench	111 Crumbles.	16 Transports.	74 Shastan.



Buffalo Roam on National Bison Range at Moiese

Range Management Tour Set

Members of the International Mountain Section of the Society for Range Management will stage their annual tour July 26-28 at the Charles Jarecki Ranch 20 miles northwest of Polson and at the National Bison Range, Moiese, President Ed Nelson of Staveland, Alta., Canada, has announced.

Staveland said this year's tour will emphasize management of dry land native ranges, discussion of dry land range seedings and wildlife-livestock relations. Range developments and improvements will be reviewed at both the Jarecki

ranch and the bison range.

Host and tour Chairman Charles Jarecki said, "This will be a fun-filled family outing, and you do not have to be a member of the society to join the tour."

Registration will open Thursday, July 26, at 4 p.m. at the ranch and continue until dark. Meals will be served Friday and Saturday until noon. Jarecki said the "head bull cook," Big Don Ryerson, "has promised the best cotton-pickin' sourdough hotcakes and charcoal broiled steaks served anywhere west of the Mississippi, and for darn sure

east. He'll have western campfire brewed coffee available at all times and a cool drink for the youngsters. All of this is for just cost. Better bring your own sleeping bags, tents or campers."

The tour headquarters on the Jarecki ranch is 20 miles northwest of Polson and can be reached by turning south off U.S. Highway 93 one mile west of the Big Arm post office on the west shore of Flathead Lake. The ranch buildings are eight miles from the turnoff on Highway 93, and the route will be plainly marked, Jarecki said.

"Three Tours Added by UM

Three tours – two to the Point Six Radar Weather Station northwest of Missoula and one to the Flathead National Forest Bison Range – have been added to the list of summer recreation tours offered by the University of Montana Campus Recreation Department (CRD).

The tour times and dates are 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Thursday and 5:30-9 p.m. Monday for the weather station tours and 5-10 p.m. Friday for the visit to the bison range.

The registration deadline for the first Point Six weather Station tour is 9 p.m. Thursday and 2 p.m. Thursday for the bison range tour. Noon next Monday is the deadline for registering for the second weather station tour. Registration can be made at the CRD office in Room 295 of the Harry Adams Field House.

Tom Whiddon, CRD director, said registrants are requested to provide their own transportation for each of the weather station tours but transportation will be provided by the university for the

tour of the tour bison range. The transportation cost is \$2.50 per person for individuals riding in university cars and no charge for persons providing their own transportation.

Whiddon said participants should bring a jacket or sweater, camera, binoculars and snack for each of the tours.” July 3, 1973 The Missoulian

“Trailer Caravan Here; 6 More Groups Coming

Approximately 60 of 700 trailers expected to pass through Missoula during the next month arrived at the Missoula County Fairgrounds Friday.

Seven special interest caravans are touring the state after leaving the 16th International Wally Byam Caravan Club Rally June 28 through July 4 in Bozeman which drew more than 4,000 trailers. The groups of about 100 Airstream trailers each have been organized according to interests of mountains and prairies, rockhounds, historic and scenic, Indians and mountains, fishing, Indians, and blue ribbon fishing.

The Indians and mountains caravan will remain in Missoula until Monday. Sightseeing in the area will include the National Bison Range at Moiese.

Arrangements have been made by Katie Jourdonnais and the Missoula County Fairgrounds staff to present entertainment to each group which relates to their interests. Don Miller, president of the Western Montana Ghost Town Preservation Society, will present a historical presentation to the first group. Later programs will be offered by the Fish and Game Department, rockhound clubs and other groups.

The mountains and prairies caravan consisting of about 90 trailers will stop in Missoula July 14 and spend four days touring the area.

On July 19 the historic and scenic caravan will arrive at the fairgrounds for a two-day stay. Its itinerary will include a tour of the National Bison Range.

About 100 trailers from the Indian country caravan are expected for a three-day stay beginning July 21.

Two fishing groups will stay at the fairgrounds at the end of the month. The first group of 100b will arrive July 24 for a three-day stay. The second caravan arrives July 27 and will also remain for three days.

On Aug. 4, 100 rockhounds will travel to Missoula and exchange rocks with local rock clubs during their two-day stay.” July 7, 1973 The Missoulian

“Range Managers Tour Polson Ranch

The annual summer range tour of the International Mountain Section of the Society for Range Management was held recently at the Chuck Jarecki ranch northwest of Polson and at the National Bison Range at Moiese.

About 299 people registered at the camp headquarters on the Jarecki Ranch. Society members and guests came from such varied spots as Edmonton, Alta.; Willmar, Minn., and Broken Hill, Australia.

A tour on the Jarecki Ranch included discussions and illustrations on range reseeding, game forage, livestock grazing capacity, water developments, and over-all land management problems and solutions on the ranch. Tour participants were told that the worst drought in 40 years that this area is currently experiencing did not affect the productivity of well-managed range to any great degree.

The tour of the National Bison Range provided game management discussions on the rest-rotation system used in bison grazing management.

Next year's tour will be headquartered at Banff, Alta., Canada, in conjunction with the summer directors meeting of the Society of Range Management." August 1, 1973 The Missoulian

"One World Crusade

One World Crusade will sponsor a potluck picnic and trip to the Bison Range Sunday. All interested should meet at the Center at 404 E. Spruce at 12:30 p.m. Music, recreation and Refreshment will be featured." August 4, 1973 The Missoulian

August 5, 1973 The Missoulian

Metcalfe Justifies Pipeline Vote

By DON SCHWENNESEN
Missoulian Staff Writer

Federal legislation giving the go-ahead to construction of the Alaska pipeline has caused "a great deal of misapprehension," according to Montana Sen. Lee Metcalfe.

"I wouldn't build the pipeline," the Montana Democrat said Wednesday in an interview with the Missoulian.

But while he criticized the controversial Gravel amendment to the General Public Lands Right-of-Way Legislation (S. 1081, sponsored by Sen. Henry Jackson, D-Wash.), Metcalfe defended the rest of the bill — as well as his final vote in favor of it.

"It's a pretty good bill and it's been a long time coming," he said. "If there hadn't been that Alaska pipeline special title in there, it would have been an admirable piece of legislation."

The special title, added to the bill by Sen. Mike Gravel, D-Alaska, effectively declared the Alaska pipeline in compliance with the National Environmental Protection Act and blocked further court challenge of the project.

But the rest of the bill "will regulate and control...all rights of way" for pipelines, power lines, aqueducts, railroads and other projects "across the public domain," Metcalfe said.

Had the bill been in effect earlier this spring, the Senator said, "we would have had an opportunity to...evaluate the Montana Power Company line down through the Bitterroot" from Missoula to Hamilton.

And Metcalfe said that under the bill "we would have some control" over public land rights-of-way and rights-of-way renewals.

"Environmental people would be allowed to go in there and contest a renewal," he said.

Recounting the controversial Bitterroot Valley power line case of last spring, in which a group of valley landowners challenged a proposed power line and lost, Metcalfe said under the new bill the power company would have been required to "file with the appropriate state agencies a plan proposal and get an environmental impact statement."

He said, "What they did up here in the Bitterroot" was to get "the ranchers to sign contracts, or they threatened them with condemnation and eminent domain."

"So then they got part of their right-of-way, and then they went over to the State Land Board" to cross state lands, he said, adding, "I don't know why some of the members of the State Land Board acquiesced..."

Finally, Metcalfe said, "they went to the federal government and said, 'Look, we've got this to here and this to here' and so forth, and 'If we can't go through these three or four sections of public domain, then we'll have to go...into a lot more land and have less reliable power sources..."

Metcalfe said both he and Sen. Mike Mansfield had opposed the Alaska pipeline amendment.

"Much to my disappointment," he said, the Senate "adopted the Gravel amendment, which provided that we set aside the Environmental Protection Act, and when that came up for a vote, as you recall, it was a tie vote...and Vice President Agnew cast the deciding vote."

"Then (Montana Eastern District Congressman John) Melcher, over on the House (of Representatives) side, sponsored that very amendment to set aside the...Environmental Protection Act," Metcalfe said.

"So it's out of Congress," Metcalfe concluded, adding that the bill "can't stop the lawsuits; they're going to be in with the lawsuits, anyway," challenging the pipeline amendment.

"The very fact that the amendment is in the bill, setting aside another act of...another Congress, will probably generate more of a lawsuit than anything else," Metcalfe predicted.

Asked if Congress could set standards for environmental impact statements and the credentials of their authors, Metcalfe replied, "No; nobody can write into the law the fact that you have to have a skilled engineer or ecological specialists instead of a de-

feated candidate for the United States Senate."

But he said, "The safety here" is that "you can always go into court."

"This is what's holding up the Surface Mining bill," he said, noting that one of his own amendments to the strip-mining legislation recognizes "the right of such an organization as the Sierra Club or the wildlife association" to "go into court, get an injunction" and "get some expert testimony" to "stop those things."

Asked if he thought his amendment would survive a House-Senate conference, Metcalfe said, "I will wager it will be in when the bill passes the Senate." But he said, "it's dangerous to predict what will happen in any legislative body." The surface mining bill has yet to be reported from Senate committee.

Metcalfe noted that among rights-of-way that could be reviewed in the future are pipeline and power line routes across the National Bison Range.

He poked fun at a recent cover photograph on a stockholder report from Montana Power Company, showing a buffalo "scratching his back on one of their high tension poles while a man is working on the line."

"You know, the only time a buffalo will scratch that pole is when the power is turned off," Metcalfe said, adding, "animals are much more sensitive" than people "to generation of electricity... under a high tension line."

Mother-to-Be Testing Statute

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — An unmarried schoolteacher has asked a federal judge to void an Alabama law under which she was fired when she became pregnant.

The suit, brought by Ilena Devone Drake against the Covington County Board of Education, contends that her "private sexual conduct... cannot legitimately be made a subject of state concern." The suit contends that a state law which provides for the dismissal of teachers guilty of "immoral conduct" does not define immorality and therefore is unconstitutionally vague.

U.S. District Court Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. has taken a motion to dismiss the suit under advisement.

"They won't stand under them," the Senator said. But "there was that buffalo there, and there was a man up on the tower; obviously, all the power was turned off."

Commenting on other issues closer to home, Metcalfe said he favored a proposed Boulder-to-Butte route for Interstate 15, adding that he has always held

that Butte should be a transportation hub for the state.

Environmentalists generally oppose the Boulder-to-Butte route, favoring one farther to the east, through Whitehall, that would follow a wider valley.

Metcalfe said he felt environmental damage could be minimized on the Boulder to Butte route, but he concluded, "I won't have much to say about it (the routing question), anyway."

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“Buffalo Bids Set Record

Moiese – In the midst of the current beef shortage, bidding for the 78 Buffalo to be sold by the Nation Bison Range here next month attracted a record number of bidders and record prices, according to Marvin Kaschke, manager of the range.

The top price bid was \$1,003 for a three-year-old bull. Next highest were \$903 for a two-year bull and \$750 for an eight year-old-bull. Lowest successful bid was \$333.97 for a long yearling bull.

Kaschke said a total of 146 bidders competed in the sale with 30 of them being successful. The overall average price to be paid for the 78 animals is \$494.43, more than \$150 above the average paid last year. Animals will be available following the annual buffalo roundup to be staged Oct. 1-3 at the bison range, Kaschke said. The roundup attracts a growing number of fans to watch the buffalo brought into the corrals for inspection and tests.” September 15, 1973 The Missoulian



THUNDERING HERD — An unusually cooperative herd of buffalo charges ahead of determined cowboys during the annual National Bison Range buffalo roundup this past week at Moiese. The buffalo were vaccinated, branded,

numbered and tested for disease. The total number in the Bison Range herd now is about 400. See more photos and story on page 13. (Staff photo by Randy Rasmussen)

October 7, 1973 The Missoulian

“Roundup Time at National Bison Range by Dennis Jones Missoulian Correspondent

Moiese – The ground shook and the dust rose as the annual roundup got underway at the National Bison Range at Moiese. Folks from all over the country flocked to the area to watch the shaggy animals as they were herded in from the summer range.

The bison came in all sizes from small bawling calves to belligerent bulls weighing almost a ton.

Each fall the herd, which numbers more than 400, is gathered and brought to the roundup area for inspection, treatment and separation. After a couple days most are set free again on the range while others are shipped to all parts of the country to their new owners.

This year there were 78 bison sold by competitive bidding, part of the management program that keeps the herd consistent with the available feed on the 19,000 -acre refuge.

According to Refuge Manager Marvin Kaschke, the animals brought an average of \$499.22 this year and one three-year-old bull went for \$1,003. On the low end of the bidding, a long yearling bull was purchase for \$333.97.

The roundup itself is an interesting thing to watch and most people are impressed by the strength and independence of the animals even when penned.

Cowboys ride to the upper range above the corrals that sit at the bottom of a large bowl on the open country side. The herd is broken up as the riders cut out 15 to 20 animals and run them down the hill to the corral.

The wild-eyed bison are then sent down a long runway one at a time to the steel squeeze chute where, after much objection, they relent to the blood test sample, tagging, inspection and branding. The calves are separated and run into a smaller chute where they are processed in a like manner.

Dust mingles with the smell of burning hide that rises from the chutes to the catwalks above where the visitors watch attentively.

Moments later, the animal explodes from the chute and charges down the runway and into a large holding pen with the others.

Some of the bulls are in a fighting mood by now and challenge the tin cans that are tied to the long poles used by the men attempting to haze them through the gates.

In spite of the thrashing and uncooperative bison, the men work calmly and the process seems to go smoothly.

Officials said that about 30 of the bison that were sold will be taken to slaughter by their owners and the rest will be used as breeding stock. The rest of the herd will return to the refuge range to face the coming winter.” October 7, 1973 The Missoulian



HOT TIME—Jack Lampshire applies the warm end of a branding iron to the rear of a buffalo cow at the Moiese bison roundup. The bison aren't happy about getting branded, giving blood samples, receiving vaccinations and

being inspected by vets. They show their unhappiness by doing a little custom work on the corrals, much to the pleasure of crowds of on-lookers that gather to watch the show. (Photo by Dennis Jones)



HAZING TOOLS — Empty tin cans tied to long poles are used to haze milling buffalo at the Moiese Bison Range. The tin cans have stones inside to increase the noise. The buffalo refuse to be buffaloeed by the cans and sometimes butt the long poles. (Photo by Dennis Jones)

OPEN DAILY 9—9; SU



EAGER TO LEAVE—A young bison calf strikes his head on a board above the branding chute as he tries to get away from the trials of being a participant in the annual Moiese Bison Range roundup. (Staff Photo)



A Deer Gets His Share of Attention from Students

Polson Students Visit Moiese

By DENNIS JONES
Missoulian Correspondent

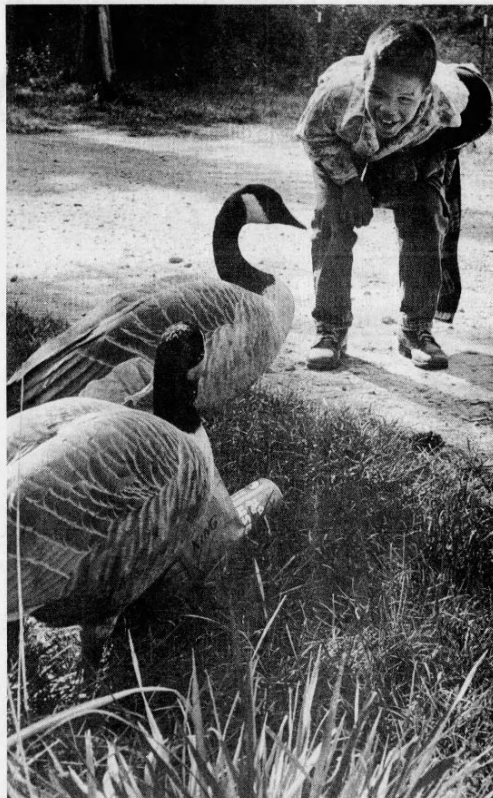
MOIESE — There is no energy shortage . . . at least when the power source is a group of fifth graders on a fall field trip.

More than 100 Polson students toured the National Bison Range at Moiese last week complete with the traditional brown bag lunch.

A brave deer showed up to help the children eat their lunches and even autographed one boy's sandwich. A perfect hoof print was left in the fresh bread.

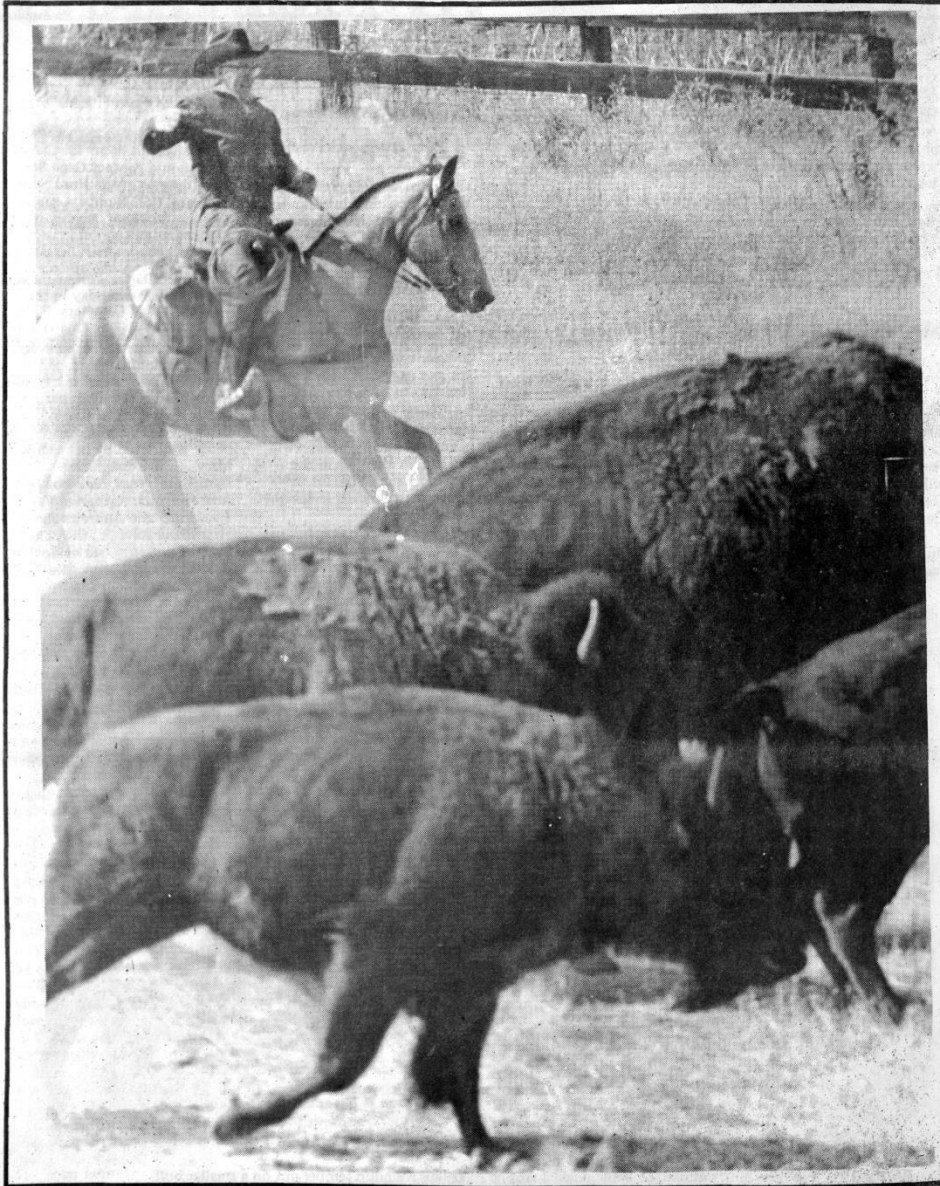
Two Canadian geese, friendly but less patient than the deer, joined the picnic to eat leftovers fed by hand. Some of the more aggressive children were nipped and most gained a healthy respect for the birds.

A kickball game, slightly resembling a riot, with 50 to a side, absorbed the rest of the noon hour. A nature study class was conducted before the classes boarded buses for home.

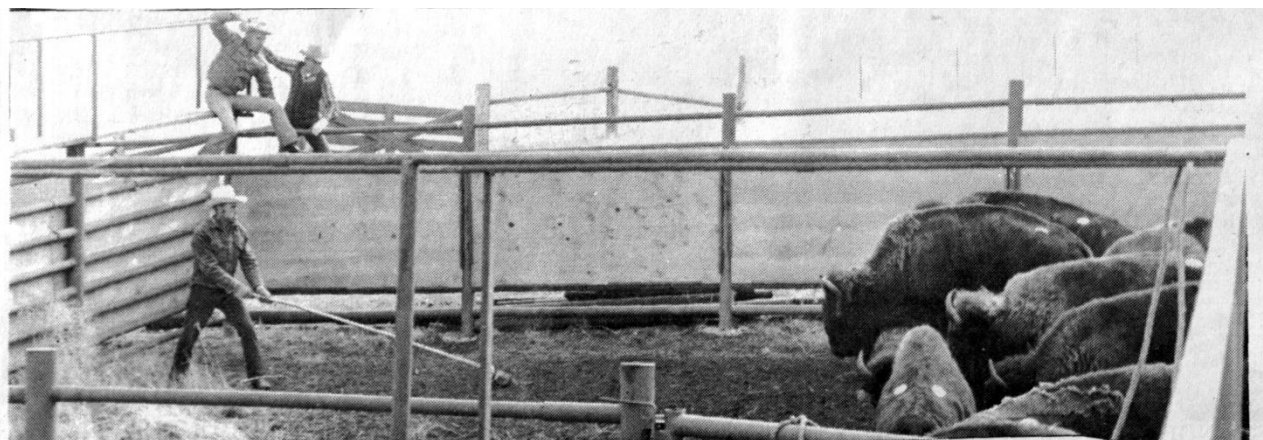


A Goose Admirer Keeps His Distance

FULL MOON OF THE HARVEST OF RIPE THINGS



Page 6 Char-Koosta Smimii (Salish-News) (Charlo and Koostahtah were traditional Chiefs of the Salish-Kootenai



STANDOFF. A RANGE EMPLOYEE LEVELS WITH A CORRAL FULL OF COWS

Page 8 Char-Koosta Smimii (Salish-News) (Charlo and Koostahtah were traditional Chiefs of the Salish-Kootenai

Char-Koosta, October 15, 1973



RIGHT WHERE IT HURTS. A buffalo calf gets his hide tanned by range employee. The number three refers to 1973, the year the calf was born.

Char-Koosta, October 15, 1973

The Buffalo Roundup Is a Colorful October Event

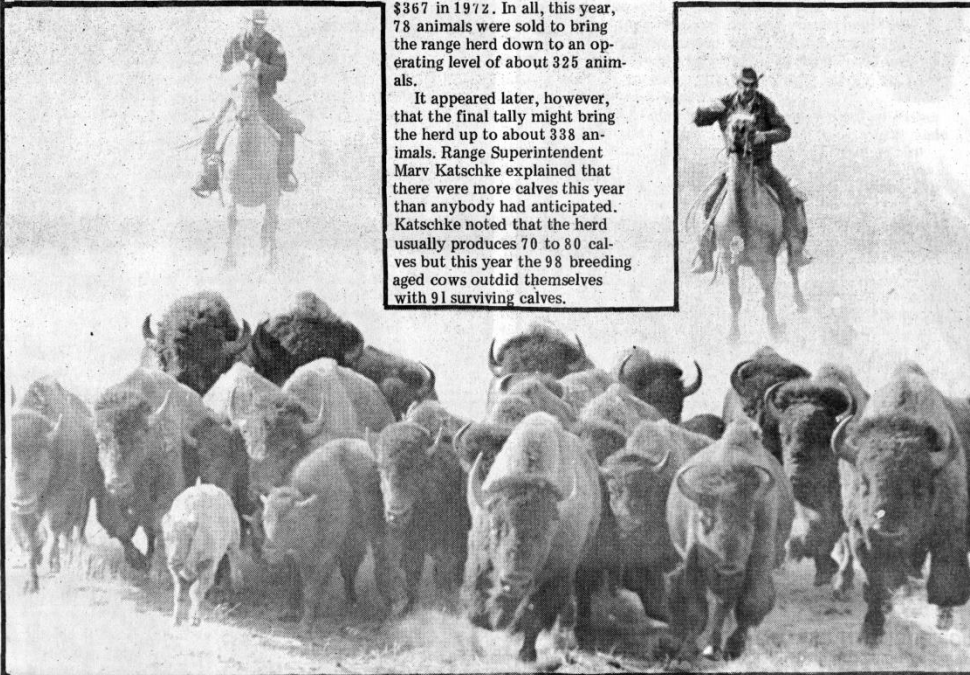
Moiese: Unless you were there, the most exciting thing to be said for this year's annual buffalo roundup and the National Bison Range was the price the surplus animals brought.

This year's sale topper was a

three-year-old bull which went to Paso Robles, California for \$1,003. . . that is almost double last year's high which was \$525. The high cost of meat was also reflected in the sale average this year...\$499.22 compared with \$367 in 1972. In all, this year, 78 animals were sold to bring the range herd down to an operating level of about 325 animals.

It appeared later, however, that the final tally might bring the herd up to about 338 animals. Range Superintendent Marv Katschke explained that there were more calves this year than anybody had anticipated. Katschke noted that the herd usually produces 70 to 80 calves but this year the 98 breeding aged cows outdid themselves with 91 surviving calves.

But the Bison Range roundup is not all statistics. Bison are an interesting and exciting animal and anything that has to do with them is usually interesting and exciting as the photographs on this and the next two pages show.



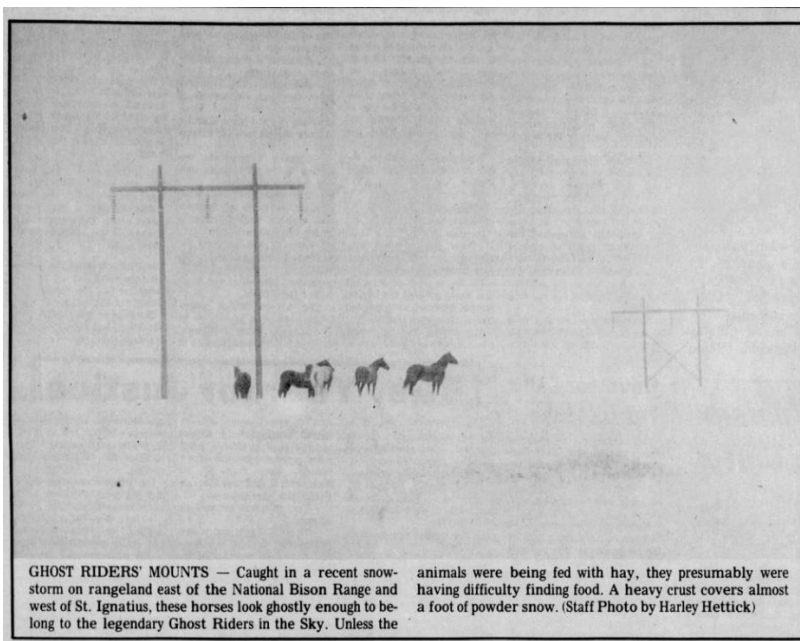
STANDING ROOM ONLY. SOME 3,000 PERSONS CAME TO MOIESE DURING THE ROUNDUP TO WATCH THE EXCITEMENT. (Above and on the opposite page)



BAD MOOD. Big Boss Bull, not used to being pushed around, takes his roundup temper out on a smaller bull. next page

Char-Koosta Smimii (Salish-News) (Charlo and Koostahtah were traditional Chiefs of the Salish-Kootenai) Page 5

Char-Koosta, October 15, 1973



GHOST RIDERS' MOUNTS — Caught in a recent snow-storm on rangeland east of the National Bison Range and west of St. Ignatius, these horses look ghostly enough to belong to the legendary Ghost Riders in the Sky. Unless the

animals were being fed with hay, they presumably were having difficulty finding food. A heavy crust covers almost a foot of powder snow. (Staff Photo by Harley Hettick)

January 13, 1974 The Missoulian

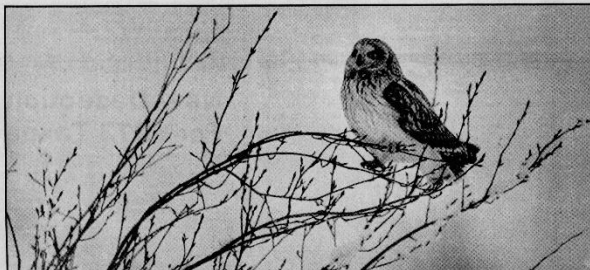


Buffalo find sleepy solace in the white world.

Moiese Winter

Before warm weather hit western Montana, Missoulian photographer Harley Hettick spent a day at the National Bison Range at Moiese to see how the refuge animals were faring.

SUNDAY
IN WESTERN MONTANA



A short-eared owl settles on a precarious perch.



Antelope make their way through drifts.

‘No More Wild West For Moiese Buffalo

Moiese – (AP) – The U.S. Bureau of Fisheries and Wildlife has concluded the National Bison Range at Moiese should not be included in the National Wilderness Preservation System, mainly because the traditional symbol of the American West now needs a lot of mothering where it once needed no help at all.

The range is in western Montana’s Flathead Valley and sustains a herd that numbers from 300 to 500 animals who roam the natural grasslands of the 18,542-acre refuge.

Because of the great care needed to preserve the buffalo, the bureau said the refuge cannot meet the act’s intention for wilderness area.

The bureau was required to study the suitability of the refuge for preservation as wilderness by the Wilderness Act of 1864.

The study results were released in advance of a scheduled public hearing on the issue Feb. 23 in Polson.

Elk, antelope, mule and white-tailed deer, bighorn sheep and mountain goats also live on the range.” February 1, 1974 The Missoulian

The Missoulian, Friday, February 22, 1974—11

Predator Study Begins on Bitterroot Ranch

By CHRISTINE JOHNSON
Missoulian Correspondent

HAMILTON — Dr. Gert O’Gara, assistant director of the Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit at the University of Montana, met with the Ravalli Committee for Rural Development Tuesday in Hamilton to describe the predator research study he will supervise at the Bill Cook Ranch near Florence starting in March.

The purpose of the two-year study, O’Gara said, is to document the simple level of coyote predation at the ranch when all controls are removed. The Cook Ranch was chosen as the study site because of the heavy sheep losses experienced there during recent years.

The initial study will be followed by a study of depredation control, O’Gara said, and three graduate students from the university will assist.

O’Gara discussed the need for definitive studies in the field of predator research, saying that the results of most previous work has been conflicting and uncertain. Studies dealing with the ecology of coyotes, for instance, have determined little more than that “they are as smart as people and have more patience.”

Livestock studies often identify losses attributed to predators at 3 to 5 per cent, with bad weather and disease responsible for another 20 to 30 per cent, but another 50 per cent of the losses unaccountable because of missing carcasses. Coyotes have been known to outwit researchers by ignoring lambs with radio collars and carrying off others in the flock, he said.

At the Cook Ranch, O’Gara said, research will be aided by the fact that the sheep are closely controlled. All are numbered so that researchers will be able to identify carcasses as sickly animals or a twin, etc. Sheep on the ranch are kept on 6,800 acres, divided into net wire pastures of 600 acres each. Coyotes don’t usually carry their kill out of the pasture and so carcasses will be easier to find, O’Gara said.

One hour before sunup and one hour after sundown are the most common killing times, O’Gara said, and it is essential to find the carcasses almost immediately before ravens and magpies mess them up and make post-mortem examination difficult.

During the study, Cook will be paid for all documented losses of sheep to any kind of predator or related predator activity, such as lambs trampled by ewes when a coyote gets into a pen, O’Gara said. There will be a certain number of undetermined deaths, though, he said, and Cook will probably suffer some losses.

Many people feel that the banning of certain poisons for predator control is responsible for increased livestock losses to coyotes in recent years. Others think that last year’s hard winter and dry summer greatly reduced the field mice population and is forcing coyotes to find other food. On the Cook Ranch, for instance, there are no mice or other small animals.

In general, O’Gara said, census studies conducted since the poison ban show no huge increase in coyote population. Numbers are up in some areas, down in others, and level in yet others, with many contradictory test results.

It is possible, however, he said, that increased trapping activity brought on by rising fur prices is making a growth in coyote population. One of the students assisting in the predator study here will be censusing coyotes on the Cook Ranch, in the wooded areas of the Sapphire Mountains close by, and in the National Bison Range, O’Gara said. Scent poles will be used to attract the animals and their tracks counted.

In the last nine months, 55 coyotes have been taken on the Cook Ranch, he said, but in preparation for the study all trapping and hunting has been stopped. O’Gara said that a lot of fresh coyote tracks have been seen at the ranch during the last few days and that the coyote population will undoubtedly be at a normal level in March when the study begins.

In discussing depredation control measures O’Gara said that in many areas coyotes live in harmony with livestock herds, feeding instead on small game, indicating a possible difference in temperament among coyotes. It might be possible for a rancher to eliminate aggressive livestock killing coyotes from an area and get along with the rest, he said. Since coyotes are largely territorial in nature, once the balance is achieved, the problem might be stabilized.

One method of doing this might be to attach cyanide collars to burn lambs and set them out ahead of the rest of the flock to attract the most aggressive predators. The predator gets a mouthful of cyanide but usually the lamb is lost also.

In a question and answer period following his presentation O’Gara discussed many aspects of coyote predation. He said that they sometimes kill adult deer, ewes and even large calves, but that it is more likely for calves to be crushed by protective cows during an attack.

When food supplies are short coyotes will eat their kills clean, bones and all, O’Gara said, but when kills are easy and plentiful they act more like excited dogs and will take lambs for the fun.

Coyotes are sometimes blamed for dog kills, O’Gara said, but each species of predator has his own characteristic way of killing which is usually identifiable. Coyotes kill cleanly with sometimes only a neat neck wound showing, and often will kill only 10 animals in a pasture during one night and eat one. Dogs, on the other hand, often kill large numbers and do a lot of tearing up of their prey. Bears are more likely to kill lactating ewes than lambs, in order to eat the udders.

O’Gara said that siren calls are not highly effective in censusing coyotes. He said that it was a satisfactory method of finding a den, but that the animals become accustomed to the sound after an extended period of time and stop answering.


O’Gara said that his study does not include determining the value of predation in controlling small animal populations, but that he felt coyotes living in ranch areas with little apparent problem should be left alone. In areas where over population of rodents was handled by poison, large numbers of coyotes died from eating the contaminated animals and the cycle began again with a larger rodent problem than ever.

In a discussion concerning predator disease problems, Ravalli County Health Officer Dr. Fritz Bell said that there has never been an epizootic of rabies in coyotes.

O’Gara said that current legislation on predator control pending on the federal level would put the responsibility for the problem back on the states with the federal government serving only in an advisory capacity.

In recent months Dr. O’Gara has been in charge of the trumpeter swan study featured on the television series “Wild Kingdom,” and is supervising a study of the migration habits of elk in the North Fork of the Salmon River for the Idaho Fish and Game Department and Forest Service.

The Committee for Rural Development is a group made up of representatives of local, state and federal governmental agencies. Their purpose is to sponsor and give assistance to certain public service projects. County planning has been the group’s primary concern during this past year. Extension Agent Rob Johnson is the newly elected president of the Ravalli County group.



Bart O’Gara

February 22, 1974 The Missoulian



CHOW TIME—Members of the touring Soviet Junior Wrestling contingent line up for a beef barbecue Thursday afternoon at Moiese during a tour of the Flathead Valley. They include, from right to left, referee Aidin Ibragimov,

Timury Koniashivilli, Sergey Beloglazov and his twin brother, Anatoly, Nugzar Buthuzy and Aslanbek Bisultanov. The big fellow in the background is heavyweight Vitaly Garchenko. (Staff Photo by Harley Hettick)

Soviet Grapplers Impressive

By **JOHN McNAMER**
Missoulian Staff Writer

At first sight they really look the way you would expect a Soviet citizen to look.

Dark suits slightly out of

fashion in the United States, dark shoes, dark complexions, close-cropped hair rough-cut features, and the general aura of "foreigner" all combine to help generate a certain feeling of uneasiness when you first

meet the Soviet Junior National Wrestling Team.

The second impression of these strangers in a strange land is their carriage. The walk of confidence. A slight swaggering in their gait. The walk of

champions.

You watch them meet a crowd, and they are gracious, and they loosen up a little as they are all introduced and

(Turn to Page 2, Col. 5)

Soviet Grapplers Impressive

(Continued From Page One)

cheered, but there is still evidence of a mutual reservation between the smiling audience and the smiling wrestlers.

It is when they are in their wrestling uniform warming up that you first begin to understand. They seem to feel at ease, and the movements become fluid, graceful, relaxed. The universal language of sports excellence begins to speak. The barriers seem suddenly gone, and observers are no longer interested in how they look, how they speak, how they comb their hair. The young men become individuals exhibiting a talent that all can understand and admire.

The Soviets displayed some of their wares in Ronan Thursday as part of their three-day visit to western Montana. Friday they will go up against a select group of Montana wrestlers in the Harry Adams Field House at 8 p.m., and from all indications, those Montanans had better be prepared for some tough competition in any language.

They met the Ronan School body, were presented with mementoes of their visit to the western Montana town, and then got down to business in the Ronan High School gymnasium, with a half-hour warmup session in preparation for Friday's bouts.

Each of the ten wrestlers is a national junior champion in the U.S.S.R., or holds top honors in national wrestling championships, and they impressed those who saw them in their warmup exercises and bouts with each other.

Gus Campbell, a Hellgate High School wrestler who went to state this year at 119 pounds, called the workout "fantastic."

"It's the most physical team I've even seen," Campbell said. He made the trip to Ronan to watch the team work out.

A Ronan wrestler and state champion in the 105-pound division, Roger Jore, said the team members looked like experts, with some moves he has never seen before.

"When they have their shirts on you can't see all their muscles," Jore added.

Jerry Downey, wrestling coach at the University of Montana and director of the meet Friday, also had high praise for the team.

"You can almost bet right now that this is the tentative 1980 Olympic wrestling team for these guys," Downey said.

The mere fact that each wrestler is on the Soviet team is a tribute to his skill and perseverance, since each had to win the championships in all the political subdivisions in the U.S.S.R., the equivalent of city, district, state, regional and national competition in the United States.

Downey said he expects at least three Montana wrestlers to make a good showing in the Friday matches, including Ken Foss, 105 pounds, from Libby; Bill McCready, 180 pounds, from Ronan; and Jay Pfau, 400 pounds, from Sidney.

He said he is giving them good odds because Foss is taller than his Soviet opponent. McCready's man may be tired from his recent loss to a Pennsylvania opponent, and Pfau because of his weight advantage.

The swing through western Montana wasn't all business for the young men, however, as a side trip to the National Bison Range for a beef barbecue dinner and a little honest tourism, and a look at a rodeo and Indian powwow provided some entertainment for the team.

Twelve students of the Russian language and two interpreters, Christopher Daly, a graduate student at the University of Alberta, and Bob Smith, an instructor at UM, helped ease the language burden and provide the visitors with further insight into Montana society and customs.

Some minor problems were solved by the bilingual Americans, such as an unusual request by one of the wrestlers, Nugzar Buthuzy, who is 17. Buthuzy asked one of the students to write for him in English "Wrestlers Need Love, Too," so he could take it home for a souvenir, which brought a laugh from the good-natured team members who found out.

While many of the wrestlers were slightly shy, Buthuzy was willing to give some insights to

The Missoulian.

He said he liked the long hair and beards he saw on some of the Americans traveling with the team, that he had found everything in the United States interesting. He said maybe two or three of the team would be in the Olympics, but said that maybe nobody would make it.

"Sport is sport," he added.

He became cautious, however, when asked how foreigners such as he viewed the United States.

"I would rather have the leader of the group answer questions like that," he said.

The group leader is Phillip Makharadze, 50, president of the sports committee of the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic.

Makharadze was gracious to those he spoke to through the interpreters, and he told the Ronan students to "be as beautiful and strong as the mountains that surround you."

Since many of the wrestlers come from mountainous areas in the Soviet Union, they felt relatively at home in Montana, Daly said.

The visitors were quite pleased with the rodeo and powwow, since they had expressed much interest in Indians from the time they arrived. Daly said they gained that interest through American and Italian western movies they had seen.

As the group approached the rodeo grounds at Arlee heavyweight Vitali Garchenko asked, "Do girls participate in this sport?" When answered affirmatively, he replied, "Oh, then it will be all right."

The rodeo provided their first

look at cowboys in action, and they seemed to enjoy it immensely. Concern was expressed at times, however, such as during the calf roping, when one of the young men asked Daly if the calf would die following its loud outburst after being roped.

Daly had provided the wrestlers with a pamphlet in Russian explaining the rodeo, so they were fairly well versed on what was happening and participated in the excitement exhibited by a small crowd during the bullriding and other events.

The team wound up its short excursion into a culture within the American culture by viewing an authentic Indian powwow at the Arlee Powwow Grounds, including Indian dancing to the beat of drums, and stick games.

All in all, it was an interesting day for all concerned.

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May 31, 1974 The Missoulian

“Barbecue Today

The Campus Recreation Department of the University of Montana in Missoula is offering a car tour of the National Bison Range, Moiese, followed by a western Barbeque Wednesday.

The tour, limited to 25 persons, will leave from the Harry Adams Field House in Recreation office, Room 109 by 9 p.m. Wednesday. A fee of \$6.50 covers transportation and food.

Further information may be obtained at the Campus Recreation office, Room 109 of the Women’s Center, or call 243-2802.” June 26, 1974 The Missoulian

“Summer Field Trips Planned For Children

Two summers field trips for children 10 years old an up will be hosted by the YWCA.

A bus for a tour of the Jocko Valley, Arlee Fish Hatchery, St. Ignatius Mission and Museum and the National Bison Range at Moiese will leave 3 p.m. Tuesday from the YWCA.

Cost will be \$2.50, with registration limited to 40 children. Participants should bring a sack lunch. Each child taking the trip is asked to stop at the YWCA, 800 Orange St., to register.

Linda Eichwald and Les Tanberg from the Missoula Youth Activities Coalition will be trip leaders.

A trip and nature hike to Morrell Falls and Lake are planned for Aug. 13. For information, call 543-6691.” July 18, 1974 The Missoulian

SENIOR CITIZENS TOURS

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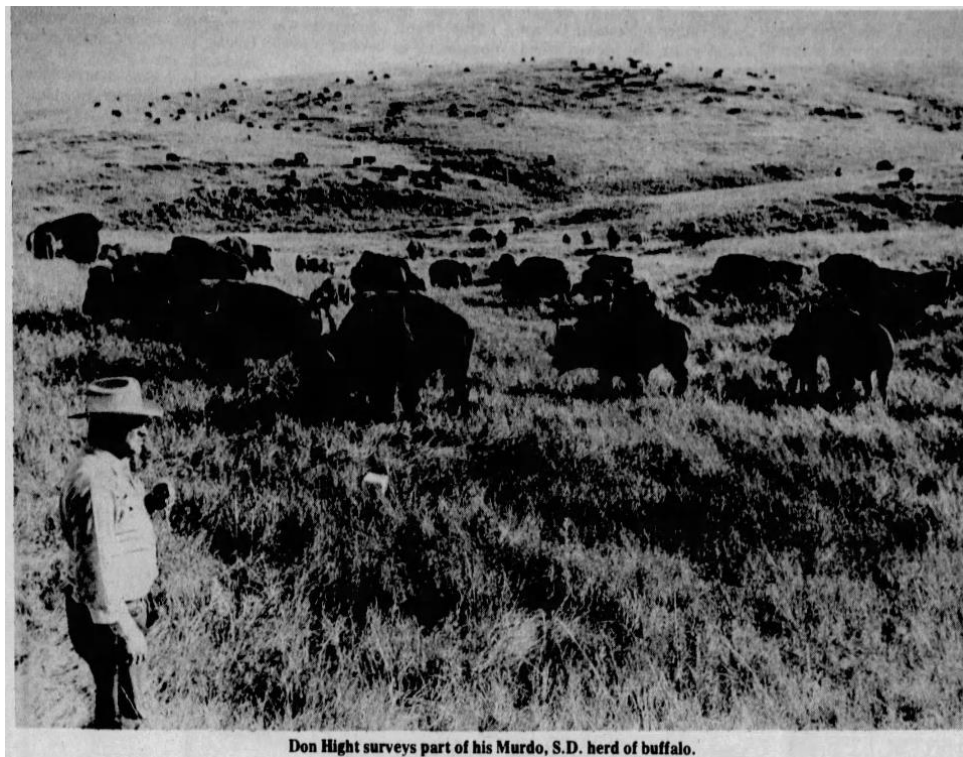
Travel out of Montana is via air conditioned Intermountain Transportation Co. Bus and except for the Reno trip, tours leave Butte and Missoula.

- Jack Benny Show — Expo '74 July 27-29
- Glacier Park; Bison Range;
St. Ignatius Mission July 27-29
- Gates of the Mountains;
Missouri River August 12
- Victoria; Vancouver;
San Juan Isles Aug. 22—Sept. 1
- Reno (leaving from Spokane) August 11-17
- Colorado Rockies; Salt Lake City .. Aug. 16-Sept. 1
- Nova Scotia; Gaspé Peninsula Aug. 24-Sept. 24
(rescheduled because of St. Lawrence Seaways Cruise)

For Information
Call
543-6691

Res. Chrman.
Helen Matelich, YWCA
600 Orange St.
Missoula, Mt. 59801

July 18, 1974 The Missoulian



“Buffalo Market Bullish

Editor's Note – Ranchers who started raising buffalo as a hobby have found that the symbol of the American West outsells a beef cow. Buffalo meat is in demand, and private herds are providing it. Some ranchers wish beef cattle had more buffalo traits.

By Steve Moore Associated Press Writer

Helena (AP) – The buffalo market is bullish.

Here on the high plains of the Rocky Mountain country, ranchers who started raising buffalo as a novelty or hobby now find they have some valuable beasts romping around.

Markets and restaurants are ordering buffalo meat in record amounts.

Bob Schall, a Montana rancher – one of the handful raising buffalo- is still kicking himself for liquidating part of his herd in recent years. Prices are up, demand unprecedented.

Great herds of buffalo, numbering an estimated 20 million in the mid-1800s, once roamed this country. They were slaughtered for their hides and for meat as settlers moved West. Historians said there were only 551 in 1889 when the federal government took emergency action to save them from extinction.

Roy Houck, president of the National Buffalo Association, who operates 50,000-acre buffalo ranch west of Pierre, S. D., said there are about 30,000 buffalo in this country today. About 5,000 of them are on refuges or in federal parks – 1,000 in Yellowstone National Park, about 500 in Wichita Refuge at Cache Okla., 400 at the National Bison Range in Montana and smaller herds at other national parks in the West.

The rest are owned privately. Houck, who believe he is the nation's largest buffalo feeder with a her of 3,500 – not including this year's cal crop – said there are 20,000 buffalo in Canada. Schall said raising buffalo has been akin to a poker game and he lost one hand. "If I'd seen this (increase in demand) I probably would have fenced a little better and not liquidated."

He had about 150 animals in recent years but cut the herd to about 50 on the 6,000-acre ranch he operates on the Flathead Indian Reservation south of the National Bison Range.

"I got started in this as a hobby, but the buffalo have been real good for the ranch," he said. Schall recently shipped some heifer calves to Idaho for about \$400 each. He has customers in Washington as well, and in his own region.

Houck said buffalo slaughter for commercial urposes, in any volume, began 10 to 12 years ago. It started on a Wyoming ranch where the meat was sold to Safeway stores and then in Custer State Park, S.D., where it was sold to Red Owl stores.

He operates his own slaughter and processing plant. Some of the meat is processed at USDA-inspected plants, such as one in Rapid City, S.D., but Houck noted buffalo is still considered "a wild animal," and restrictions are not as stringent as those for slaughtering beef cattle, although all commercial outlets are state-inspected.

Houck said some people not knowledgeable about buffalo had been critical of their commercial slaughter “because it appears to be cutting down on their numbers.” That is untrue, he said.

“Most slaughter animals are surplus males and cows. All producing females are kept. I don’t know of any productive animals used for slaughter anywhere,” he said.

A spokesman for the National Bison Range said the entire herd there probably could be sold a moment’s notice. In 1969, the range sold 79 buffalo

Which brought an average price of \$368.48 a head.

Victor May, range foreman, said the 70 buffalo moved through the auction ring this year brought an average of over \$500 each.

Pound for pound, buffalo meat sells at prices 25 to 50 per cent higher than beef. A grass-fed buffalo is slaughtered at 3 or 4 years of age. Grain-fed cattle go to market when they’re two.

The nearly 19,000-acre National Bison Range was established in 1908 to help perpetuate a representative herd of American buffalo. The herd is kept at about 320 animals.

The Durham Meat Co., San Jose, Calif., lists Safeway, Red Owl, National Tea and Albertson’s supermarket chains as large customers for buffalo meat.

Bud Flocchini, vice president and party owner of Durham, said his firm also has buffalo beef available by mail order in relatively small quantities. It sells for \$4.90 a pound for T-bone steak, \$2.50 for roasts, \$2.85 for stew meat and 41.50 for ground buffalo burger.” August 11, 1974 The Missoulian

“Western Montana Potluck Planned by Diabetes Group

The Mission Valley Diabetes Association is sponsoring a picnic at the National Bison Range at Moiese Sunday at 5 p.m. A fee of \$1 per person will be charged to cover the costs of meat, which will be furnished. The balance of the menu will be potluck, and dishes will be marked according to the diabetic exchange list on arrival.

Persons planning to attend are asked to notify association secretary Mrs. Virginia Frantzich, of Charlo, so adequate arrangements can be made.” August 24, 1974 The Missoulian

“Moiese Range Offering 70 Buffalo

Moiese – The National Bison Range here is offering 70 live bison for sale by competitive, sealed bid.

The annual sale is part of the range management’s program for keeping the size of the herd compatible with the amount of available range land.

Deadline for submitting bids is 10 a.m. Sept. 10. Bid sheets can be obtained by contacting the Refuge Manager, National Bison Range, Moiese, 5824.

Animals being sold range in age from one year to more than 10 and are of both sexes.” August 17, 1974 The Missoulian

“Bison Range Bids Bountiful

Moiese – Thirty-three of the 77 persons bidding on 70 head of buffalo at the National Bison Range Tuesday were successful.

The highest price paid for a buffalo was \$750 for a three-year-old bull, while the lowest price was \$333 for a yearling bull.

The average price paid per buffalo was \$476.92. Although the average is lower than last year’s average of \$499.22, the average price for each age group was up. The lower average is the result of a large number of animals being sold this year in the yearling class, which generally sells for less than the other groups.

Bids were received from Montana, Idaho, Georgia, Washington, New York, California, Virginia, Minnesota, Utah, Texas, Wisconsin, and Colorado.

According to Manager Marvin Kaschke, the animals will be picked up following the roundup Oct. 7 to 9.” September 15, 1974 The Missoulian

“Lake Missoula

Referring to the article in The Missoulian of Sept. 17, regarding the lake that covered Missoula about 18,000 B.C.: The beach lines mentioned in this article can still be found in various places in western Montana. The largest, deepest and probably the best to view are those found in the north end of the Camas Prairie Valley. Other lines may be seen in the National Bison Range, near Arlee and also on the open hills near Missoula.

Along both the Flathead and Clark Fork rivers as well as in the Paradise and Plains areas are large gravel beaches that very definitely show a westerly wash. These beaches were formed when the ice dam broke and the huge lake began its tremendous rush to the west. Debris from Montana is still being discovered as far away as eastern Washington. – C. J. Ekman, Paradise.” September 24, 1974 The Missoulian

“Annual Bison Roundup to Start October 7

Moiese: The annual buffalo roundup will begin Monday Oct. 7, at the National Bison Range at Moiese.

The entire herd of over 400 bison are being rounded up for the three day spectacular at the slaughter house complex east of the main park buildings. All the animals will be given a health check up, the year’s calves will be branded and vaccinated and, 70 head of the older animals will be hauled away by buyers.

The 70 head of surplus animals, eight fewer than last year were sold last month for an average of \$476.92. Bids from as far away as New York and Georgia were opened Sept. 10. The highest price paid by any of the 33 successful bidders was \$750 for a three year old bull. The lowest priced animal this year was a yearling bull who sold for \$333.

The annual fall roundup sale is conducted to bring the herd down to about 325 animals, the manageable carrying capacity for the National Bison range.

Range Manager Marv Kaschke said the average price was somewhat below last year's record mark of \$499.22. He said, however, that the lower price was accounted for by the large number of yearling bulls, which normally bring less than other groups."

Moon of Summer Autumn,
October 1, 1974,

Char-Koosta, page 3



October 1, 1974 The Missoulian

"Moiese Buffalo Roundup Next Week

Moiese – The National Bison Range will conduct its annual fall buffalo roundup Oct. 7, 8 and 9, according to Marvin Kaschke, refuge manager.

Approximately 470 animals will be rounded up from the range pastures and brought into holding pens Monday morning. They will begin to run them through the corrals individually Monday afternoon.

Animals to be sold as surplus will be singled out, calves branded, heifers vaccinated, blood samples taken and ear tags attached.

Kaschke said Monday afternoon and Tuesday normally are the best time to view the buffalo at close range. He said school groups are welcome but asks groups to write or telephone "if you plant to come."

The 18,541-acres range was established May 23, 1908, to preserve the magnificent plains animal that at one time numbered fewer than 200 in the U.S. Annual sales are held at Moiese to keep the herd at about 400 animals.

Twenty-five per cent of the money received from sales are paid to Lake and Sanders counties for schools and roads." October 2, 1974 The Missoulian

"Louise E. Rose

Louise E. Rose, 73, 1020 Popular, died Friday in Indianapolis, Ind.

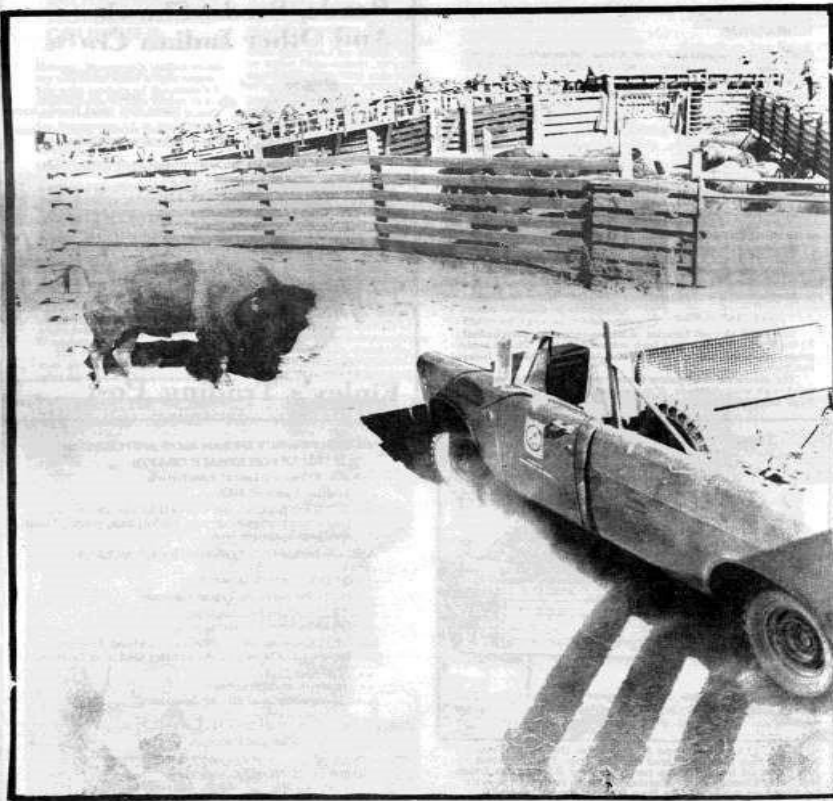
She was born March 10, 1901, in Louiseville, Ill., and was graduated from DePauw University in 1922. She taught botany in Kewanee, Ill., from 1923 to 1951, earning her Masters degree in botany from Iowa State University in 1933.

She married Frank H. Rose June 16, 1951, in Cuba Ill. They moved to Montana and she helped her husband in seed collecting until his death in 1968. She also taught classes in botany at the University of Montana. She was a member of the Methodist Church and the Rocky Mountain Botanical Society.

Survivors include two sisters, Mildred Michael, Indianapolis, and Codie Rineheart, Waukegan, Ill., a stepson, Robert Rose, Corvallis, Preg., a stepdaughter, Rachel Thomas, Corvallis, Ore., and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. at the Squire-Simmons- Carr Rose Chapel with rev. William KLibor officiating. Burial will be in the Missoula Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Meyer Chessin, Reuben A. Diettert, James Fournier Klaus Lackschewitz, Gary Lorenz and Reuben Stempke." October 4, 1974 The Missoulian



SHOWDOWN. A stubborn buffalo bull faces off with a National Bison Range pickup during the annual

roundup held earlier this month at Moiese. More pictures of the event on pages eight and nine.

October 15, 1974 Char-Koosta



AT LEAST ONE BUFFALO didn't want to be rounded up. Hundreds of people lined the overhead walkways to watch the annual National Bison Range Roundup at Moiese earlier this week. More than 400 American bison were run through the maze of corrals and holding pens. Seventy animals were cut out of the herd to be shipped to various destinations around the country. The 18,541-acre range maintains a herd of about 325. Refuge Manager Marvin Kaschke said the sale represented a cross-section of the herd with

bulls, cows and some yearlings going to buyers who had submitted bids earlier. Blood tests taken during the roundup are designed to detect diseases in the buffalo. Kaschke said vaccine administered to the animals over the past few years has effectively controlled pasteurilla, a disease commonly known as shipping fever that affects the animals' joints. For three days, 16 men used horses, electric prods and cans tied to long poles to work the buffalo through the roundup process. (Dennis Jones Photo)

October 13, 1974 The Missoulian

St. Ignatius Pair Arrested For Bison Range Shootings

ST. IGNATIUS — Montana Fish and Game Department officials have charged two young St. Ignatius men with hunting violations in connection with the killing of two elk inside the National Bison Range Oct. 21.

Darwin Zempel, 18, and a 17-year-old juvenile were cited at their homes Wednesday morning and a quantity of meat, hides and antlers were confiscated, according to officials.

The game parts came from a seven-point bull and a cow elk, officials said.

Assistant Refuge Manager Milt Haderlie discovered the partially buried entrails of two animals Oct. 24, within the wildlife refuge boundaries.

The animals, identified as elk, had been shot on the southeast slopes of the bison range, on Ravalli Hill near a water hole about 50 yards from the refuge fence, near U.S. Highway 93.

Upon investigation, officers discovered that a private fence gate had been taken apart and a hole had been cut in the eight-foot high refuge fence.

Tracks indicated that a truck was used to remove the carcasses from the scene, officials said.

A week-long investigation by county, state and federal officers led to the apprehension of the two suspects.

They were formally charged with two counts, hunting and taking elk during closed season, and the possession of illegally taken elk.

The two are scheduled to appear in justice court next week in Polson.

October 31, 1974 The Missoulian

Judge Continues Illegal Elk Cases

Polson — The cases of two St. Ignatius men charged with killing two elk inside the National Bison Range at Moiese Oct 24. Have been continued.

Officials said Darwin Zempel, 18, has not yet entered a plea to two counts of shooting game in a closed area and possession of illegally taken elk.

A 17-year-old companion entered a guilty plea to the same charges in justice court earlier this week in Polson.

The two men were cited Oct. 30 at their homes. Two animal carcasses and a set of antlers were confiscated by Fish and Game officials.

The elk were allegedly shot shortly after sundown on the southeast slopes of the bison range on Ravalli Hill. The incident was not discovered until three days later.

An investigation then led to the apprehension of the young men.

Officials said the charges could bring fines totaling \$1,000 or 100 days in jail for each defendant. No federal charges were filed and the two men were remanded to the custody of their parents.”

November 8, 1974 The Missoulian

“Deforest Thompson dies at 56

DeForest W. “Frosty” Thompson, 56, 1315 Peosta, died at his home late Thursday evening following a lengthy illness.

He was born Jan. 12, 1918, in Lakeview, the son of George and Edna Thompson. He attended school there and entered the U.S. Army during World War II. He served under Gen. George Patton in Europe.

Following his discharge, Thompson worked on various ranches in the Big Hole Basin. He later moved to Dillon where he worked for the Beaverhead Lumber Co.

He was later employed for ten years at the National Bison Range at Moiese. Following this he moved to Deer Lodge where he worked in service stations and was later a guard at the Montana State Prison. During this time he was one of the hostages held in the 1959 prison riot.

In 1960 Thompson moved to Oregon and in 1972 he moved to Helena.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Twila, and a daughter, Gloria Jean Bruce.

Survivors include the widow, Ellen, who he married in Portland, Ore., in 1972; his mother, Mrs. Edna Thompson, Deer Lodge; three stepsons, James Carpita, Anaconda, John Carpita, Glasgow and David Carpita, London, England; three brothers, George, Helena, Perry T., Idaho Falls, Idaho and Lindy Earl, Dillon; two sisters, Mrs. Marcella Leake, Hines, Ore. And Mrs. Carl Parish, Deer Lodge; one grandchild; nine step grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held Monday at 10 a.m. in the Retz Funeral Home with the Rev. George Harper officiating. The body will be forwarded to Deer Lodge for burial at noon in the Hillcrest Cemetery.” November 8, 1974 The Independent Record (Helena, Montana)

“St. Ignatius Men Fined For Hunting Violations

Polson – Two young St. Ignatius men, charged with killing two elk inside the National Bison Range Oct. 21, entered guilty pleas in justice court Thursday in Polson.

Darwin Zempel, 18, and a 17-year-old juvenile were each fined \$500 and given 60-day suspended jail sentences on a charge of hunting and taking elk out of season.

Illegal possession charges against the pair were dropped earlier by the county attorney.

Judge Ray Kelly also suspended their hunting and fishing privileges for 16 months and ordered that restitution be made for damage done to the refuge fence.” November 15, 1974 The Missoulian

“Stevensville Men Fined For Trespass at Moiese

Two Stevensville men appeared in federal court Wednesday in Missoula and were each fined \$100 and given 30-day suspended sentences for illegal trespass at the National Bison Range at Moiese.

Darius Badgley, 25, and Richard Jacobs, about 28, went before Federal Magistrate Thomas Murray after they were apprehended Tuesday evening.

The pair had been the object of a day-long ground and air search Tuesday by federal, state, tribal and county law officers.

A passing motorist became suspicious and called Bison Range officials about 8:30 a.m. Tuesday when the two men, who were on foot, attempted to hide from sight inside the refuge fence as he drove by on U.S. 93 on Ravalli Hill.

Officials said Badgley was arrested near the highway by a St. Ignatius police officer, Jerry Denend, as Badgley was returning to his vehicle near dusk. Badgley reportedly led officers to a rifle which he left inside the refuge.” November 21, 1974 The Missoulian

“Ray Clawson

Ronan – Ray Clawson, 78, a resident of Charlo, died Friday at his home after an extended illness. He was born Jan. 14, 1896, at Farmington, Utah. He grew up in Shelley, Idaho, and he lived for a time in Ucon, Idaho, moving to St. Ignatius in 1928. He then moved to the Charlo area in 1932, where he worked as a carpenter at the National Bison Range.

He was a veteran of World War I. He married Veva Harker of Shelley April 5, 1922, and she preceded him in death May 13, 1942. He then married Margaret Leishman, Charlo, Jan. 14, 1944.

He is survived by his wife Margaret at the family home in Charlo; three sons, George Clawson, Twin Falls, Idaho, Rone Clawson, Firth, Idaho, and Jack Clawson, Ucon; two stepsons, Eugene Leishman, Charlo, and Boyd Leishman, Wenatchee, Wash.; four daughters, Mrs. Orilla Scott, Shelley, Mrs. Eldon (Marion) Packer, Shelley; Mrs. Keith (Myrtle) Allred and Mrs. Dee (Beth) Mortensen, both of Kalispell; three stepdaughters, Mrs. J. M. (Jane) Palmer, Idaho Falls, Idaho; Mrs. K. L. (La Vae) West, Grandview, Wash., and Mrs. Bud (Ranae) Rowley, Missoula; three

sisters, Mrs. Ida Phillips, Ucon, Mrs. Marie Simons, Van Nuys, Calif., and Mrs. Maude Casey, San Jose, Calif., 63 grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be Monday at 11 a.m. in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Charlo with Bishop Grant Hogge officiating. Burial will be at Hillcrest Cemetery in Shelley. Shrider Mortuary in Ronan is in charge of local arrangements. Nalder Mortuary will handle burial arrangements in Shelley.” December 28, 1974 The Missoulian

“Western Montana

Bison Range Subject of RC&D Meeting

Hamilton – Marvin Kaschke, manager of the National Bison Range at Moiese, will speak at the Tuesday meeting of the Ravalli County Program Committee of the Bitter Root RC&D. The meeting will start at 8 p.m. in the Forest service Conderence Room in Hamilton.

Kaschke will use movies and slides to discuss various aspects of the Bison Range.

A new RC&D project to be discussed is one to provide a portable boxing ring for the Hamilton Boxing Club.” January 5, 1975 The Missoulian



Char-Koosta Feb. 15, 1975

Surplus Equipment Offered

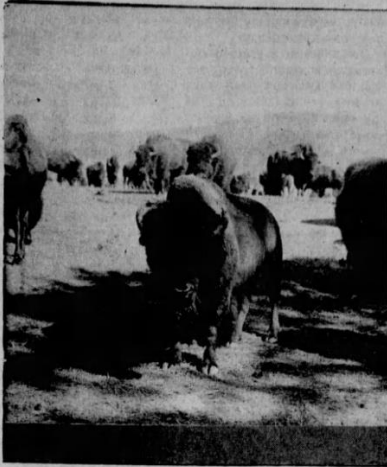
Moiese – The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is offering for sale to the highest bidder surplus property at the National Bison Range at Moiese. The property includes steel cabinets, fixtures, doors and windows, posts, and wire.

Invitations for bids and details are available at the post offices in Moiese; Charlo; Ronan; St. Ignatius; Dixon and Arlee, or from the Refuge Manager, National Bison Range, Moiese. Bids will be accepted until April 8.

All items may be inspected at the Bison Range any weekday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Bidders are urged to inspect the merchandise.” March 15, 1975 The Missoulian

OTHER DAYS

BY
JOHN
TOOLE



Some time in the winter of 1884-85, the body of Walking Coyote, a Pend d'Oreille Indian, was found frozen under the Higgins Avenue Bridge. Walking Coyote was dead from a monumental binge, made possible by his sale of ten buffalo for \$250 each. These were probably the only buffalo on the face of the earth at this date. The millions of these animals which had roamed the plains had been systematically slaughtered by the whites for their hides and tongues.

In 1874 Walking Coyote and his tribe had traveled to Milk River for a buffalo hunt. Four calves were cut out of a herd, and in accordance with a peculiar characteristic of buffalo, pathetic to observe, followed the horses of the hunters who had either slain or separated their mothers from them. Walking Coyote took his four strange little proteges with him to St. Ignatius Mission, the calves faithfully following the ponies across the Rocky Mountains. They soon became unusually tame, and were real pets. When the heifers were four years old, each had a calf. From that time on, they increased slowly year by year until their Indian owner, finding them too great a tax on his resources, decided to dispose of them in 1884.

C. A. Allard, a rancher of the Flathead Reservation, became impressed with the possibility of a profitable investment in this small herd of what was then regarded as practically an extinct animal. He interested his friend, Michel Pablo, in the scheme and bought the ten head. This sale probably saved the buffalo from extinction, since they increased rapidly under capable supervision. At length, a large herd roamed free on the Flathead Reservation. Allard and Pablo sold their animals all over the world. The large herds in Canada and Yellowstone Park all had their genesis on the Flathead. Periodic roundups provided excitement and adventure for local cowboys, and Charles M. Russell came over to participate and to illustrate the stampeding of the great beasts. About 1908, Theodore Roosevelt became interested in the herd and induced Congress to establish the National Bison Range at Moiese. Thus was this great animal preserved forever.

The photo shows one of Walking Coyote's bulls at full maturity.

I am indebted to Jack Weidenfeller for this photo and material, as well as the story and photos on the hanging of the four Indians in last Sunday's Missoulian.

March 16, 1975 The Missoulian

“Praises Tribal Council Timber Policy

Gentlemen:

It was with a great deal of interest that I read the recent article pertaining to the concern shown by the Tribal Council over the proposed harvesting of two large tracts of timber. I am not well

acquainted with these particular tracts, so am not qualified to comment. I am most gratified, however, to note the good sound thinking and sense of responsibility shown by the Council on this matter.

This should not be taken to mean that I am anti-logging. Lumbering activities, when properly handled, are a useful tool on game management. The same can even be said for fire under certain circumstances. I have used both with excellent results. We have all seen the results of irrational logging practices, but then again some other jobs have detracted but little from the scenic values and the quality of the habitat.

Your reservation is without doubt, the most beautiful in the entire country, and I am grateful for the opportunity to share it with you. I am happy that you appear to be making real effort to take steps in the direction toward a well-rounded management program.

Sincerely yours,

C.J. Henry

Charlo, Montana.” Char-Koosta, April 1, 1975, Page 6

“Around Missoula

Mammalogists Meeting at U

More than 500 members of the American Society of Mammalogists are meeting on the University of Montana campus through Thursday.

The four-day meeting, the largest the society has ever conducted, is being held in Montana for the first time. A total of 29 papers will be presented.

Sydney Anderson, curator of mammals at the American Museum in New York City, and UM President Richard C. Bowers opened the sessions with addresses Tuesday in the University Center Ballroom.

Symposiums will be on predatory mammals, mammalian evolution and the bioenergetics of small mammals.

A tour of the National Bison Range in Moiese and a barbeque are scheduled Wednesday from 4 to 10 p.m. Other activities will include tours of the Bitterroot Valley, Missoula and the UM Biological Station at Yellow Bay on Flathead Lake and a raft trip on the Bitterroot River. Art, photographic and scientific commercial exhibits will be set up in the University Center Art Gallery and Montana Rooms. An art fair will be Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the University Center Mall.

Meeting headquarters is the University Center Ballroom. Information and assistance can be obtained by calling the registration desk at 243-6177.

Dr. Phillip Wright, zoology professor, and Dr. Lee Metzgar, associate professor of zoology, are cochairmen of the meeting.” April 13, 1975 The Missoulian

“Western Montana

Conservation Group Meeting Changed

East Glacier – The date for the annual meeting of the Northern Continental Conservation Committee meeting has been changed from Sunday to May 11.

The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. at Dusty’s Tavern, about two miles east of East Glacier on U.S. 2.

The speakers will include Otis Robbins from the Montana Fish and Game Department; Supt. Phillip Iversen from Glacier National Park; and representatives from the Flathead National Forest, Environmental Information Center in Helena and the National Bison Ride.

The committee members came from a wide area and have traditionally met at a place about halfway between hometowns of members.” April 18, 1975 The Missoulian

“Wildlife Group to Hear Speaker

Kalispell – The featured speaker at the regular meeting of Flathead Wildlife Thursday will be Milton Haderlie who will give a slide presentation on the KOFA Game Range in Arizona. Haderlie works at the National Bison Range in Moiese.

The meeting will be at 8p.m. in the Pacific Power and Light Co. community center in Kalispell, with the public welcome to attend.” May 7, 1975 The Missoulian



JIM REICHEL attaches radio transmitter to an antelope handkerchief is placed over fawn's head to quiet fawn less than three hours old with elastic. Bandana animal while being tagged. (Ledger photos)



DOE keeps a watchful eye over her twins from distance.



JIM REICHEL is outfitted with loop antenna to track an antelope fawn. antenna, portable receiver and bin.

An Attempt to Solve The Dying Fawn Mystery

By K.A. EGGENBERGER

Butte County Ledger

MOOSE — The survival rate for antelope fawns over the past three years has declined sharply at the National Bison Range at Moiese and officials are seeking an answer for the high death rate. The coyote is suspect, but the evidence to date is not clear-cut.

The problem is the basis for a research program being carried out this spring and early summer by a University of Montana graduate student, Jim Reichel, who is working on a masters degree in wildlife biology.

Reichel is attaching tiny radio transmitters to antelope fawns shortly after they are born and then tracking their location daily to determine how they are surviving.

Reichel's research project was originally intended to study the food habits of coyotes, but the emphasis was switched after the fawn survival rate dropped sharply about three years ago. That was around the period the ban on the use of 1080 poison to control coyotes went into effect.

Marvin Kaschke, manager of the bison range, reports that last year about 70 antelope fawns were born on the range. Only 17 survived to reach full growth. Three years ago only eight of about 60 fawns survived — a survival rate of just 10 per cent. Two years ago a dozen fawns reached adulthood out of 60 born.

Recently we spent an entire day with Reichel and his helpers tracking the fawns, which were carrying the tiny transmitters, and also watched two fawns being born from a distance. Later we viewed the procedure for attaching the transmitters and tagging the newborns. The transmitter, including its power source, a battery and a miniature antenna, is slightly larger than a golf ball.

When we accompanied Reichel he had already placed transmitters on 14 fawns during the previous five days. That day he equipped two more fawns and he hoped to add about eight more fawns to bring the total to 24.

Each transmitter is coded according to frequency or the channel it utilizes. The transmitters are attached to the tiny fawns by a harness made from elastic — like grandmothers used to hold up their bloomers. The elastic is stapled lightly and by the time the animal is a month old, the elastic is expected to stretch sufficiently to snap out the staples and permit the transmitter to drop off.

More permanent is the plastic tag attached to each ear of the fawn.

The fawns weigh from 4½ pounds to 14½ pounds at birth. They're easy to catch the first day or two because they lay perfectly still when anything approaches. After about the fourth day, they'll get up and run.

After only a few days they're strong and swift enough to outrun a coyote.

Reichel has help from fellow U.M. students in spotting antelope births. Each day, a couple of helpers go out to the top of a ridge on the open range south of the slaughterhouse and with spotting scopes keep tabs on does. When they see a doe giving birth they inform Reichel.

He waits at least 2½ hours after birth before approaching the fawn.

To catch them sooner could result in the fawns forsaking their mothers for a human and following Jim or one of his helpers. They need the two or more hours to identify themselves with their mothers.

Kaschke says about 95 per cent of does give birth in June. And he says two-thirds of the fawns are born between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

In addition to instrumenting the fawns, Jim gathers other data about each one. Its sex and weight are recorded and the colored ear tag attached. The ear tag is placed in the left ear of a female and the right ear of a male.

When he tracks the fawns each day with the use of a loop antenna and battery-powered portable receiver, Reichel records the type of cover in which he finds them, their distance of travel from the previous day, the direction of the slope of the land and general terrain.

Of the first 14 fawns fitted with the instruments, two were found dead on their third day. Autopsies performed at U.M. indicate the deaths were due to an illness similar to the weak calf syndrome which plagues beef calves.

As the fawns grow older, Reichel will have to make his observations from greater distances. During the first five days of each fawn's life Reichel can expect to walk to within 14 feet of the fawn. As they grow older and faster, they'll become more wary and depend on their natural speed to escape approaching danger or strangers.

The loop antenna used by Reichel to track the fawns tells him the direction, but not whether the fawn is behind or in front of him. This he must determine by walking a short distance in the direction his antenna indicates. If the signal fades, he's moving away from the fawn. If the signal increases he's headed in the right direction.

Normally he must walk only a few hundred yards to spy the fawn. But that takes a sharp eye because the fawns blend with the flora and landscape so well that Reichel can practically step on them before he spots them.

Objective of the daily radio tracking of the instrumented fawns is to keep a close tab on their whereabouts and to determine if they are fasting okay and if not, what fate has befallen them.

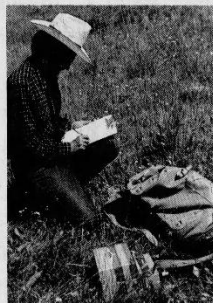
Coyotes became suspect when the fawn survival rate dropped so sharply after 1960 poisoning of coyotes off the bison range was banned. Kaschke and other employees of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which maintains the bison range, observed a sharp increase in coyote population.

In addition, Kaschke observed on two different occasions a coyote taking a fawn.

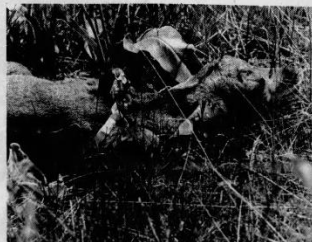
Reichel received his bachelor of science degree from the University of Wisconsin and began his study of coyotes a year ago this month. Technically his study is of the food habits of coyotes and the fawn research is a by-product of his primary research.

While doing his field work at the bison range, Reichel resides at the bunkhouse at the range slaughterhouse. His wife, who is employed as a secretary at the University of Montana, visits him frequently.

He expects to complete his field work by early July.



NOTES are carefully maintained concerning fawns after they have been located.



ANTELOPE FAWN lies motionless. This day before, one had radio transmitter attached the

Text for article below:

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SUPERVISING BANDING — Marvin Kaschke, superintendent of the National Bison Range at Moiese, directed recent banding operations at Ninepipe Reservoir from a boat. Islands in background, built in the reservoir in 1972 and 1973, have increased the nesting habitat for geese and other birds.



HOW THEY GET AWAY — This Canada goose made a successful escape from herders on the Ninepipe Reservoir. Incapable of flight during the molting season, the geese slap their wings and feet noisily on the water. (Ledge Photos)



SUCCESSFUL ROUNDUP — This harmless trap contains 81 geese, including one albino. Marvin Kaschke, left, Dick Weekworth and Jim Cross finish the job of directing the geese into the enclosure that contains them while they await banding.



RARE ALBINO — This albino Canada goose was captured and banded last week on the Ninepipe Reservoir. Albinism, fairly uncommon in wild geese, is caused by lack of the gene which causes skin pigment to be produced.



LEG BAND APPLIED — A numbered aluminum band is put on a goose's leg. The bands will provide data for migration and population studies in future years. Hunters bagging banded geese are asked to return the bands.

Wildlife Refuge Men Go Goose-Gathering

By TOM EGGENSEPGER
Sanders County Ledger

THOMPSON FALLS — Marv Kaschke, who annually supervises the buffalo roundup at the National Bison Range at Moiese, exchanged his horse and riding boots for a boat and hip waders and supervised the roundup and banding of Canada geese in areas of western Montana last week. And in the spirit of Big Medicine, the albino buffalo which lived in the bison range in years past, Kaschke and his crew captured and banded an albino Canada honker.

Annual banding is undertaken on Flathead Lake and on the Pablo and Ninepipe reservoirs. This year the crew also banded geese on the Thompson Falls and Noxon reservoirs.

It is the molting season, which lasts from June to August, and the geese are unable to fly while they await the development of new flight feathers. This allows a banding crew to herd the geese into a harmless trap where they can be banded. Each goose is fitted with an aluminum leg band and its sex and age determined. Then it is released.

Although the geese are flightless, they can still be quite evasive to their captors. They employ a number of tactics to avoid confinement. They will often dive when a boat comes close and frequently surface beyond the boat in open water. More commonly they sit poised on the water waiting for an opening between boats. Then at the right moment they charge and run between the boats in the same manner as when they normally attempt to take off for flight.

When cover is available, either of vegetation or the remaining flock, the fowl can float nearly submerged with only their heads above water. Kaschke and his crew can attest to the success of the geese in attaining freedom. Of 80 geese on the Thompson Falls Reservoir, only 39 were caught and banded. Of 12 geese on the Noxon Reservoir, only one went away with the numbered band. Success on the Ninepipe Reservoir was better. The first group attempted yielded 81 geese including the albino.

A pair of geese will normally lay from five to six eggs in a clutch. Of these, four to five survive. The goslings attain flight capabilities after about

three months. This year's production on the Ninepipe Reservoir was the highest recorded. Earlier this spring 68 adults and 220 goslings were counted. This compares with only 40 goslings produced 20 years ago.

A large part of this year's success is attributed to the islands which were constructed within the reservoir. These have increased the habitat and nesting sites for the geese and other birds. Kaschke explained that with the above normal water flows this spring the level of the reservoir has been kept up enough to cause the artificial islands to be constantly separated from shore. With low water levels predators can more easily ravage the nesting sites.

According to Jerry Salinas, resident game manager of the public hunting area outside the reservoir, the early days of hunting season find many of the geese outside the confines of the refuge. The hunting pressure brings most of them in, where they sense the security of the reservoir. Salinas, who lives adjacent to the reservoir, said he watches some of the birds sneak out at night to feed in nearby grain fields. They make a point to be back at first light.

Bill Krohn, a Ph. D. candidate from the University of Idaho, confirmed the validity of the albinism of the young goose. Krohn, who is doing a study of Canada goose habitat and migration and population data in the Pacific Northwest, explained why he felt the goose was a true albino. Along with the complete lack of body pigment, the goose had the red eye pigment inherent with true albinism.

Albinism, which is rare in nature, is not uncommon to the bison range. For several years the range was the home of Big Medicine, the famed albino buffalo. Now he is found preserved in the State Museum of Natural History in Helena.

Kaschke, superintendent of the bison range, said originally he entertained the thought of bringing the bird into the confines of the range exhibit park to make it more available for people to see and photograph. After consideration he decided to let her go to remain in the wild as she naturally would. The rare goose was carefully photographed for record after banding and released along with the other geese.

Group Seeks to Divorce State From Property Tax

Sanders County Ledger

THOMPSON FALLS — A drive to collect signatures for initiatives for two tax-related proposed amendments to the state constitution is being planned by the Montana Association of Counties.

One of the amendments would return the assessment of property to the counties from the state, and the other would reserve for the counties all property tax revenue and deny this tax source to the state. Wesley W. Stearns, chairman of the Sanders County commissioners, said the two resolutions were adopted by huge majorities at the recent convention of the association in Billings. The two amendments, if approved, would restructure the tax situation in Montana back to a position similar to what it was prior to adoption of the 1971 Constitution. The moves also would preserve the county assessor as a locally elected and locally responsible official.

Primary impact of removing the property tax as a state revenue source would be its effect on the six-mill levy for the Mon-

tana University System, Stearns said. Livestock taxes to fund the Department of Livestock likely would have to go also.

However, the school foundation program could continue to function as in the past, and could be funded by the state income tax or some other form of state taxes, Stearns said. The same sources could be used to provide the university funds lost by removal of the statewide six-mill levy, he added.

The 40-mill school equalization levy is not expected to be affected because it is levied by the counties for use at the local level. In some richer counties, a portion of these taxes is returned to the state for distribution to counties with lower valuations. Distribution to lower valuation counties would have to be made from state tax sources other than property taxes, under the proposed amendments.

The move to reserve property taxes to the counties would result in substantial savings to the state by eliminating the need for statewide equalization of property values and reduce the

number of personnel currently needed by the State Department of Revenue, Stearns pointed out. Travel costs of state personnel would be reduced also.

"Counties would have the prerogative of levying taxes on property according to their needs without having to worry about being the same as other counties," the Plains commissioner said.

The tax on licensed vehicles would not require any change, since equalization is achieved statewide through the use of recognized "blue or red" book values.

Final wordings for the two proposed constitutional amendments now are being worked out. One will ask in principle that the responsibility for assessing real and personal property be restored to the counties and that it be the responsibility of the elected county assessor. The other amendment would deny to the state and reserve to the counties revenue collected from property taxes.

Stearns said the petitions will be circulated in all 56 counties of Montana by the commissioners of each with the help of local interested organizations, such as the recently formed Sanders County Taxpayers Association. The petitions are ex-

Food Preservation Classes Offered

Text of above article is below:

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“Many Persons Enjoying National Bison Range

Attendance is up this June at the National Bison Range at Moiese, officials of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service report.

More than 14,500 people visited the range in June, compared to about 13,926 in June of last year. More than half of the visitors took the 19-mile, self-guided auto tour through the heart of the bison range.

Visitors should allow about two hours for the tour.

“Be sure to bring your binoculars,” a spokesman said.

Native game animals and songbirds can be observed in their natural environment.

The range is open from 8 a.m. each day through September 30. A 10-acres picnic area is provided for tourists as well as a one-mile exhibition pasture tour and a wildlife trail near the entrance.” July 20, 1975 The Missoulian

“Diabetes Association Picnic Today

Ronan- The Mission Valley Diabetes Association is having a potluck picnic Sunday at 5:30 p. m. at the National Bison Range picnic grounds.

Those coming are asked to bring a potluck dish, and there will also be hamburgers and buns for sale.” July 27, 1975 The Missoulian

‘Around Missoula

Bison Range Tour Today

The campus recreation office at the University of Montana will sponsor

tana will sponsor a tour of the National Bison Range at Moiese on Wednesday.

Tour cars will leave the Harry Adams Field House at UM at 5 p.m. Cost will be \$2.50 a person.

Rosters are due by noon Friday at the campus recreation office, Room 109 of the UM Women's Center (WC), for the men's and women's golf tournaments to be held Monday evening. The tournaments will be held simultaneously.

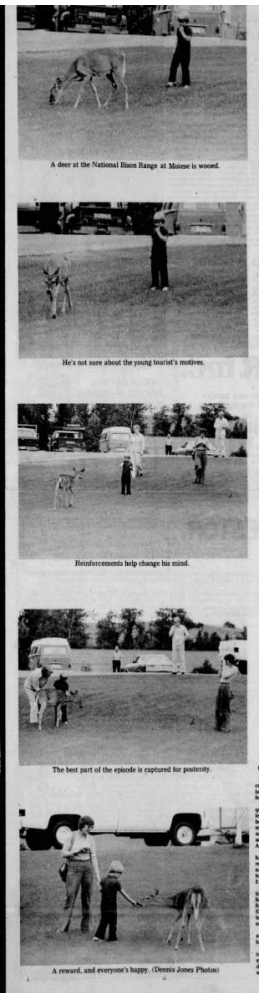
A day hike to Lolo Peak is set for Sunday. Advance registration is necessary and there is a \$2 transportation fee.

There will be a one-day tour of ghost towns of southwestern Montana on Saturday. Advance registration is necessary for the tour, which will leave the campus at 8:30 a.m. A \$6 fee will be charged for transportation.

Advance registration in WC 109 is necessary for a three-day backpack tour of Glacier National Park. Tour vehicles will leave the campus Aug. 15 and return Aug. 17. There is a \$12 transportation fee.

Additional information about UM summer recreation programs can be obtained by phoning the campus recreation office at 243-2802.

August 6, 1975 The Missoulian



Western Montana

70 Bison Offered for Sale to Bidders

MOIESE — The National Bison Range at Moiese is offering 70 live bison for sale by sealed, competitive bid in this year's annual sale. The sale is part of the range's management program for keeping the size of the herd compatible with available range.

Bid sheets can be obtained by writing or calling the National Bison Range, Moiese, 59824. The deadline for receipt of all bids is 11 a.m. Sept. 9. Rules and bidding instructions are enclosed with each bid sheet.

Up for bids are American bison of both sexes ranging from yearlings to older than 10 years.

Bison Statue to Stand Near Regional Hospital

Missoulian Flathead Bureau

KALISPELL — Plans have been made to erect a heroic size statue of the American bison near the new Kalispell Regional Hospital which is under construction on Buffalo Hill near Kalispell.

The hill's namesake will be returning to the site north of the city when the hospital is completed next year.

Kalispell artist Bob Wood has agreed to undertake the project to create the large statue. He was approached about it by officials of the Flathead Health Center who are building the new hospital which is scheduled to go into operation about Nov. 25.

The American bison is now a familiar sight at the National Bison Range at Moiese. In the earlier years of Kalispell, the late Charles E. Conrad maintained a herd of bison on the land where the new hospital, present city golf course and many houses now are located.

His herd was prospering at a time when nearly everywhere else the big animal had been killed and pushed around to a point of near extinction. It was his herd that gave the area its name of Buffalo Hill.

Hospital officials have agreed to provide a setting in a small parklike area northwest of the hospital and just east of the Medical Arts Building.

Wood and his associates have agreed to provide the heroic-size statue as a setting to the hospital without cost.

Hospital officials said Wood, in turn, will create a limited edition casting of the bison statue in smaller form to sell to offset the costs of creating the original.

The statue probably will take at last a year to create and it likely will not be in place before Labor Day of 1976.

For Wood, the undertaking is an ambitious one, since few heroic-size statues have been created in the United States since the era of A. Phimister Proctor who died more than 20 years ago.

Browning artist Bob Scriver has attempted a few such undertakings in recent years, such as one of Lewis and Clark and Sacajawea for the Fort Benton area recently.

The bison should be about 12 feet long, up to six feet tall at the shoulder and will require about seven tons of bronze to cast, Wood estimated.

Since making the agreement, Wood has been busy with his camera at the bison range at Moiese. He noted it would take the sale of all the small castings to finance the heroic figure, and admits it's a break-even proposition.

"This is a challenge any creative artist would understand and accept. There's a whole year of work ahead but the bison statue will be in Kalispell and this is the place I love best. I want the bison to return to Buffalo Hill."

Three-Year-Old School Worth Nearly Twice Cost

Sanders County Ledger

THOMPSON FALLS — The new Thompson Falls High School now is being used for its third year, but to build the structure at today's construction costs would require almost twice the amount of money as when it was erected.

Supt. Larrae Rocheleau said this week that a professional appraisal made of the high school plant for insurance purposes places the replacement costs for the new high school and gym at \$1,109,003. Original cost of the structure was around \$600,000. The appraiser valued the classroom portion at \$628,331 and the gym at \$480,672.

The total value of all buildings and facilities in the two campuses — elementary and high school — was listed at \$2,815,188.

The elementary building, more than 20 years old, is valued at \$600,000.

The insurance appraiser places a value of \$29,000 on Previs Field, including the bleachers, concessions stand and lights. Virtually all of the work, equipment and materials for Previs Field were donated by local citizens and firms. Construction of the field was a major undertaking of the Thompson Falls Booster Club.

Bids for Bison Higher

MOIESE — Bids for 70 head of buffalo were opened at the National Bison Range Tuesday, with 17 of the 92 bidders successful in buying animals.

The highest price paid was \$715.25 for a mature bull more than 10 years old, on a bid from Kim's Meats of Rollins. The lowest price paid was \$381 for a yearling bull.

The over-all average was \$556.14 per animal, higher than last year's average price of \$476.92. The average price for each age group was also up.

Bids were received from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, California, Wisconsin, Colorado, Texas, Minnesota, Montana and Georgia.

Dr. J.R. Becky of Denver, Colo., was the buyer purchasing the largest number of bison, 24 head.

Flathead Trap Club of Somers purchased seven bulls.

Total money received from the sale, which is conducted yearly to keep the size of the buffalo herd within range management capabilities, was \$38,929.60.

September 12, 1975 The Missoulian

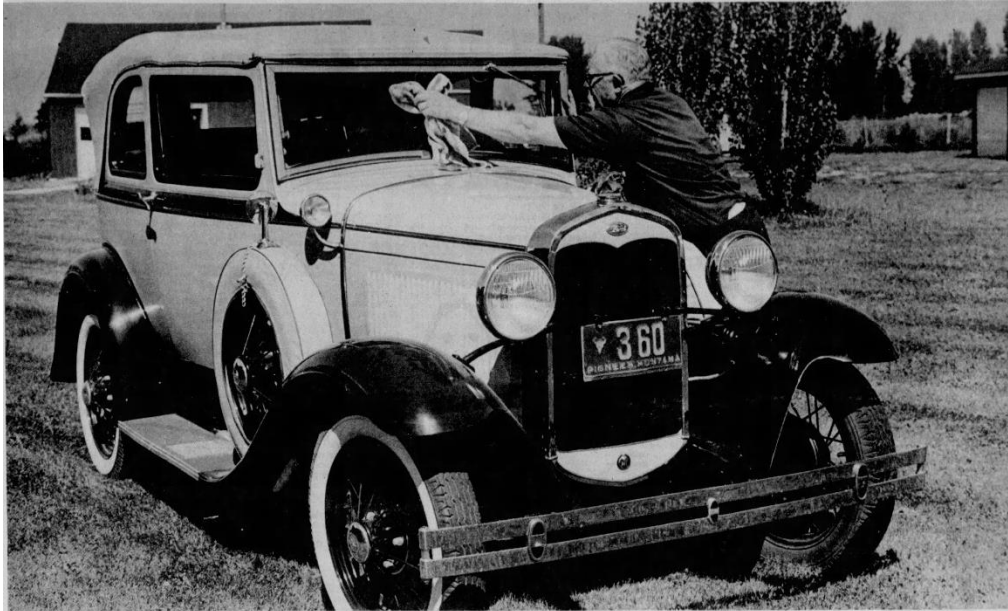
Annual Buffalo Roundup Set

MOIESE — The annual buffalo roundup at the National Bison Range will be conducted Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 6-8, according to Marvin Kaschke, range manager.

Student groups planning to attend the roundup are asked to contact the bison range in advance to avoid conflicts.

Tuesday and Wednesday will be the better days to view the roundup proceedings since part of Monday is spent bringing the animals in from the range and getting procedures lined up, Kaschke said.

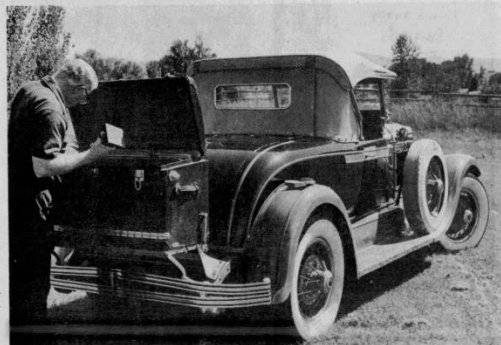
September 19, 1975 The Missoulian



Kyle Babcock keeps his 1931 Ford Model A 400 convertible sedan in shining condition. The sedan is the first convertible made by Ford.



Babcock collects original parts to use in re-paring his cars.



Babcock's 1928 Chrysler Model 72 sport roadster was "a basket case" before he fixed it up. The trunk holds side curtains, tools and other odds and ends.

Junkees

By CHRISTINE JOHNSON
Missoulian Correspondent

HAMILTON — Kyle Babcock and his son, Dick, Hamline, are "junkies."

The term has nothing to do with drugs, but refers instead to their love for collecting and restoring antique cars, a hobby which necessitates the stockpiling of old car parts of all kinds.

The Babcocks are members of the Bitterroot Valley Dusters (BVDs), a new antique car club in Ravalli County. The Babcocks have been collecting for 16 years. Dick was interested in hot rods as a youth. When he was a university student working summers doing timber inventory for the State Forestry Department, he decided he needed a Model A pickup with high clearance to use on the job. That was the beginning of the family hobby.

Today, Kyle is a retired marketing representative for the Farmers' Coop Co., and Dick is a forester with the Bitterroot National Forest.

Kyle's interest is mainly in antique and classic cars, and he owns the following vehicles which are in mint condition: A 1931 Ford Model A convertible sedan, the first convertible model made by Ford; a 1937 Cord Westchester sedan, one of the first front-wheel drive cars made in the United States; a 1928 Chrysler Model 72 sport roadster, one of only 16 known in existence; and a 1929 Ford Model A standard roadster.

Kyle specializes in collecting "open cars" with fold-down tops (also known as touring cars or roadsters) because he says they are worth twice as much as a sedan. It costs about \$6,000 to restore any antique car, Babcock said, and yet a Model A Sedan in mint condition is worth only \$1,000.

Babcock figures he has 1,000 hours of his own time invested in each car he has restored plus another 500 hours of professional labor.

The oldest car the Babcocks have is a 1910 Vette, owned by Dick. They are looking for parts for it now. Dick also is restoring a 1936 Auburn, but his main interest is toward special interest cars made after World War II. These include a 1957 Corvette and a 1966 Oldsmobile Toronado which was the first front-wheel drive car made in the U.S. since the 1937 Cord.

Art Blade, Hamilton, a former auto mechanic and now junior, is president of the BVDs. He became interested in car restoration when he found a Ford Model T in a Wisconsin pig yard in 1952.

His current project is a 1936 K Lincoln town car with a hand-built Ford body. Only 750 Lincoln town cars were put out in 1936, Blade said, and only 10 had custom-built bodies. "Mine is the only one left," he said.

The car was thought to have been originally owned by a member of the Ringling Brothers Circus family. It was a chauffeur-driven car and the front and back compartments are divided by a glass window. There are two jump seats in back as well as the conventional back seat with center arm rest. A lot of the interior trim is solid mahogany. The roof of the car is divided into three sections and the front and back open.

Blade says that one of the things he needs to complete

his car is a running board. If he finds an original, it will probably cost him \$100. Original radiator ornaments for the Lincoln town cars, a running greyhound, were made of very breakable pot metal during the 1930s and so they are worth \$150 to \$200 today, Blade said. Stainless steel and brass reproductions are available. Blade has a reproduction which he says is of poor quality. He asked a friend to sculpture the details in the ornament more authentically so that it would look better.

The search for authentic parts is one of the main concerns of car collectors. They scour national and international antique car collectors publication want-ads and travel many miles to attend swap meets.

The BVDs were the hosts at a swap meet at the Ravalli County Fairgrounds earlier this summer which was attended by collectors from Missoula, Kalispell, Helena, Anaconda and Great Falls.

The Babcocks attended Harrah's Swap Meet, which is the second largest car collector's sale in the U.S., in Reno, Nev., last June. Kyle was able to buy a trunk for his 1928 Chrysler.

Because car collecting is growing in popularity, hundreds of companies are now manufacturing parts for antique cars, Kyle said. Two companies are even reproducing completed Auburns and two others are making Cords at four-fifths size. A 1936 Auburn reproduction sells for \$27,000, Babcock said.

Original paint formulas for antique cars are available from the DuPont and Ditzler companies, Babcock said.

The frantic search for parts sometimes does strange things to a man bitten by the collecting bug, according to BVD member Chuck Mann of Victor. A collector may spend \$150 for a special part he needs when he wouldn't spend the same amount of money on a vacuum cleaner for his wife, Mann said.

Car collecting is mostly a family hobby. The BVD membership numbers 30 families including some father and son combinations such as the Babcocks, Larry Bushy and his son, Steve, Stevensville, edit the club newsletter. Club activities are usually family events such as picnics and sightseeing trips. The Missoula, Pulson, Roman and Ravalli County clubs meet at the National Bison Range at Missoula recently for a potluck dinner.

One very important reason for the regular outings, according to Kyle Babcock, is to keep the cars in running condition.

Blade said the purpose of restoring cars is to put them into usable condition. They don't belong on blocks in the garage, he said.

He said with a smile that although he takes a chance when he takes his valuable Lincoln onto the road, a modern car would probably come out second best in a collision.

Wives of car collectors are often interested in finding period costumes for family members to wear during special club events. Blade, for instance, is looking for a chauffeur's uniform to wear while he drives his Lincoln.

Blade has a special reason for wanting to find a uniform and get his car finished. When he bought the car 12 years ago he promised his 6-year-old daughter, Cindy, that when she got married he would drive her to the church in the Lincoln. Now that she is 18 he may have to make good on the promise any time.

SUNDAY
in western montana

Photos by
Christine Johnson



ROUNDING UP BUFFALO — At the National Bison Range at Moiese, bison were herded into pens last week for their yearly checkup. Mature animals are weighed, vaccinated and

identified. Some must be sold each year to keep the adult herd at about 400 animals. (Dick Eggert Photo)

Bringing Home the Bison

By **DICK EGGERT**
Missoulian Correspondent

MOIESE — Wet, chilly weather during the first three days of the annual National Bison Range roundup last week kept crowds thin and hampered progress in the week-long event.

A sparse crowd of around 100 school children and adults watched Wednesday as some 15 range employees rounded up, culled, vaccinated and branded most of the range's 400-animal herd.

Range Supt. Marvin Kaschke said a daylong downpour on Tuesday and a group of some 30 fugitive bison still out on summer ranges would probably extend roundup activities until Friday. Kaschke also noted that some 70 head of bison sold last month at auction have still to be processed or shipped live to their new owners.

The sealed bid auction this year set a record average price for National Bison Range animals at \$556.14, which is

some \$80 more than the average price paid in 1974. The highest bid this year was \$715.25 for a mature bull. The lowest bid was \$381 for a yearling bull.

The roundup actually began the week before, when range employees gathered two herds of about 200 animals each from their summer pasture and brought them into a range near the slaughterhouse corrals. Monday, the process of sorting and aging began when groups of these herds were driven down into the chutes. Mature animals are weighed, vaccinated, identified and either returned to the herd or held in pens for shipping.

Calves are branded with the year of their birth. This year's crop was marked "75." They are also given a quick health check and returned to their mothers.

Kaschke said the annual sale is designed to keep the bison herd compatible with the range. He explained that under normal range conditions, the adult herd is maintained at about 400 animals.



LEAVING THE VAST RANGE lands of the National Bison Range near Moiese, Montana is one of the last herds of buffalo to be involved in this year's annual roundup. The roundup began the first week in October with men on horseback

covering the large expanse of range land and bringing the buffalo into pastures near the corrals. (Courier photo by Gregg McConnell)

“Roundin’ up the Buffalo by Gregg McConnell

Rain held down attendance Monday and Tuesday but as the sun came out Wednesday so did hundreds of spectators to watch the annual Buffalo Roundup at the National Bison Range near Moiese.

Several inches of mud covered the ground in the corrals due to the rain but this did not slow down the furor of work as men and Bison ran feverishly from corral to corral through the system of chutes and gates.

Seventy of the herd of more than 300 bison that are living at the range were sold at public auction, 19 of which went to buyers from out of state. The average price paid for a Bison showed a marked increase over last year as the average successful bid was in excess of \$550.

Animals leaving the state received vaccinations and blood tests were taken to prevent possible transmission of diseases from state to state. All of the animals were weighed and a smell of burning hair could be detected as this year's calves were branded with a 5 on the flank. The 5 stands for the year they were born (1975) and will be used in determining the age of the animal in later years.

This year two of the largest bulls weighed over a ton but on the average a buffalo will not weigh much more than a domestic bull. The massive head and shoulders of a buffalo can be rather misleading due to the fact that the posterior of the animal is quite light.

The age of the animals ranged from the oldest, 21-year-old cow to a late born calf that was reportedly no more than three weeks old and was able to scamper about beneath the bellies of several of the large bulls.

Buffalo can be very unpredictable and aggressive and they were treated with healthy respect by the workers at the roundup as catwalks above the corrals were provided for the men and after a number of the buffalo were moved from pen to pen by the use of hazing poles extended from above. Hazing poles consisted of beer and pop cans wired at the end of a long metal pole and were designed to make considerable noise.

The Bison range in Moiese was established in 1908 with a herd of less than 50 buffalo in an attempt to prevent the rapidly vanishing bison from becoming totally extinct. The herd at the Bison Range has since grown to over 300 and it is said that there are over 10,000 Bison in existence in the United States.” The Flathead Courier, October 16, 1975

“Beefalo: A New Venture In Livestock Industry by Christine Johnson Missoulian Correspondent

“Hamilton – Will raising bison and bison-hybrids ever play a significant role in the livestock industry?

Two Hamilton area ranchers, Joseph Farley and Joe Johnson, think so, although they are new in the business.

Johnson has a herd of 36 buffalo (American bison) at his ranch north of Hamilton. His intention is to raise pure bison and also cross some with domestic cattle to produce beefalo or cattalo.

For handling the buffalo Johnson has a stock chute built for him by Alvin E. Thorson and Sons Equipment Manufacturing of Corvallis. According to Thorson, who has built many buffalo chutes, the special attachments on the chute make it the biggest he has ever manufactured and it could be the largest in the world. Johnson’s chute weighs 2,830 pounds compared to 1,140 pounds for a typical cattle chute.

Because the buffalo are potentially dangerous, uninvited visitors to the ranch have caused problems Johnson said. The animals have gone over six and eight-foot fences and also gored a number of horses. Johnson asks that persons interested in seeing the animals and learning about the ranch contact foreman, Vernon, Langlitz, for an appointment.

Johnson says he believes the advantages of a bison-hybrid are that the calf gains are more rapid and matures sooner, they are hardier and require less maintenance, they can be grass-fattened, bison meat is less fat and higher in protein and therefore the yield on the cross is higher, and the hide has value.

The drawbacks are that in a cross between a bison bull and domestic cow, there is a high mortality of cows and calves at the time of birth, he said. Domestic are mated with bison cows

more successfully. If the calf lives, there is a good chance of sterility, Johnson said. The higher the percentage of buffalo in a cross, the more chance there is of these problems occurring.

“Johnson has artificially inseminated 60-70 domestic cows with various percentages of buffalo semen. He has used $\frac{3}{8}$, $\frac{5}{8}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ buffalo semen on Herfords, Guernsey, Holsteins, Brahman, Simmental and Chianina.

One domestic cow was bred to pure buffalo semen and she is probably 150 days pregnant (mid.-Nov.), according to Langlitz.

Artificial Insemination

Two buffalo cows have been artificially inseminated at the Johnson ranch. According to Jim Burnett, a Luther rancher who successfully raised the first known $\frac{3}{4}$ bison cross bull in 1965, AI of buffalo is a “rare” procedure. Buffalo have a silent heat, he told The Missoulian, with none of the openly observation traits of the domestic cow in heat.

Hamilton Veterinarian Jack Ward accomplished the AI procedure with the help of a teaser buffalo bull. A “Pen-O-Lock” was used to restrict the bull so that he could not enter a cow. A chin ball marker on the bull acted as a ball point pen, marking any cow he mounted. Marked cows were noted to be ready for AI.

According to Ward and Langlitz, the conception rate at the ranch has not been very high this year. A new setting for the animals and problems of establishing a good nutrition program for the bison are some of the factors which influence this, they said.

Johnson has four calves which are $\frac{3}{16}$ bison. Their mothers are Brahman. The calves show little sign of their bison blood. A new hybrid was born unexpectedly from a bison cow Johnson bought from Burnett. The heifer is light reddish in color with full white feet and seems to move a lot like a bison, Langlitz said. According to Burnett the sire is probably half Maine-Anjou and half Angus.

Joseph Farley has artificially inseminated 10 Hereford cows with $\frac{3}{8}$ buffalo semen and plans to expand his program next spring. He is interested in the possibility of marketing the hybrid meat through a such as “Ranch 2 U” which sells meat directly from the rancher to the consumer.

Farley and family own the KOA Campground and Bitterroot Trout Farm south of Hamilton and this is his first ranching experience.

According to Ravalli County Extension Agent Rob Johnson, the agricultural press has carried many articles recently about beefalo. Much of the material is conflicting in its conclusions, he said, because researchers really don't have the answers.

Roger Brownson, extension livestock specialist at Montana State University at Bozeman, is quoted in the April 3, 1975 Montana Farmer-Stockman as saying that male sterility in the first cross between bison and domestic cattle is probably due to structural inequality between parental chromosomes. Veterinarian Ward says the incompatibility is similar to the Rh factor in humans.

Rancher Burnett says that conception rates of 10 to 12 per cent are one of the problems in raising beefalo. Antibiotics can be used on a pregnant cow to help improve chances of the fetus maturing, he said, and to help combat the high abortion rate.

Burnett says these are the advantages of the bison hybrid:

Newborn calves are mobile faster.

The udder and scrotum are carried higher in a hybrid resulting in less trouble with these organs.

Their ability to withstand the elements good.

Higher Gain, More Meat

Burnett said that his hybrids of a higher percentage buffalo make a gain of one pound on six pounds of feed compared to domestic animals that will gain one pounds for each eight pounds of the same feed.

Buffalo also use more of the pasture than domestic cattle do, he said.

Burnett says that a buffalo carcass will dress out at 60 to 64 per cent compared to 59 to 60 per cent of domestic cattle. He gave an example of a half-blood cow which he slaughtered recently which yielded 37 pounds more steak than a domestic cow of the same weight.

He believes the thorax contains better cuts of meat, the loin, in hybrids. An animal with both hump and rump is very desirable, he said.

Burnett also cites the fact that buffalo have more than twice the life span of domestic cattle which could mean a productive life of 18 to 20 years.

Disease resistance is one of the alleged benefits of bison and bison hybrids. Burnett said this experience has borne this out to some extent. He said that, for instance, buffalo are less apt to get blackleg than domestic cattle.

In commenting on the current problem of brucellosis among buffalo in Yellowstone Park, Burnett said that he understands that his is not the same strain that is apparent in domestic cattle and that it does not cause abortion. However he does test his own buffalo regularly and vaccinates all heifers.

Marvin Kaschke, manager of the National Bison Range at Moiese, said he believes buffalo probably are more disease resistant than cattle, but that there have been few studies to verify it. Part of their resistance may be due to the fact that they normally run in the open prairie, he said. There needs to be more information about how resistant they are in a feed lot operation, he said.

The most comprehensive study of bison hybrids has probably been done by the Canada Department of Agriculture between 1916 and 1965.

According to results of that study, as summarized in the March 1975 issue of Annual Nutrition and Health. British cattle breeds were more efficient in terms of total digestible nutrients utilized per pound of gain as compared to buffalo. Hybrids are somewhere between the two.

As the amount of buffalo was increased in the hybrids, they became heavier-fronted in the carcass, which is less desirable since the higher priced cuts of meat are in the rear quarter, researchers said. A lower degree of finish with the poor conformation yielded lower market grading carcasses, they reported. The study concluded that Herefords had heavier hides and a greater amount of internal organs than the hybrids, which was why the hybrids had a greater dressing percentage than Herefords.

In a calf production study involving 1,115 matings in the same program, Hereford cows surpassed hybrid cows in weaned calf crop percentage. The birth weight of calves declined progressively as the proportion of buffalo increased in the dams and the trend was especially marked in the calves that died.

According to Charles Christians, University of Minnesota animal scientist, the hybrid cow has outstanding winter foraging ability and a high degree of cold tolerance, attributes that prolong its longevity and ability to wean heavy calves. However, embryonic mortality, death near birth, reduced performances in the feedlot and lower carcass grades limit the advantage gained from its hardy constitution.

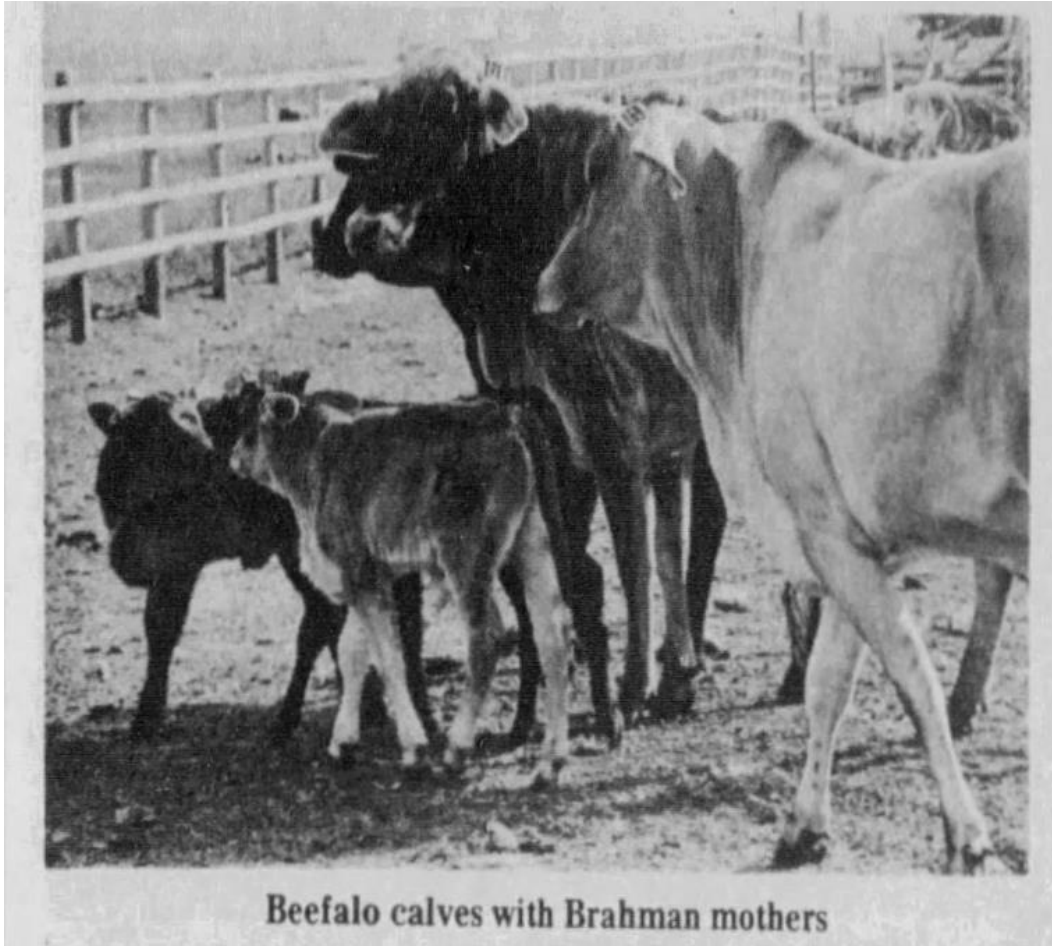
Kaschke at the National Bison Range said that the National Buffalo Association recommends against raising hybrids since the business is still uncertain. They recommend that ranchers concentrate on raising either pure bison or domestic cattle as either can be money-making operations.

A lot of heavy promotional work for the beefalo movement has been done in recent years by D. C. "Bud" Basolo of Tracy, Calif. He claims high conception rates for his hybrids, great economy and convenience in feeding a high roughage diet and predicts consumers will be flocking to supermarkets in the near future to buy beefalo meat for up to 40 per cent less than domestic beef. Basolo also claims to have sold one of his prize hybrid bulls for \$2.5 million.

Burnett and several other persons interviewed by the Missoulian expressed some doubt as to the accuracy of Basolo's claims. Burnett said he believes Basolo is publicizing some half truths and exaggerations about his work. Basolo is probably minimizing the difficulties for raising hybrids, Burnett said, because his primary interest is in building up a good volume of semen sales.

Burnett says the he, himself, receives many calls and visitors from all over North America, wanting hybrid semen and information about the program. Right now he is preparing a brochure for ranchers which will discuss some of the problems involved in raising hybrids.

The future looks good for the industry, Burnett said, but he recommends a go-slow plan of action."



November 23, 1975 The Missoulian

Baltimorean Goes West, Finds Fish And Fiction

By Carl Schoettler

Harmon Henkin is standing in the middle of Calvert street like a character out of a Richard Brautigan story looking for trout fishing in Baltimore.

He's wearing an Abercrombie & Fitch hat, Russell walking shoes, and sort of trout fishing clothes in between. And he has been a character in a Richard Brautigan story. He was involved in the heavy swapping for a twelve gauge L.C. Smith shotgun recorded in "A Gun for a Fish," which was published in Esquire in March, 1975.

But he is not looking for trout today. He is looking for a soft crab sandwich.

Henkin is a Baltimorean who has been transplanted to an Indian reservation in Montana, which is fine if you like trout (and Indians) but not so fine if you also like soft crab. There's never been much of a soft crab crop in Montana.

Henkin is standing in the middle of Calvert street because he is having his picture taken in front of the place where he was born, which is Mercy Hospital. He's indulging himself in a little nostalgia. He's been away ten years or so. But actually the maternity ward where he was born is probably a parking lot now.

The Abercrombie hat is a fine, floppy, angler's hat, full of trout fishing mystique. But it's not an especially Western hat.

"I've never been into Western garb," he says. "I essentially dress the way I dressed at City College. I was thrown out there in 1958. But I do have a cowboy hat Peter Fonda gave me when I sold my novel."

His novel is called "Criss-Cross" and he's essentially come East again to see about its publication by G.P. Putnam's Sons. Publicity releases will say "Criss-Cross" is a classic man-on-the-run novel, with scenes and the denouement set in Baltimore.

Peter Fonda gives him hats and Richard Brautigan puts him in stories because they like to fish and the fishing is very good on the Flathead Indian Reservation where Henkin lives in Montana. And fishermen tend to congregate in the same places and tell each other lies which sometimes become stories and novels.

Henkin is a very good fisherman. He used to say he was one of the ten best fly fishermen in America. He's not much more modest now. It may even be true because he is such a good fisherman that almost simultaneously with his novel J.B. Lippincott Co. is publishing his book about his craft: "Fly Tackle: The Tools of the Trade."

Which just goes to show you the value of a good Eastern education: Henkin grew up in Pimlico and learned his basic fishery at the water hazard at the Suburban Country Club.

"I started fishing when I was six or seven. I took the Number 5 bus to the Suburban Country Club then walked to the ponds they had there for water hazards and I fished there for days and days on end."

"Later I used to walk out to Lake Roland and fish a lot for carp. And then one day these black construction workers wanted to buy some carp from me and I sold 'em three for 50 cents, which was a pretty good deal for them because there was 8 or 9 pounds of carp."

It was a turning point in his life: "I learned then there was a loophole in capitalism — I could get paid for something I liked to do."

He started staying away from school which eventually got him canned from City College and a head start on the sort of biography picturesque novelists are supposed to have. He did what every young dropout who will become a novelist is supposed to do. He joined the Marines.

Didja get thrown out of the Marines? "No, I served honorably."

His service was mostly in the Far East — Okinawa, Japan, Taiwan.

"I even did a little writing," he says. He's finally gotten to a virgin soft crab at Connolly's seafood house on Pratt street.

"I wrote for a couple of Marine newspapers. I found out it's easier to carry a pen than a gun."

When he was discharged, he invested his mustering out pay in a nice fly fishing outfit and headed West for the first time.

"And that's when I started getting into fly fishing as a life style. By that I

His Novel Reaches Its Climax At The Main Library Here



HARMON HENKIN—He's good with fly tackle as well as a typewriter.

mean I began wanting to live in a place where you're closer to the natural life cycle of things. Fly fishing is predicated on an observation of the life cycle of insects, of trout, of watching changes in rivers and streams, of patterns of development. Just being closer to the life process, which is ultimately what trout fishing is."

Still, he came back east and got a job in the sports department of The Evening Sun. The late Paul Menton, the not-too-benevolent despot who reigned four decades as sports editor, hired him.

"That was really a very strange thing. He asked me if I had ever written sports before."

"No, I said. He asked me if I ever had a course in journalism."

"Well, I think you might be the man for the job."

Henkin thought so, too. "I was desperate for a job," he says.

Why? "Because I didn't have one."

He also thought sports writing would be a springboard to a job where he really wanted to live, which was Out West. And it was. He left The Evening Sun to become a columnist for the Missoula (Mont.) Missoulian, for a couple of years.

"It took 'em two years before they finally understood what I was writing about. It was environmental stuff, and pretty heavy stuff."

His string ran out when he attacked the National Rifle Association, which is the Montana equivalent of attacking Mohammed in Mecca. Henkin left to work with environmentalist Barry Commoner on his magazine, Environment, in St. Louis.

"It was a nice place to work. But I just didn't want to live in St. Louis. I just didn't want to live in a city."

He got a contract to write a book for Houghton Mifflin Co., called "Environment, the Establishment and the Law" ("Their title, not mine"). He went back to Montana to write it.

"I semi-started to live in St. Ignace," he says. St. Ignace is where he lives now when he's not looking for soft crab or talking with publishers. St. Ignace

is a town of 925 next to the National Bison Range in Northwest Montana, a very long way from Pimlico, indeed. He lives on a ranch there.

"A trout ranch."

A friend encouraged him to write the fly tackle book and it was accepted by Lippincott and will be the Field and Stream book club selection for August. "I had all these friends who are fancy novelists. Like Tom McGuane ("The Bushwhacked Piano," "Ninety-two in the Shade," the movie "Rancho Deluxe"), Richard Brautigan, William Hjortsberg ("Grey Matters," "Tor! Tor! Tor!"). They live in Montana at least part of the year. I met them initially through fishing."

Is Brautigan a good fly fisherman? "Terrible! He goes about it in his own way. He doesn't do it by the book."

"These days fly fishing in America has become much more systematic. Fly fishing, like chess, instead of remaining an imaginative art, has become what I call hypermodern. For every move the trout makes, you make a countermove. It makes for boring chess and — for me — boring fly fishing."

"Me? I'm a kind of freelancer, too. It comes out of my closeness to the stream I fish every day."

He wrote his novel "Criss-Cross" in seventeen days last August.

"The idea for it started germinating when I read an article about someone on Henry Kissinger's staff who was suspected of being a security risk. They began tapping and tailing him and one day his car breaks down in the Maryland suburbs of Washington and he asks his tail for a ride."

"Somewhere in the back of my mind I wondered what would happen if someone developed a close relationship with his tail and the tail gets killed. He would be the prime suspect. That's the germ of the novel."

"But it's also a kind of metaphor for what happened to Sixties radicals in the Seventies."

Henkin's protagonist grew up in Baltimore and comes back for the final confrontation of the novel.

The big climax takes place in the Esch Pratt main library. Yeah, some books get damaged, but only by bullets."

January 26, 1976 The Evening Sun (Baltimore, Maryland)

"Canada to Get Elk by Dennis Jones Missoulian Correspondent

Moiese — A winter roundup of elk is under way at the National Bison Range at Moiese this week as officials begin to select animals for a trip north. Range Manager Marvin Kaschke said about 30 of the 90 elk now on the range will be live-trapped for shipment to Canada, where they will be turned loose to restock wilderness area.

In the past the annual buffalo roundup has drawn attention to the range herd thinning via public sale has taken place each fall. The elk are not being sold but being donated, as some buffalo have, to tax-supported organizations.

Kaschke said that animals have been given to public zoos in New York and Seattle, as well as to wildlife refuges and other institutions around the country. Buffalo have been sent to Hawaii and a herd of more than 40 was shipped to Nebraska three years ago.

Approximately two dozen students from a University of Montana wildlife class in Missoula are expected to help push the elk herd into the elk run, a fenced corridor on the range that leads to a corral area where the animals can be selected.

Kaschke said the range is “a little light on bulls” and that mostly cows will be picked for shipment. A number of tests have to be run to check for disease, and a 30-day waiting period before re-testing for some infections is required by the Canadian government.

“We won’t know exactly how many will go or which ones until after we draw the blood,” Kaschke said.

Canada will benefit from the thinning, but so will the bison range. The condition at the national refuge that supports a multitude of wildlife species has never been better, and it hasn’t happened by accident, Kaschke said.

The range is carefully managed with the buffalo herd divided into two herds and grazed on eight pastures on a revolving basis.

Laid out in “animal use months,” the program is designed to control growth periods. According to the Babe May, assistant range manager, effective program has produced hardy range grass, and because of it no winter feeding program is needed to sustain the elk, deer, buffalo and antelope.

“It’s a good year-to-year management program,” May said.

Last season an estimated 100,000 persons traveled the 19-mile self-guided tour road through the 19,000 acre refuge. Kaschke said the highest number of visitors was reported four years ago

with 113,000 making the tour.” January 27, 1976, The Missoulian

“Elk Roundup Closed

Moiese – The roundup of elk at the National Bison Range at Moiese, which began Monday, is closed to the public.

Range Manager Marvin Kaschke said there is considerable public interest in the project, but that the presence of observers will hinder the operation. The wild elk, scheduled to be live-trapped, tested and then sent to Canada, are difficult to manage even under ideal conditions, Kaschke

said.” January 30, 1976, The Missoulian

“Bison Range Slide Show Tonight

The University of Montana Wildlife Society will present a movie and slide show dealing with the National Bison Range, Moiese, at 8 p.m. Wednesday in Room 131 of the UM Science Complex.

Milt Haderly, assistant manager of the National Bison Range, will speak during the program is open to the public without charge.

The movie and slides concern the history and purpose of the National Bison Range.

During the program, Haderly also will review big game counting procedures for UM students who are members of the University Wildlife Society. Society members will put the information to use Saturday on the National Bison Range, where they will assist the Fish and Wildlife Service in an annual big-game census.” February 25, 1976 The Missoulian

Recollections

According to an accepted story, a Pend d'Orielle Indian named Walking Coyote is believed to have started a small buffalo herd in western Montana in 1873. It is possible Walking Coyote's original herd is, in part, the basis for some of the few buffalo herds left in the world today, including the herd at the National Bison Range at Moiese.

Walking Coyote was married to a Flathead Indian woman, according to the story, and killed her one day. He fled the Flathead Valley, fearing his own death at the hands of irate Flathead Indians. He went to the Blackfoot Reservation, but not liking the flat terrain was determined to return to the mountains and valleys of western Montana.

Before returning and at the suggestion of some Blackfoot Indians, he captured two buffalo bulls and two cows, taking them with him on his return to the Flathead. The buffalo is not native to western Montana and the Flathead Indians were so impressed, just as the Blackfoot had suggested they would be, that they forgave Walking Coyote his trespass and within a decade his prestige in western Montana was of extreme elevation, because his herd now numbered 13 buffalo. Charles Allard Sr., and Michel Pablo bought the herd from Walking Coyote for \$3,000 which they gave him in \$10 bills. Walking Coyote reportedly took his windfall and went to Missoula to celebrate. A few days later he was found dead under the Higgins Avenue bridge, his money gone.

Allard and Pablo continued to cultivate the herd and in 1894 when the senior Allard died, some of the herd was sold to Kalispell banker, Charles Conrad. Part of the Conrad herd was later given to the government for the National Bison Range at Moiese and other parts of the herd were sold to Canada for their national herd.

And other descendants of the herd went elsewhere.

Since Wild Bill Cody, or Buffalo Bill as he was more popularly called, was having such resounding success around the

world with his Wild West show, a few enterprising Montanans concluded that such an adventure for them would be likewise profitable. After all, Montana was the "real" wild west and only Montanans could put together a "real" wild west show.

In 1901, the first locally-grown wild west show was presented in Missoula. The main feature involved stampeding a herd of buffalo in front of the grandstand. The crowd loved the show which encouraged further adventures, one of them determined not only to give the show in Missoula, but perhaps go on a national tour.

So, it was with great expectation that Missoula looked forward to July 3, 1902, when the Great Buffalo and Wild West Shows, United, would make its premiere in Missoula. The show was put together by the likes of Charles Allard Jr., of the Flathead, who was billed as the king of cowboys. It was also a case of the kid with the baseball being allowed to play in the game, because it was Allard who had the buffalo herd needed for the show.

The first performance on that July 3 was hampered by a freezing rain. But the crowd of 3,500 was described as "satisfied in spite of physical discomfort," by The Weekly Missoulian. Bathed in a warm local response, the wild west show optimistically left Missoula on national tour. The rain that marred the premiere in Missoula proved to be an omen for the ill-fated wild west show.

For the next two months, the show toured the Midwest as bad weather dogged the effort. By September the rigors of rain, storm, and one-night stands had taken a heavy toll of both performers and animals and on reaching Marshalltown, Iowa, the show folded.

The remnants of the show, including the travel-weary buffalo were shipped back to western Montana.

But the buffalo herd, once the unruly stars of the show, still had another important role to play. During the fall of 1902, C.J. Jones, known nationally as Buffalo Jones, arrived in Missoula

to negotiate with Allard. Jones, the first animal warden at the new Yellowstone National Park, wanted Allard to sell him some buffalo for the park. Allard refused at first, but eventually accepted nearly \$10,000 for 25 buffalo that Jones would add to the old Yellowstone herd to give it new blood.

The present buffalo herd at the park, like the Moiese and Canadian herds, possibly contain animals that are descendants of the original four buffalo Walking Coyote brought to the Flathead Valley to make amends for murdering his wife.

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The Missoulian is still seeking old photos and stories from the 1900 to 1960 era. If you have something which you think would make a contribution to the Bicentennial edition to be published this July, call Jim Cotter at 542-0311, extension 52, during office hours or at 549-4850 after hours and on weekends. Anything donated for use in the special edition on area history will be returned and credit given to the donor.

SOBER GROUP

The first local temperance organization was formed in 1789 by the farmers of Litchfield County, Conn.

BIG LOSS

The U.S. Public Health Service estimates 100 million man hours are lost to employers each year because of dental problems.

March 14, 1976 The Missoulian

"Visitors to Bison Range May Take Covered Wagon

Moiese — Anyone who wants to find out what it was like to travel in the Old West by covered wagon soon will get a chance to do so at the National Bison Range.

Tentative approval for a concession which will take visitors along 13 miles of the bison range perimeter roads has been given to Bob Toelke of Ronan.

The concession calls for covered wagons and team to make a one-way trip from range headquarters to Ravalli. Passengers will be picked up and returned by modern transportation.

The wagons hold nine persons. Bison Range Manager Marvin Kaschke says Toelke will run the route seven days a week if there is sufficient business, beginning around July 1.” June 5, 1976

The Missoulian

“YMCA to Open Camp Sundance

Camp Sundance, the YCMA’s summer day camp, will open July 6 for youngster ages 6 to 11.

Beginning at 8:30 a.m. each day, Jackie Victor, amp director, and her staff of counselors will lead the campers through a variety of activities. Counselors are Shannon Skelton, Jackie Paulson. Cheri Butler and Leslie Taylor.

Until 3:30 p.m. each day, campers will hike, swim in McCormack Pool, learn arts and crafts and tour interesting locations both in and out of town.

Highlights of he four one-week sessions include tours of Fort Missoula and a game farm, a special outing for horseback riding, a trip to the Shrine Circus and all-day excursions to Lolo Hot Springs, Lake Como and the Bison Range.

Those wishing to register or desiring further information are asked to call the YMCA at 543-8131.” June 29, 1976 The Missoulian

“Wagon Train Tours Conducted

Bob Toelke and Loren Clary have begun summer wagon trips on the National Bison Range at Moiese.

Operating under a federal license as a concession. Buffalo Trail Rides, Inc., will give tours until 13 miles of the bison range and two-hour trips across the Flathead Indian Reservation to a small lake in the Mission Mountains.

The two-hour trips start from Allentown and are priced at \$7.50 for riders over 12, \$5 for under 12 and free for preschoolers accompanied by parents. The bison range rips are \$20 for adults, \$15 per teen-agers, \$10 for a grade-school child and \$5 for preschoolers.

Toelke specializes in big game hunts and pack trips as a licensed outfitter and guide and is a member of the Montana Outfitters and Dude Ranchers association.” July 18, 1976 The Missoulian

“Phillips Picnic Set at Bison Range

Moiese – The annual Phillips County nohost potluck picnic will be July 25 at the National Bison Range picnic grounds starting at 11 a.m.

Those attending are asked to bring their own utensils.” July 20, 1976 The Missoulian

“Tour Producers Coming to State

Washington, D.C. – Montana will be visited by key international tour producers and travel writers from as many as 20 nations during a tour late in August.

Tours of Montana and six other western states will follow the Discover America International Pow Wow in Salk Lake City, Utah, Aug. 22-25.

Pow Wow is three days of business sessions involving international producers of VISIT USA travel promotions and U.S. travel suppliers. Meetings are designed to enable tour packages from abroad to purchase U.S. travel arrangements for resale in their markets.

About 1,500 domestic and international participants are expected to attend this year’s meeting. The event is sponsored jointly each year by The United States Travel Service, the U. S. government tourism office and Discover America Travel Organizations, Inc., a national nonprofit organization of the U.S. travel industry.

Tour participants will visit Big Sky, Gallatin Canyon, the National Bison Range and Flathead Lake Resort. Tour stops also are planned for Glacier National Park, the Museum of the Plains Indians in Browning and the Charles Russell Museum in Great Falls.” August 6, 1976 The Missoulian

Bison Inn Opens at Ravalli

RAVALLI — The Bison Cafe and Motel has been re-modeled and has reopened as the Bison Inn, new owner Kay Graves announced.

Eddie Amos, a long-time Missoula area cook and restaurant manager, will be cook and manager of the newly re-modeled business.

The facility offers overnight camping, new motel units and a larger dining area.

Amos has **Kay Graves** cooked at the Oxford, and operated the Atlantic Bar & Cafe and the Park Cafe in Missoula. Amos said the restaurant will feature the “Bison Burger,” made from ground bison meat supplied from the nearby National Bison Range at Moiese.

The restaurant is at the foot of Ravalli Hill at the north end of town on U.S. 93.



August 8, 1976 The Missoulian



WHITE BUFFALO
When we went to Helena we saw a white Buffalo. When Indians go in they are afraid to go near it. There are chains around it so people won't get on it and play cowboys. It is on some wood so it will stay still. It is in the middle of the room. It lived at the Bison Range. Everybody liked the Buffalo a lot. It is very Big. It is almost all white but it has black in some spots. Ms. Bortz asked me and Jerry if we felt any spirits. Jerry and I said No. I was going to take a picture but it was too dark in there. Some people took pictures of the Buffalo. The reason I couldn't was I forget my flash cubes. It was very fun to go to Helena. Jerry and I are Indians and some Indians thought the white Buffalo was Big Medicine.
By MONTY THOMAS
Grade 5
Willard Snow is...

August 22, 1976 The Missoulian

“National Bison Range Plans Roundup

Moiese Annual roundup at the National Bison Range is to take place Oct. 4, 5, and 6, according to Marvin R. Kaschke, manager of the 18,541-acre federal refuge between Polson and Missoula.

About 400 buffalo will be in the roundup, and about 65 will be separated for live sales.

Kaschke also announced the annual auction that is conducted to reduce the number of buffalo to what the range will sustain.

Sealed bids will be received at the National Bison Range office in Moiese until 11 a.m. Sept. 8, when the bids will be opened. Bid envelopes should be marked “Bison – Open 11 a.m. Sept. 8, 1976.”

Kaschke said a bid of less than \$250 will be considered. Bidders may bid on one or more animals.

Successful bidders will get their buffalo during the October roundup.

Last September the 70 animals offered for sale attracted 92 bidders. The average price paid by the 17 successful bidders last year was \$556 per animal.

Last year's top price was \$715 paid by Kim's Meat, Rollins, for a 10-year-old bull. The low price was \$381 for a yearling bull.

Also being sold through the Moiese office are one long yearling bull and one long yearling heifer held at Fort Peck.

Kaschke can be contacted by telephone through the Charlo exchange, 644-234.

He commented that the wet summer has resulted in excellent range conditions. He said a record number of visitors, 24,000 toured the range during July, and he anticipates the 1976 season will equal or surpass the record of 1972, when 113,000 persons visited the range.

The 19-mile, self-guided gravel road through the refuge is open from 8 a.m. to dark." August 25, 1976 The Missoulian

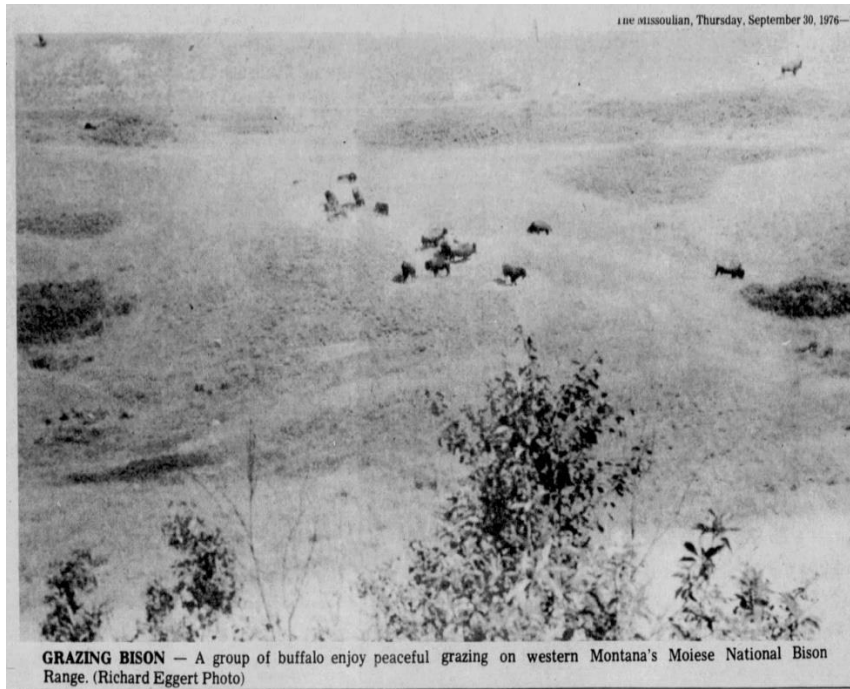
"Bison Range Sells 65 Head

Moiese - Bids for 65 head of buffalo were opened at the National Bison Range on Wednesday. Twenty-seven of the 66 bidders were successful. The highest price paid was \$800 for a mature bull by Robert Jones of Spokane, Wash. The lowest price was \$301.50, up from last year's average of \$556.14.

A few of the more successful bidders included Jay Peterson of Quincy, Wash., with eight 3-year-old cows and two yearling bulls; the Fort Belknap Community Council at Harlem, with 19 yearling heifers; Donald Schroeder of Eugene, Ore., with four 5-year-old cows and three 8-year-old cows; and the Northwest Emporium of Coram, with seven mature bulls.

Bids were received from Washington, Oregon, California, South Dakota, Idaho, Utah, Missouri, Iowa, Texas, Minnesota and Montana.

The annual roundup will be held Oct. 4-6. Animals will be picked up by the buyers on Oct. 7 and 8." September 12, 1976 The Missoulian



GRAZING BISON — A group of buffalo enjoy peaceful grazing on western Montana's Moiese National Bison Range. (Richard Eggert Photo)

September 30, 1976 The Missoulian

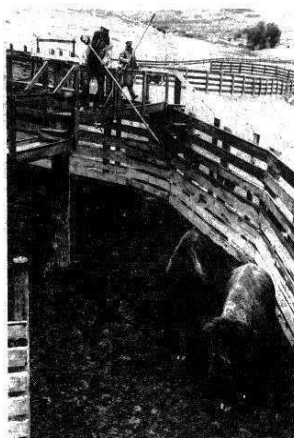
“Buffalo Roundup To Begin Monday

Moiese (AP) - About 300 adult buffalo and calves will be gathered up by government cowboys this week as part of the annual roundup on the National Bison Range near Moiese.

The roundup will begin Monday morning and continue through Wednesday.

The roundup is conducted each year as part of the herd management plan on the range. It enables officials to cull animals sold previously at an auction and brand the new calves.

The roundup also provides range managers with an accurate count of the animals and an opportunity to blood test and weigh them.” October 3, 1976 The Sunday Missoulian

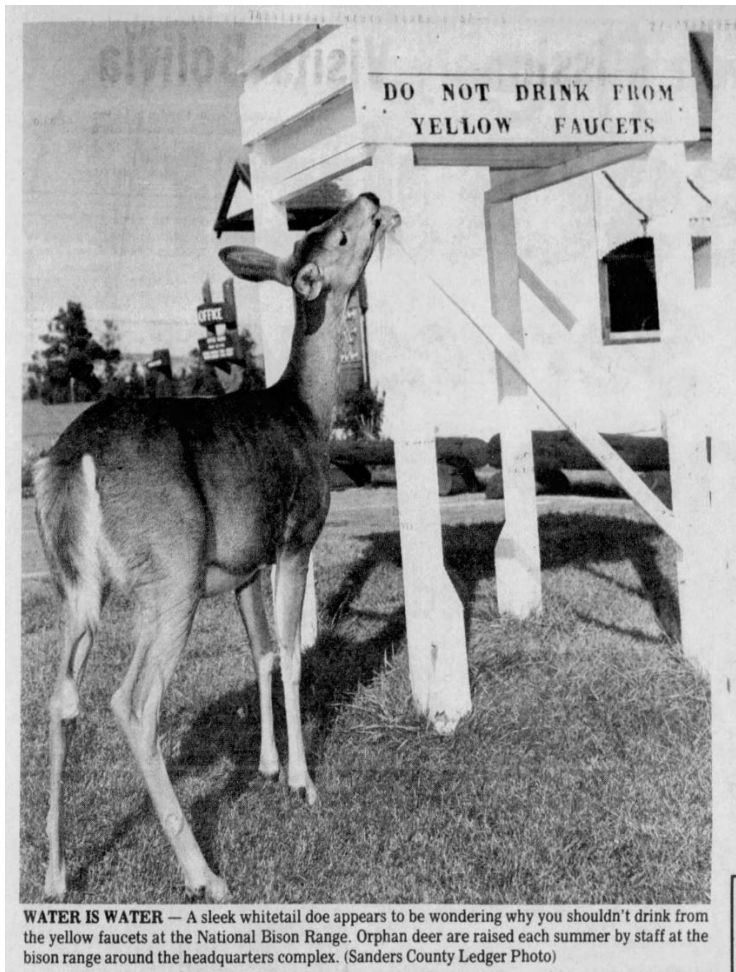


THESE BISON were corralled into obedience with the help of Bob Middlemist and his lengthy electric prod at the Moiese

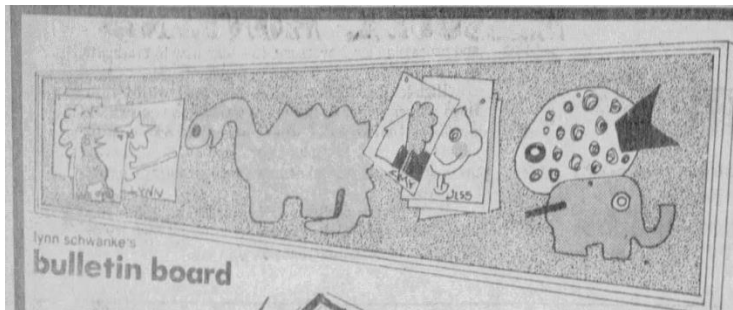
Bison Range Tuesday. (Photo by Jim

Kroner)

October 7, 1976 The Flathead Courier



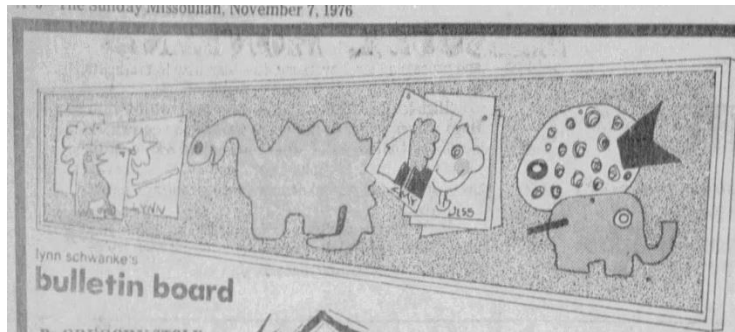
October 20, 1976 The Missoulian



I saw a pet deer and I got to pet the deer and I saw two little fawns trying to get out. And then I saw some bison and I saw a little calf out with the bison. And I saw some elk on the way up on a small hill! And then I saw some antelope just before we came to the National Bison Range. And then I saw a big bison go through the shut.

By SHAWN O'CONNELL
Grade 3
Hodgson School
Kalispell

November 14, 1976 The Missoulian



PRESCOTT THIRD GRADE TAKES A TRIP

We left at 9:30 a.m. We took two buses and got there about 10:30. On the way to the Bison Range everyone screamed because of the snow. The snow made us so happy. The third graders got out of the bus and into the rain. We went to the cat-walk to watch the bisonboys (similar to cowboys). The bisonboys were giving shots and branding the bison. Then they went out on their horses to round up some more bison. We saw the bisonboys sort out the bison for sale. Those with tags on their rumps were for sale. The rain came down too hard so the bisonboys decided it would be a good time to eat lunch, so we did, too. On the way through the range we also saw antelope and elk. We were allowed to pet a deer. We also saw geese flying, ducks, cows and sheep. The country was open range and good for raising bison. Just before leaving we stopped for cookies and rest room stops. The visit made us so tired that most everyone fell asleep. A funny thing happened on one bus. The person sitting next to me tried to take off the teacher's shoe. It was a good thing that he did not succeed. We enjoyed the trip because we learned a lot about bison. We'd like to take more trips like this one.

By JULIE ALDEGARIE

EVEY MOULDING

DOUG McBROOM

Grade 3

Prescott

November 27, 1976 The Missoulian

“Ted Kramer and the Bureaucratic Run-Around by Richard Eggert Missoulian Correspondent

St. Ignatius – Ted and Cindy Kramer of St. Ignatius are wondering why the state has an Employment Security Division.

“In our case,” says Kramer, a tall, lanky former wildlife biologist, “they are acting more like an un-Employment Security Division.”

Kramer worked for some 21 years with the government as a zoologist and wildlife ranger. Last July, at the age of 50, he was forced into early retirement when the National Bison Range at Moiese eliminated his position. Before putting Kramer on partial pension, the government

made a thorough nationwide search for another job opening. There was nothing available, so Kramer was cashiered on \$390 a month.

The Kramers have four school-age children, and the family of six could not possibly survive on the government's retirement stipend. So Kramer went to the Polson office of the Montana State Employment Service and signed up for unemployment insurance.

The insurance benefits, about \$390 a month, were enough for the family to squeeze by, but it wouldn't last forever.

Kramer is realistic about his future. "I am an ancient wildlife specialist with a BS competing with hundreds of young masters and PhDs for a few jobs." He observed. "The only chance I have is finding another way of making a living."

While in the Navy, Kramer had trained and worked as a barber. "Naturally, taking up the shears seemed to be the most logical choice of a new vocation," he said.

In August, Kramer asked the Polson state employment office if there were any educational assistance programs available for the nine-month barber's course in Missoula. He was told that he did not qualify because his income during the past 12 months exceeded the guidelines for eligibility for training funds. He said he felt it was odd the state required people to be genuinely destitute before providing training assistance monies, but he was content to pay his barber schooling out of his pension and unemployment insurance.

In October a seat opened up at the barber school and Kramer enrolled, paying half of the \$500 tuition. The following week he notified the Polson employment service through a find-work questionnaire and the next week there was no check. Another week went by without an unemployment check, and Kramer made inquiries.

He was told in writing by the Helena Office of the Employment Security Division that his unemployment benefits had been canceled because "a person must be available for work and actively seeking work. You do not meet the eligibility requirements."

The Kramers were out \$250 tuition, which was subsequently refunded, and three weeks' unemployment benefits. And they were angry.

"What is the purpose of an 'employment service' if it is not to help people find jobs?" Cindy Kramer asked.

"Ted could not find work as a wildlife biologist, so he was trying to develop a skill that is in demand and gets totally cut off for his trouble. We can wait until we are so poor that we fall under the guidelines for training assistance, but that would be silly because we will draw unemployment in the meantime. It would save us a great deal of trouble and the taxpayers a great deal of money if they would just allow him to return to barber school while collecting unemployment checks," she said.

But there are reasons why full-time students are not eligible for unemployment benefits. “Not only is he (Kramer) not available for work while attending school,” explained Doug Stam of the Polson State employment office, “but if we allowed him to collect, then we would also have to pay every college student who works during the summer. That is why we have the rule.”

But Stam acknowledged that there is a provision in the law for “Short term” training while drawing employment insurance benefits. He said that Kramer’s case had been appealed through the Employment Security Division and would be reassessed “on its individual merits.” He said Kramer’s -appeal hinged primarily on “the past precedent on the length of time allowed under the short-term schooling provision.”

Stam said he was sorry the Kramers had been inconvenienced by the loss of their checks but added they “had been dealt with fairly.” He did admit there had been “some misunderstanding” between Kramer and job counselors over his eligibility for schooling while drawing unemployment benefits.

“He never specifically asked and nobody here evidently made it clear that we would jeopardize his eligibility if he enrolled in school,” he explained.

Kramer, with the advice of the barber college, applied for work training funds through the Missoula State Employment Office and was subsequently denied. So, Ted Kramer will remain a portion of the 8.7 per cent of the Lincoln, Lake and Flathead county work force that remains idle because it cannot find jobs. He said he could not possibly maintain his family and attend school on his government pension, so he is forced to continue to draw unemployment until he either becomes poor enough to qualify for job training or wins his appeal.” December 5, 1976 The

Missoulian



BUFFALO HUNTERS — Despite their resemblance to desperadoes of the old west, Steve Seeters, left, and Mark Newman are really 20th century "good guys." Instead of guns, their weapons are cameras, notebooks and pencils. The two young men made Missoula their headquarters for a few days while doing research on the buffalo herd at the Bison Range and other private herds in the area.

“Adventurers Seek The Elusive Buffalo by Evelyn King

Countless legions of fantastic ideas have originated over a friendly pitcher of beer.

Most of these ideas are obliterated come the cold light of dawn. Occasionally, however, an enthusiastic individual or two will remember and pursue a suggestion. In this manner, sometimes, politicians are born, books written, businesses begun, new careers started.

The Seeters – Newman expedition began under such circumstances.

Several months ago, Mark Newman, a doctor and photographer, and Steve Seeters, free lance writer and adventurer, met while on a hiking trip in Hawaii. They were both outdoor enthusiasts – enjoyed climbing, hiking, running. While still the islands, they trained for and competed in the annual 26-mile Hawaiian marathon run.

Newman from New York, had received his degree from medical school in New York State University. He has been working in a clinic on the islands for the past two years.

He said he had always been intensely interested in the west, “The account of the Lewis and Clark expedition is one of the most fascinating stories I have ever read,” he declared.

Several years ago he spent a few months working on a ranch at Raynesford.

Just four years ago, he decided to go into photography. “It is a beautiful way to record the wild places.”

Seeters hails from Dallas, Tex. He got his degree in history and geology, and had decided to go out and see a bit of the world before settling into a job. He, too, has always been interested in the old west, and wants to pursue a writing career.

Both men were becoming dissatisfied with life in the islands.

“It is nice but after a time, one begins to get the feeling of being fenced in,” Newman explained.

So, over a pitcher of beer in a small bar in Honolulu, the idea for the search for the elusive buffalo was born. Newman had seen a few buffalo during his stay in Montana. Seeters had never viewed one of the massive animals – except in a zoo.

They returned to the states and settled for a time in Tucson, Ariz., where they studied everything they could find about the buffalo and sent out letters to all places that still had buffalo herds. After compiling all information and laying out plans for their “expedition,” they sent a query to National Geographic, asking if the magazine would be interested in an article on the buffalo.

Editors of the magazine replied and said they would like to see slides and the story for possible future publication. Newman said they had also received friendly replies from all rangers they had contacted about the project.

With this encouragement, the two left Arizona in November on the “search for the elusive buffalo.” Their first stop was in Hayden Valley in Yellowstone Park.

“The first snowfall of the season came while we were camped out there – and we woke up one morning to discover they had closed that end of the park while we were sleeping. We were the last car out for 1976,” Newman said. By this time he had managed to take dozens of pictures – one exceptional shot of a “line of buffalo stampeding through the snow.”

They headed for the north entrance of the park and spent some time in Lamar Valley, where they camped on the trail of one herd numbering 48 head and another of 68 animals. “There was also a large herd of 150 elk following behind the buffalo.”

Caution was the password for the two wary hunters approaching the massive animals. “Some of the old lone bulls seemed curious, but they never bothered us,” Seeters said.

Leaving Yellowstone, they came to Missoula where they stayed with friends while exploring and recording the herd on the Bison Range and other small private herds in the vicinity. They spent a couple days with Ernie Craft on the Bison Range. “He was most accommodating, and took us all over those hills in his four-wheel drive. Otherwise, we never would have made it,” Newman declared.

The men spent an interesting day with Pat Burn, rancher from Clinton, who raises “beefalo,” a cross between cattle and buffalo. “that process is a unique story in itself,” Seeters declared. He

plans to do more research on the project and write an article in the future. The fellows also spent time with Bob Schall in Arlee, who has a private herd.

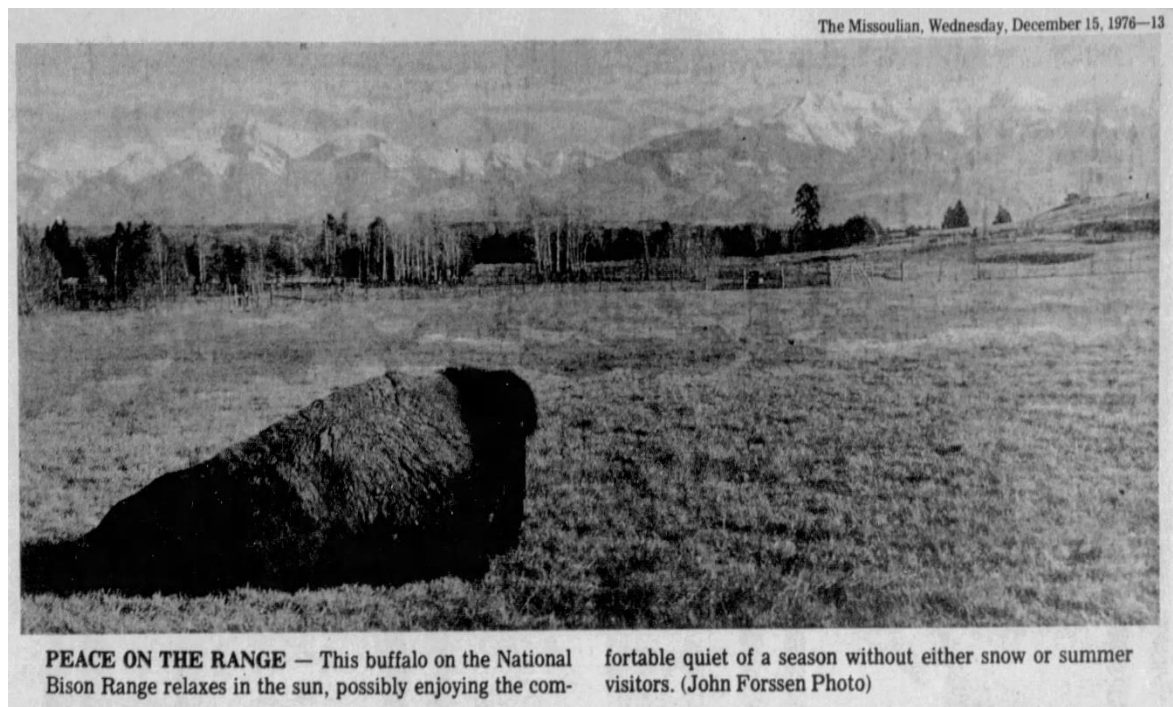
From Missoula, they were headed for the Teddy Roosevelt National Park in North Dakota where there is a herd of 200 animals, and Custer State Park in South Dakota to study the largest, wild, herd in the United States which numbers 1,500.

If time permits, they would like to study the main herd on the North American Continent. These animals roam the mountains at Wood Buffalo National Park in Alberta, Canada, in a herd reported to include 10,000 massive beasts.

They had planned to stop in Helena to view "Big Medicine" at the museum. One of their greatest desires is to discover a live white buffalo. Newman said the last one was reportedly seen near Chitina, Alaska, in 1973.

The young men will return to their homes for the holidays where film will be processed, photos selected and the story written and submitted to the National Geographic.

Even if they don't hit the bigtime with the first article, they said they'll never forget the adventure they encountered nor the friends they have made on the search for the elusive buffalo." December 7, 1976 The Missoulian



December 15, 1976 The Missoulian

SUNDAY IN WESTERN MONTANA



THE ELROD PAPERS — Dr. Dale Johnson, UM archivist, sits at his desk where he is processing the papers of the late Morton J. Elrod, botany professor at the university. Elrod — for whom a campus dormitory and a school at Kalispell are named — began Yellow Bay Research Station and was instrumental in establishing Glacier National Park and Moose-Bison Range, Johnson said. Dr. Elrod published his researches extensively, including an article in *The Missoulian*, hidden amid the papers on Johnson's desk, called "Raising the Level of the Human Race."

THE ARCHIVISTS

Climbing the forty-six steps to Level 5 is a daily business. A cold winter wind whistles outside. In the glow of the stairwell lights the familiar smell of wet cement. The skeleton of unfinished 2nd framing haves its teeth at the treacherous value.

But above, through a door peeped with the small sign "Archives, Dale Johnson," the value discovers a cocoon of warmth and bustle nestled within the cold, unfinished perimeter of the University of Montana library.

Here, in temporary quarters, the University archives are lodged. Thousands of boxes within a plasterboard box walled off from the larger library structure without. Money to finish the interior of Level 5, really three stories above ground level, and Level below, has never been appropriated. An application for a federal grant that would have helped start the process was turned down a few weeks ago.

But the temporary quarters are a giant step forward from a few years back. At first the archives — what there were of them — were stored in cubbyholes across the breadth of the campus.

But in western Montana a good place to store all of these documents? Archivist Dale Johnson, a tallish, bespectacled man in his mid-thirties, was asked about it.

"Montana has a pretty good climate for preserving things," he said, guiding a visitor through the archives on a recent tour. "Not too hot, not too dry. There's some humidity. A hot, dry climate will dry out the paper."

The paper — 5,000 cubic feet of it stored in the after-life after life of special, expensive, acid-free, known folders — may not have dried out, but the old ledgers, bills, receipts and bank balances, often make dry reading.

Here can be found the yellowing general ledger of the long-defunct Warden & Co. general store, with documents dating from the early days of Missoula history. Here repose the letters and records of an 18th century Indian trader clerk by law with recent political correspondence of Montana's most famous senator, Mike Mansfield.

Like a memorial urn within a mausoleum, here is found the final resting place of a Morter Board Trophy, which traveled from outstanding student to outstanding student through the years 1933-53, according to the inscription on its base. "It ran out of gas to travel, so they sent it up here," says Johnson, carefully placing the retired trophy for academic excellence back on a shelf.

Johnson, UM's first archivist, and the history department was instrumental in beginning the archives in 1968. He first became interested in "archives" as a profession while researching for his doctoral dissertation on prominent early Missoula businessmen, banker and lumber baron Andrew Hammond, co-founder of the Missoula Mercantile and the Anaconda Lumber Products mill at Butte.

After Johnson was graduated from UM with a doctorate in history, he traveled to the University of Washington Archives for special training, aided by a grant from the Missoula Friends of the Library. He received further training at the Wisconsin Historical Society in Madison before returning to Missoula to begin his professional career as UM's first official archivist in 1968.

Joining the faculty as an instructor, he is now an assistant professor, and teaches an archival course with Dr. E. Ross Tiedt and Dr. William Part of the UM History Department.

Are all these papers of any value, Johnson was asked.

It depends, it seems, on what one means by value. "We didn't have to put for any of this," he said, surveying stack after stack, box piled upon box of documents, photographs and memorabilia, many of which have never been opened since their arrival. The material is all donated — and "we appreciate getting it and are always searching out more," he said.

And obviously, he said, pointing to a painting by prominent western artist Ace Powell that was donated by Sen. Mansfield, some of the items have a monetary value. But the primary purpose of the collections will be eventual research and understanding of the history of Montana.

Who can tell what will be important to scholars 50 years from now? Already, some of the nearly 20,000 photographs in the collection owned by UM anthropology undergraduate Michael Douglas have been used by community groups examining the history of their communities.

"The archives are open to the public, and the public is welcome to use us as a resource," said Johnson.

Someday, perhaps, these stacks and stacks of documents and memorabilia will supply the original sources for a historian or biographer. Indeed, one historian, Ph.D. candidate Don Spitzer, is hard at work in the research room on a biography of Sen. James A. Murray.

What about working in this "very tower" seemingly so far apart from the cares of the rest of the world and even the rest of the campus, Johnson was asked. He settled into his chair before his desk in the cluttered processing room where most of his work is done. But there's a touch of mysticism, of boredom, in his profession, perhaps the uncomfortable feeling of presiding over a gigantic white-elf-said tale in which all the elephants are running loose?

"It goes pretty slow," Johnson admitted, looking over a two-foot stack of documents on his desk. "But I do get out," he said. "I get out and around, talking to people about collections."

Sometimes, he added there's always the reward of an unexpected find while poring through the files and personal papers of many who are long dead and long forgotten, as well as those still alive and famous.

Last year, for example, Johnson said, "one of my assistants discovered \$500 in cash in an unclassified envelope. The bills were \$100, \$20, and a \$10 and a \$50. It was quite a surprise."

He explained that the envelope was found in the papers of a Missoula Brewing Co. of years ago. "The money was returned to the lady who had donated the materials to the archive, and she, in turn, made a 'liberal donation' to the library and the fellow who found it," Johnson said.

What was the money really doing in the envelope? Nobody really knows. But the unexpected is a commonplace in this repository of the past and present that awaits the curiosity of scholars in the future.



BACK IN THE STACKS — The UM archives house more than 5,000 cubic feet of paper stacked on 6,615 square feet of floor space. Shown here is part of the processed Mike Mans-

field collection of documents — this is one of four similar aisles in the Mansfield collection. Some of the Mansfield collection is still in boxes, waiting to be indexed.

Story by John Strommes Photos by Randy Rasmussen

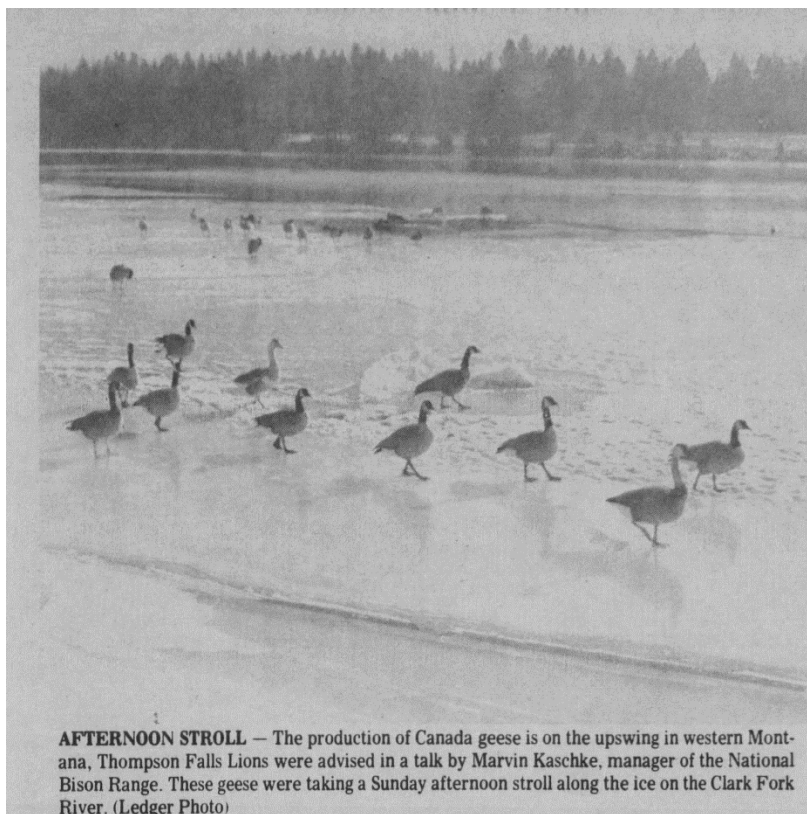


MANSFIELD MEMORABILIA — Some of the artifacts in the collection donated by Sen. Mike Mansfield are housed in a special corner of the research room in the University of Montana archives. Prominent here is a desk given to the

senator by Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos in 1966. It was in use until recently in the administrative offices of Main Hall.



WHERE TO BEGIN? — Shown are some of the unprocessed documents and artifacts at the UM Archives. At archivist Dr. Dale Johnson's feet is a box containing western riding equipment in the Mansfield collection. The senator received it as a gift from the government of Mexico.



AFTERNOON STROLL — The production of Canada geese is on the upswing in western Montana, Thompson Falls Lions were advised in a talk by Marvin Kaschke, manager of the National Bison Range. These geese were taking a Sunday afternoon stroll along the ice on the Clark Fork River. (Ledger Photo)

February 16, 1977 The Missoulian

“Goslings on the Upswing, Says Bison Range Manager by K.A. Eggensperger Missoulian Correspondent

Thompson Falls — Thompson Falls Lions Club members voted in the first week of February to purchase a heart monitor for the Thompson Falls Ambulance Service and heard an illustrated talk by Marvin Kaschke, manager of the National Bison Range at Moiese, on “Management of Canada Geese.”

Kaschke said a high percentage of geese killed are from the current year’s production. He labeled the Canada goose as the “elk of bird hunting — a real thrill to bag one.”

While production of goslings declined beginning about 1960, he said production has increased the past two or three years. Quite a number of birds stay in western Montana all winter, Kaschke said. About 1,000 geese spend the winter ere normally, unless severe storms or weather drives them south. Northern-based birds don’t appear to be coming into the area much.

“We find more and more, from bands returned by hunters, that most of the birds harvested are a part f the Flathead flock,” Kaschke said.

He said that of the 38 birds banded in 1975 at Thompson Falls, three bands were returned. One goose was killed along the Clark Fork River near Thompson Falls and two others were killed at Ninepipe Reservoir. Only five birds were banded last year and no bands have been returned yet.

“We would like to band about 30 to 40 birds each June here, but I am not sure we’re smart enough to catch these wise birds,” Kaschke said.

At Noxon, the Fish and Wildlife Service banded 36 geese last June, but no bands have been returned yet.

The average life for a Canada goose is eight to 10 years, but hunting lessens the life span to five to six years, Kaschke said.

The birds start nesting around March 1 and hatch their young from mid-April to mid-May. The females lay about five eggs with three or four birds hatching. Geese are adaptable to man-made nests built in trees or on four poles. Nests, Kaschke said, should be about 30x30 inches.

Pets such as dogs and cats are a problem when the geese nest and raise their goslings around residential areas such as Flathead Lake or Thompson Falls. In the Flathead Lake area, the islands are the most popular nesting areas, although the brooding areas are along the shores of the lake near summer homes.

“Fortunately the geese will adapt to civilization,” Kaschke said.

The geese are banded in June after the adults molt and are unable to fly, and before the young geese are able to fly. Birds which are caught are examined for sex and have an aluminum band placed around a leg.

Kaschke asked that any person who kills a banded goose to the band to an employee of the Montana Department of Fish and Game, Montana Fish and Wildlife Service, or send the band to Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. A card will be sent to the finder giving the history of the goose.

In addition to the banding program, blood samples are being taken to determine whether birds killed are local or foreign.

Kaschke explained the aim of the goose management program is to have a good migration of geese return to the area in the spring to produce more offspring.

Adult birds mate or life, but do not produce offspring until they are 3 or 4 years old. If a mate is lost, birds will remate.

Kaschke said that there are a variety of sizes of Canada geese with 60 subspecies. In this area three different species are found: small and medium which weigh from 10 to 12 pounds, and maximum with a pronounced white eyebrow which weighs up to 15 pounds. He said birds of the maximum species primarily are found in eastern Montana.

He predicted that with time and money, geese production can be increased.

He expressed hope that within the next year or two, Fish and Wildlife Service personnel from the National Bison Range can work with volunteers in this area build nests on islands in the Clark Fork to increase production of goslings locally.” February 16, 1977 The Missoulian

“Stone Structures Remain Mystery As They Stand Watch Over Dixon by Richard Eggbert Missoulian Correspondent

Dixon – About 1,000 feet above the town of Dixon on the “D” hill looming above the big turn on the Flathead River, somebody built a number of stone structures. Who built them and why has long been a mystery.

The largest structure is a circle some eight feet in diameter with stone masonry walls about three feet high. There is considerable stone rubble both inside and outside the circle which would indicate the walls were at one time much higher.

Four Other Structures

Around the main circle on the arid and windy summit are four other structures which could be merely fire pits except for their proximity to the mysterious circle.

Theories of how the circle and adjacent structures got there from the prosaic to the poetic to the fantastic.

Among the most fantastic notions is the speculation that the stones represent a form of primitive calendar similar to Stonehenge in southern England. The calendar works too, if you make the proper assumptions.

It has been calculated that if you stand in the middle of the circle on the morning of June 21, the sun will rise over the peak of Mt. McDonald, the highest summit in the Mission Mountains. Compass readings also indicate that if you were to stand in the middle of the circle on Dec. 22, you would see the sun creep over Lost Sheep Mountain, the highest peak in the National Bison Range to the east. Other major astronomical events also correspond to bearings from the circle to other major peaks in the surrounding hills which lead some people to believe that an ancient people once used the “D” hill to read the year.

Objections to this theory include the lack of evidence that any occupants of the area needed a precise calendar. Calendars are needed primarily for agriculture or horticulture and the only crop cultivated by ancient natives was the perennial Indian tobacco. However, the people who built Stonehenge were not known as an agricultural people but evidence that the immense stone structure was used as a calendar has been hypothesized.

Vision Quest?

A more down-to-earth but poetic explanation for the circles is the speculation they were used for vision quests. There are many similar structures around the Flathead Reservation which old-timers insist were places where young people went to fast and find their protective animal and adult name.

Credence to this theory is offered by the map name for “D” hill which is Communion Butte.

Other old-timers, such as Don Silverthorn of Dixon, insist that established sites were not necessary for name-seeking. Silverthorn maintains that young name-seekers would just wander into the hills to find their own place and their own name.

Silverthorn, and many others, feel the structures were part of a sentinel post. He points out that the view from up there includes almost the entire Mission Valley north to the Swan Range above Flathead Lake. You can also see west along the Flathead River nearly as far as Perma and east up the Jocko River to Ravalli. Silverthorn speculates that sentinels could see the approach of smoke or dust for scores of miles and could relay warnings by smoke from the fire pits.

Silverthorn’s hypothesis is given weight by the naming and story of an adjacent hill south of Dixon. This is called “Battle Mountain” and here the native Pend Oreille Indians are said to have scored a great victory against a raiding party of southern enemies.

Perhaps a Shelter for Surveyors

The most prosaic answer to the mystery of the circle states that it was merely a shelter for surveyors. This theory holds that “D” hill, because of its unobstructed view of most of the landmarks in the reservation, was a key witness point for mapping the area. Proponents of this explanation say that a surveying team would have to spend days there exposed to the sharp wind while they drew bearings on the surrounding landscape, thus the large circular windbreaker.

There are no doubt other explanations for this strange rock work on top of “D” hill and, until conclusive evidence is found the circle’s function will remain a mystery.” [I wonder if the Pend Oreille outlaws Pierre Paul and La-la-see hid up in in the late 1880s when they were running from the law? Chalk]

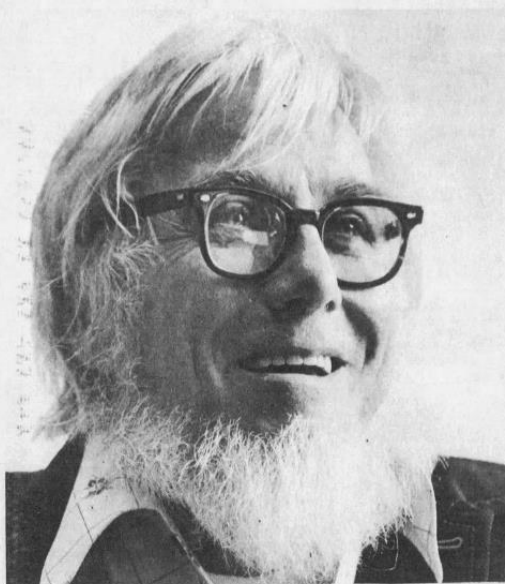


WHO BUILT THESE STONE STRUCTURES?
— No one knows conclusively who built the mysterious stone structures on "D" hill, 1,000 feet above Dixon. (Richard Eggert Photos)

March 2, 1977 The Missoulian

12—The Missoulian, Wednesday, May 25, 1977

Changing Your Mind About These 70-Year-Old-Ladies...



Marty Knowlton

By JOHN STROMNES
Missoulian Staff Writer
Courses in auto mechanics, roadside geology, genealogy and yoga are among those that will be offered to retirement-age persons from the Northwest who choose to attend an innovative program at the University of Montana June 19-July 1.

Called Elderhostel and patterned after similar programs on the East Coast, the UM program probably will become the nucleus of a western group of Elderhostels in future years, said national Elderhostel director Marty Knowlton.

"Elderhostel will change your mind about where these 70-year-old ladies are at," said the 60-year-old Knowlton, a former college administrator who quit his job five years ago to "knock about" Europe with a pack on his back.

When he returned he got the idea of starting Elderhostels to try to draw older citizens back into the excitement of liberal arts education — of "learning not for credit, or for a degree, or for grades or a job, but learning for its own sake," Knowlton said Tuesday in an interview.

His idea has worked so well that Elderhostels have sprouted on more than 60 college campuses across the nation since the first ones were held at five New Hampshire colleges in 1975. UM's program is the first

in the western United States.

"Participants discover intense mental stimulation," Knowlton said. "They rediscover themselves in terms they may have never known before. They discover they are not used-up people."

No intellectual gruel is offered in the Elderhostel programs, Knowlton emphasized.

"You've got to make them college-level courses with an intellectual content at least equal to regular college courses," Knowlton said. "Under no circumstances may you teach a course designed for the elderly. No 'coping' courses. Absolutely not. Those are abominations."

Knowlton said that under the sponsorship of the Center for Continuing Education and Summer Programs, the UM Elderhostel "has come up with some pretty inventive stuff."

Course offerings in the two one-week sessions include Roadside Geology, Astronomy, Genealogy, Western Film, Poetry and Creative Writing, Yoga, Oral History, Law for the Lay Person and Auto Mechanics.

Field trips during the weekend between the two sessions are scheduled to the National Bison Range and the ghost towns of Garnet and Granite.

The UM program is coordinated by Tim Welsh. Welsh said UM's affiliation with the Elderhostel network will give Mon-

tanans access to other programs across the country in future years.

"Thousands of older Americans are combining their vacation with participation in Elderhostels at university campuses throughout the United States," Welsh said.

UM anticipates enrollees this summer from other parts of the country and has already received inquiries from New England and Arizona.

But the main thrust of the program, Knowlton stressed, is toward the elderly person who doesn't have the means to travel extensively.

Not only do older people learn to rediscover their intellectual curiosity and desire for learning, but the professors and the sponsoring colleges benefit, too.

"Indirectly the profits to the institutions are immense," said Knowlton, citing the advantages to the institutions in rediscovering the importance of teaching nonspecialized, liberal arts courses for people who are enrolled for the love of learning.

"When the students bring 70 years of life experience along with them to class, it's exciting to a professor," he said.

The courses and activities for UM's Elderhostel were planned with the assistance of several Missoula organizations, including the Retired Senior Volun-

teer Program, the Retired Teamsters Club and local chapters of the American Association of Retired Persons, the National Retired Teachers Association and the Retired Rail-roads Association.

"They told us, 'No more Psychology of Aging, no more Death and Dying,'" said Welsh.

Participants this year will be limited to 60 and registration will continue right up to the beginning of classes on June 19.

Older persons (registrants or their spouses must be at least 60) can enroll for one or two weeks. All campus cultural events, recreational opportunities and UM services including the UM dispensary will be available to participants.

Cost for those who choose to live on campus in dormitories is \$65 a week, including three meals a day. Cost for participants who choose to live off campus is \$15 a week. Transportation to all Elderhostel activities, including field trips and on-site visits to the Blue Mountain telescope, will be covered by the registration fee.

Course descriptions, registration forms and other information are available from the Center for Continuing Education, Main Hall 107, University of Montana, Missoula, Mont., 59801, or may be requested by calling Welsh at 243-2960.

May 25, 1977 The Missoulian

“Bison Range Official Moves to Oregon by Mel Ruder, Hungry Horse News

Moiese – Marvin Kaschke, who has managed the National Bison Range for the past 8 1/2 years, has been promoted by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to Lakeview, Ore., effective June 19.

Kaschke will manage three refuges: Sheldon in northern Nevada with 580,000 acres; Hart Mountain in Oregon with 80,000, and the Modoc Waterfowl Refuge in northern California with 20,000. The Oregon and Nevada refuges are major home for antelope.

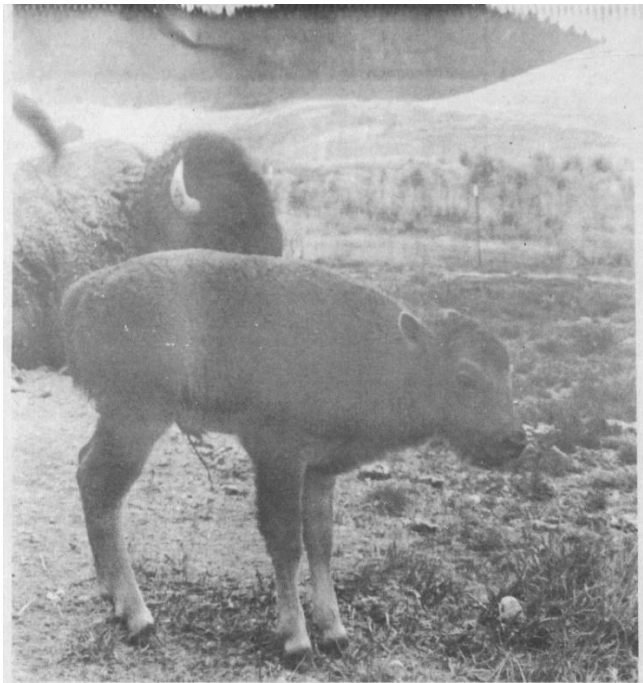
Kaschke is a 1960 Utah State University graduate, who came here from Lewistown where he was range management specialist for the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge.

Mrs. Kaschke is the former Janet Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Davis, Columbia Falls. They have three children.

Succeeding Kaschke at Moiese will be Bob Brown from regional U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Denver office.” May 25, 1977 The Missoulian

[The Kaschke's eventually moved back to the Flathead Reservation and settled in Polson. Marv's wife, Janet, passed away on May 29, 2013 at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center and was buried in the Lakeview Cemetery in Polson.]



The end of buffalo calving for 1977 is fast approaching. At the National Bison Range at Moiese, this calf's mother, which was out of camera range, grunted and pawed the earth as a warning to visitors who came too close. (Ledger photo)

June 1, 1977 The Missoulian



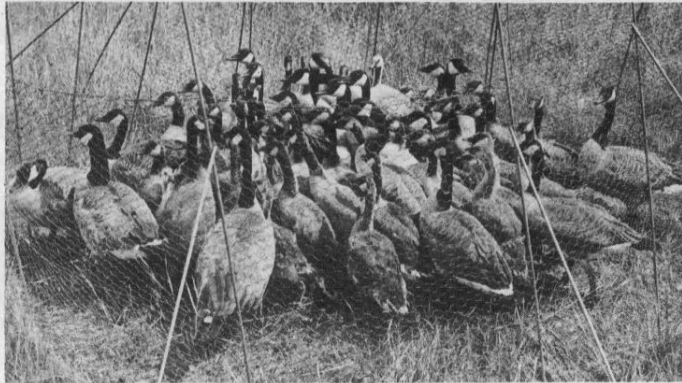
June 1, 1977 The Missoulian

Bob Brown replaces Marvin Kaschke as manager of the National Bison Range after June 19, 1977.

Students Go on Wild Goose Chase

Story and Photos
By John A. Forssen

The geese are captured in a large V-shaped trap. The banding operation is conducted while the birds are molting and unable to fly.



By JOHN A. FORSSEN

Missoulian Correspondent

BIG ARM — Missoula County High School students are lending a big hand in a cooperative waterfowl management project.

Summer school students studying forestry and the environment are helping the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Montana Fish and Game Department band Canadian geese.

Milt Hederlie of the federal agency and Jim Cross of the state department say the Hellgate and Sentinel students are a big help because the departments are short of manpower.

SINCE LAST WEEK, the students have set traps for the big honkers at several points on Flathead Lake, at Smith Lake and Thompson Falls.

The kids seem to enjoy it, despite the fact they are rousted out of bed at 5 a.m. and work until well past supper time. They learn about their environment and also decide whether or not they will pursue careers in the field.

The geese do not appreciate the operation, even though it is harmless and is done for their own good. The idea is to find out where geese live, where they migrate and where hunters kill them.

DATA BEING GATHERED seem to substantiate a new theory that the Pacific Northwest supports a population of about 50,000 geese that do not follow the regular Canada-to-

Mexico migration route.

If this is true, it is important news to wildlife managers, since the flock could be increased to the 100,000 birds the area could support.

The geese must be captured while they are molting and cannot fly. A large V-shaped trap of plastic-coated wire mesh is built. The trap starts in the water and is terminated on the land.

IF THE GEESE ARE ON LAND, they are herded into the water. Five or six workers in outboard-powered boats slowly herd the geese toward the shore where the trap is located. If all goes well, the geese head toward the narrow opening at the point of the V.

When the birds are inside, the opening is closed and aluminum bands are clamped on the legs of the birds. After this, the geese are free to run back to the water, cursing loudly in goose language.

There are usually one or two geese which have not finished molting and escape by air. If things go badly, you might catch one or two out of the 60 or 70 you started after.

ON ONE OCCASION, a spray plane scared the geese and they stampeded past the herders. Another time, a curious bull disrupted the operation. One goose, with barely enough flight feather left to become airborne, tried to escape. A few inches in the air, one more feather came loose and he crashed.

The Canadian geese do not appreciate the banding process, which will help gather data on where they live, where they migrate and where hunters kill them. Above, Kent Haderlie, son of Milt Haderlie, assistant manager of the National Bison Range, tries to soothe a bewildered goose. At right, Gary Hegedorn of the bird refuge staff at the National Bison Range captures goose for banding.



June 29, 1977 The Missoulian

“Bison Range Tour Friday

The UM Campus Recreation Department will sponsor a car tour of the Bison Range at Moiese and of the Jocko Valley Friday. The cost will be \$2.50 a person for transportation expenses. Phone the CRD office, 243-2802, for more details.” July 3, 1977 The Missoulian

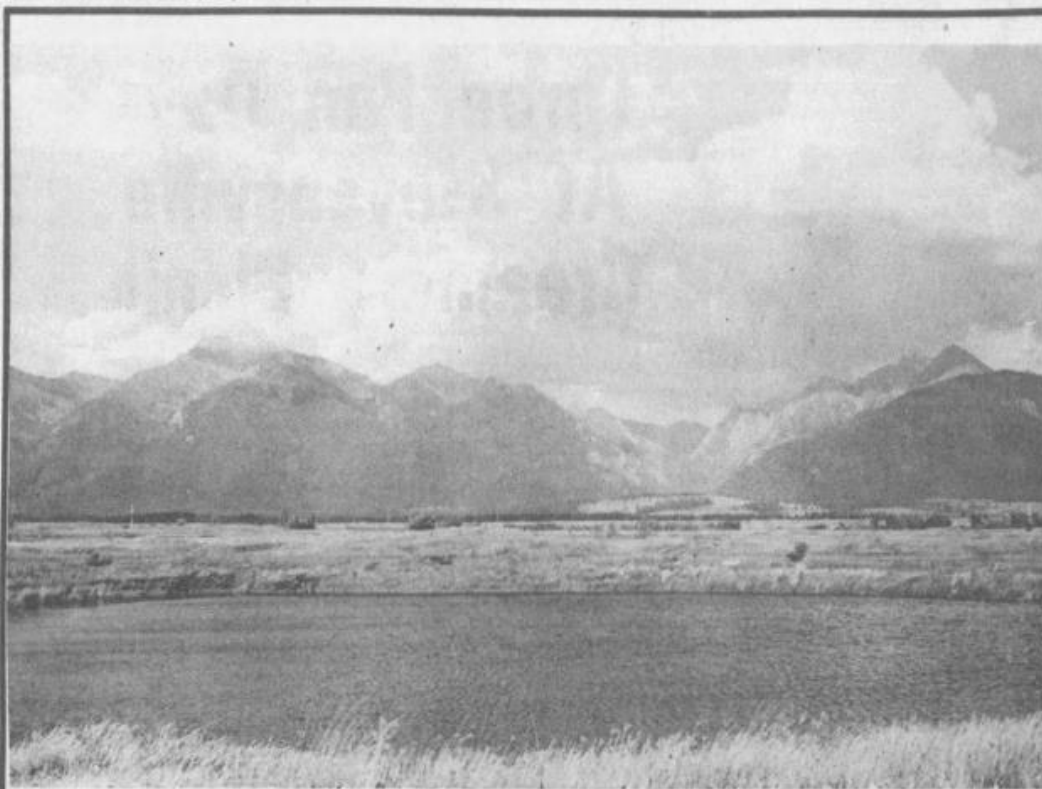
Western Montana News

“County Picnic Today at Bison Range

Moiese –The annual no-host Phillips County picnic will be held Sunday at the National Bison Range at Moiese.

The county picnic will begin at 11 a.m., and picnicians should bring their own utensils.” July 31, 1977 The Missoulian

12—The Missoulian, Wednesday, August 10, 1977



Scenic Sanctuary

The Mission Mountains form a scenic backdrop for the Ninepipe Reservoir and National Wildlife Refuge. The reservoir adjoins U.S. 93, midway between Ronan and St. Ignatius on the Flathead Indian Reservation. (Richard Egert Photo)

Tourists Overlook Ninepipe

By RICHARD EGGERT
Missoulian Correspondent

CHARLO — Every year hundreds of thousands of people drive past the Ninepipe National Wildlife Refuge, but only a few stop to take a look.

That is odd because, like the nearby National Bison Range and Glacier National Park, it is a federally operated sanctuary for wildlife. In some seasons, it concentrates considerably more wildlife in a smaller area than either area.



The refuge lies about midway between St. Ignatius and Ronan, bordering U.S. 93. It is operated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the administration of the National Bison Range. Adjacent state-owned lands are also operated as wildlife areas by the Montana Fish and Game Department.

The heart of the federal refuge is the Ninepipe Reservoir, which occupies much of the refuge's 2,022 acres. Although wildlife, mostly birds, have to share the reservoir's water with farmers (via the Flathead Irrigation Service), many of them find it a nice place to raise families or meet once or twice a year.

In fact, Ninepipe is kind of a convention center for many diverse orders. In the early spring as many as 100,000 waterfowl — ducks, geese and the like — can be seen strutting and splashing about, comparing notes and migration itineraries and enjoying the refuge's excellent cuisine. Many enjoy their stopover so much they decide to stick around, build a nest and raise a brood or two.

In late spring, the nesting waterfowl share the facilities with thousands of nesting shore birds and innumerable songbirds. For most of the summer the reservoir is like a giant nursery, as odd-feathered young swim among moulting adults and peck at the refuge's abundant food.

In the fall the big flocks of northern waterfowl begin to converge on Ninepipe. At times there have been virtually hundreds of thousands of proud migrating birds sharing the sanctuary.

About 187 species of birds are common at Ninepipe, and half of them nest there. An alert birdwatcher who wants to identify all of Ninepipe's birds will have his work cut out for him.

But anybody can appreciate the beauty and charm of a hundred songs and scores of vivid feathers.

There are many overnight facilities nearby, although Ninepipe is probably best enjoyed as a two-or three-hour stopover on a longer vacation trip. If you plan to walk around, long trousers are nice because there are thorny shrubs.

If you can, bring binoculars: it's the only way to get "close" to the wild birds.

You might also bring a fishing rod. Ninepipe's bass are considered among the best in the state. Flyrodders do well with hair bugs and poppers, spinners can catch a meal with rubber worms and bait casting plugs can bring jarring rises from shore-cruising bass in the evening. Boats are not allowed on the reservoir, so you will have to wade or fish from shore.

August 10, 1977 The Missoulian



Anthony DeCastro of Port Hueneme, Calif., solves an equation during UM math workshop.

Summer Math Beckons Students

By JOHN STROMNES
Missoulian Staff Writer

MULTIPLE CHOICE: Given the following choices, how would you spend your summer?

- (a) Hiking and camping.
- (b) Swimming and boating.
- (c) Solving advanced problems in finite geometry, probability theory and computer programming.
- (d) All of the above.

If you answered "d" you probably are one of the 34 high school students from across the nation who spent this summer enrolled in a noncredit National Science Foundation (NSF) intensive mathematics program on the University of Montana campus.

Recruited mostly from smaller schools in Montana like Dodson, Opheim, Grass Range and Glasgow, interested high school seniors also came from as far away as Florida, California, Illinois and Oregon to attend the six-week workshop in Missoula June 19-July 29.

No Bookworms

"When they first got here we thought they'd be a bunch of bookworms," laughed Cathy Weis, one of the two recreation aides and dormitory counselors who worked with the students after class. "We found out different in a hurry. They played more games than we bargained for."

The students, from widely different backgrounds but all with a common interest in mathematics, quickly became acquainted with each other and their instructors, including Johnny Lott, the 33-year-old UM math professor who organized the whole affair.

"I went to a similar NSF math program when I was in high school 18 years ago," said Lott in a soft, Tennessee drawl. The NSF program spurred his interest in mathematics and he now holds a Ph.D. in mathematics education from the University of Tennessee. "It's a great way to increase your math skills and have fun at the same time."

Rural Schools Represented

Lott recruited the students — 11 girls and 23 boys —



"More games than we bargained for..."

Counselor Cathy Weis

purposefully from smaller, rural schools, although some big-city schools were represented too. Tuition was \$410, with a limited number of grants-in-aid for students with financial need. Grants-in-aid and salaries for the five instructors used up most of the \$20,010 National Science Foundation grant that supported the program.

Selection was based on students' grades, letters of recommendation and scores on standardized tests. All of them received consistently high grades in high school math courses.

When they arrived on campus they faced a rigorous schedule of math classes from 8 a.m. until 3 in the afternoon, then hard, physical exercise the rest of the day to clear their minds for the next day's work.

On the weekends they went hiking in the mountains,

rafting down the Bitterroot River, and toured several scenic spots in western Montana, including the National Bison Range at Moiese and Flathead Lake.

The stiff competition and college-level academic work was difficult for many to adjust to, at first.

"In high school, they don't teach you how to think like they do here," said John Vasquez, a 16-year-old high school junior from Corpus Christi, Tex. He admitted that he "didn't think he could hack it" after a couple of weeks of classes.

Quite a Shock

For some, it was quite a shock suddenly to be thrown together with students of equal or better math skills, after having spent most of their high school careers near or at the top of their classes.

"You don't succeed as easily here as you do at home," said Dan Darocher, a 17-year-old senior from tiny Dodson High School in northern Montana. "Before, I could just breeze through class, zip, zip, zip. Here it's a lot more challenging."

The students could take classes in the following:

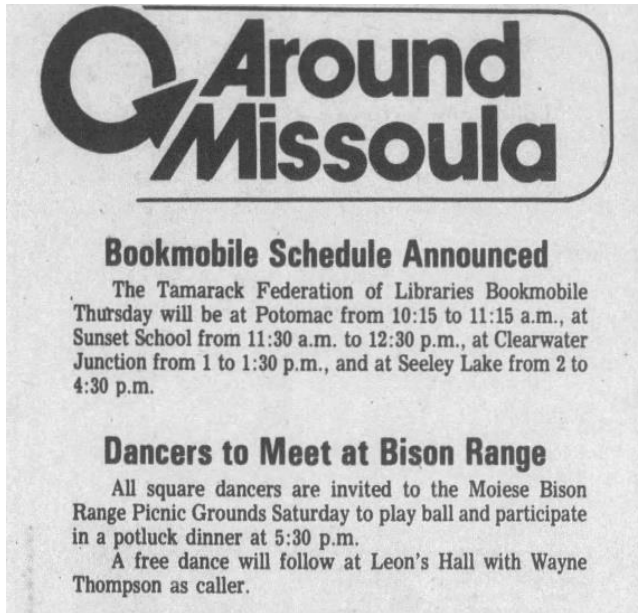
- Finite geometries, "including Fano's geometry, the Star-of-David geometry and the transformations of a finite Euclidean geometry," the program prospectus said.
- Probability, "from experimentation and intuition to an informal development of the mathematics of probability," the prospectus said. The students said they received an introduction to the shooting craps, as well. "The odds are against making your point," one experimenter told The Missoulian.

• Problem solving, or "how a solution can be discovered" in mathematical problems.

- Computer instruction, history and programming.
- Calculator instruction, using programmable calculators.

"It's like trying to take a drink of water from a fire hose," said one of the students. "Staying here for six weeks makes you grow up fast."

August 11, 1977 The Missoulian



August 18, 1977 The Missoulian

“Buffaloes For Sale

Moiese – Want to buy a buffalo?

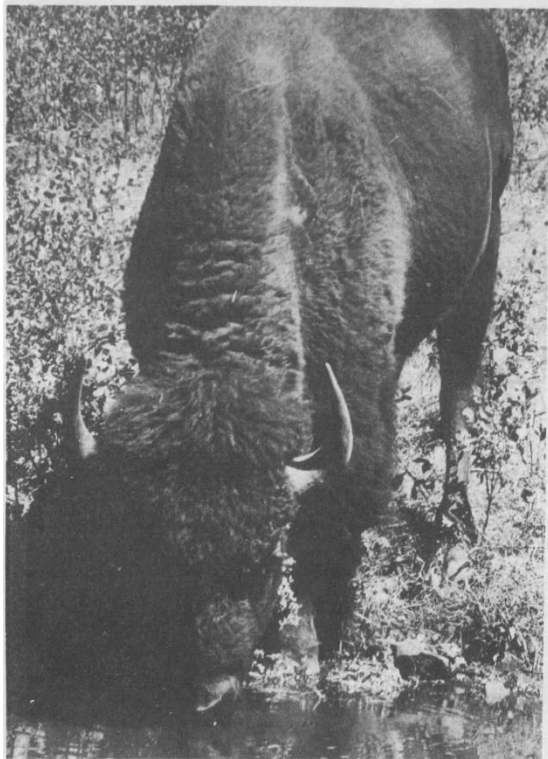
The National Bison Range at Moiese is offering 73 live American bison for sale by sealed, competitive bids to be opened Sept. 7 at 11 a.m.

No bids for less than \$250 per animal will be considered.

Forty bulls ranging from long yearling to mature bulls 10 years or older will be offered in eight different groups. Twenty-two cows and 11 long yearling heifers also will be sold

Bids may be submitted for individual animals.

Additional information on the sale may be obtained by calling the National Bison Range at 644-254.” August 21, 1977 The Missoulian

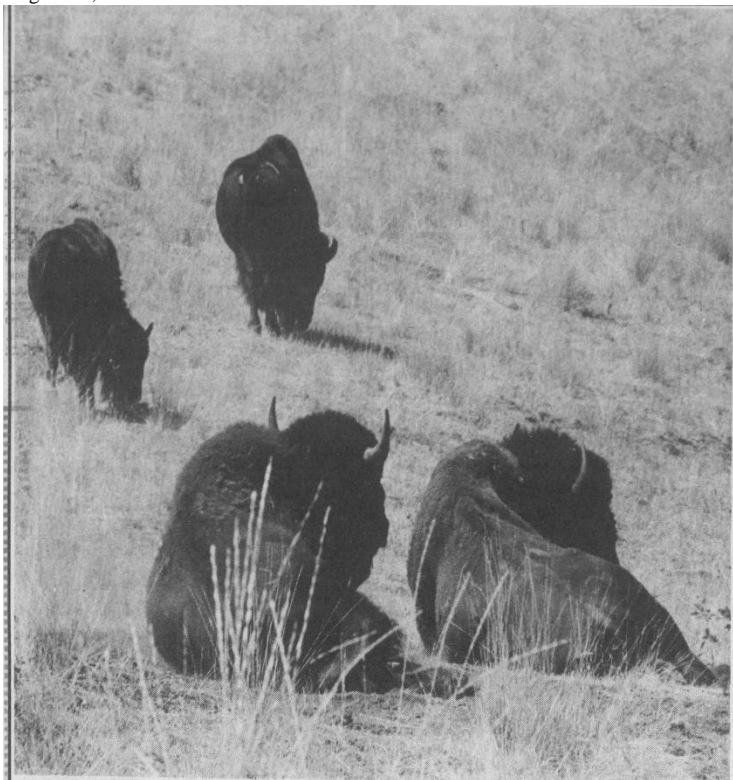


Bison Range Visit



The National Bison Range at Moiese is home to buffalo, antelope and Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep. (Stoney Burk Photos)

August 22, 1977 The Missoulian



Buffalo relax and graze on the National Bison Range at Moiese. (Stoney Burk Photo)



Look Around You

Tour Circles Bison Range

EUREKA — Animals seem to hold a special attraction for children and adults of all ages. There is a place within 50 miles of Missoula where everyone can enjoy the fascinating habits of buffalo, elk, deer, antelope, bighorn sheep, and many other animals in their natural habitat.

It's free of charge, and it gives you an opportunity to watch these animals in their natural habitat rather than in cages.

The National Bison Range at Moiese, just 48 miles north of Missoula and 30 miles south of Flathead Lake, offers one of the few remaining refuges for wildlife within easy reach of the more heavily populated areas of western Montana. The bison range falls under the management of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

How to Get There

The range can be reached from the south by turning off Montana Highway 200 about a mile east of Dixon and driving five miles north on Highway 212 to the main entrance at Moiese. Travelers from the north should turn off U.S. 93 at the junction with Highway 212 about five miles south of Ronan.

Information available at bison range headquarters tells of 187 birds and 40 mammal species which have been seen on the range. A self-guided tour over a well-maintained road takes you from the office through the heart of the 18,541-acre refuge.

Buffalo Rolling in the Dust

On one recent self-guided tour, more than 50 buffalo were seen along the road, grazing and rolling in the dust. A beautiful pronghorn antelope buck fed within 20 feet of the road, while many others were seen at greater distances. A herd of bighorn sheep was observed near the upper peak on the east facing slope of the range.

Range officials do warn visitors to stay in or close to their vehicles at all times because there are rattlesnakes on the range, and the buffalo can be unpredictable and dangerous.

In addition to the animals on the open range, the refuge has large penned areas where elk and bison can be easily observed.

The range includes a wide variety of habitat ranging from wet bottomlands to prairie-type grasslands to timbered mountains.

A Staff Ready to Help

Susan McCollum, receptionist at the main office, said bison range officials encourage schools to use the range for student-learning programs. Personnel on the range will assist teachers in setting up study areas and help them develop good learning programs. Botany, biology, ecology and wildlife can be studied on the range.

She said a public use specialist will join the staff this month.

Range officials hope to have a new visitor center by 1981 with displays, tapes, and pictures depicting the plants and wildlife on the refuge, according to McCollum.

Ten full-time employees work on the refuge, and two more will be added this month. There are some part-time employees currently working under the CETA and work study programs, also, she said.

Picnic tables and restroom facilities are available for visitors. It takes approximately one-and-one-half hours to drive the self-guided tour, but that can vary depending on how often and for how long you stop to observe the plants and animals.

Game animals generally are more active in the early morning and late evening, but you are sure to see animals of several species anytime you visit the refuge. The fall of the year is a good time to observe bull elk and buck deer with full antler development. By mid-September the bull elk should be bugling, which is a fascinating experience for most persons.

Visitors Hours, Special Tours

Antelope, deer, elk and buffalo often can be seen from U.S. 93 while climbing or descending Ravalli Hill between Ravalli and St. Ignatius. The land on the west side of the highway along the hill is part of the bison range.

The range is open to visitors for self-guiding tours June 1 through Sept. 30 from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. daily. Special guided tours also can be arranged by request. Correspondence about the refuge should be addressed to the refuge manager at the National Bison Range, Moiese, 59824.

September 14, 1977 The Missoulian

“Annual Buffalo Roundup begins With Bison Sale

Moiese (AP) — Thirty-three bidders have purchased 73 buffalo from the National Bison Range for an average price of \$632, the range clerk said Thursday.

The bidding is part of the annual buffalo roundup on the 18,400-acre range near Moiese.

The roundup itself is scheduled for Oct. 3-5.

The event is one of western Montana's major visitor attractions. The highlight comes the first day as government cowboys bring the herd together and drive the snorting animals at full run to steel corrals. Then the sale animals are culled and the others are treated by veterinarians before being turned loose for another year.

Each year, excess animals in all age classes are culled and put up for bids in an effort to keep the herd numbers compatible with range condition.

Some of the animals that are sold go to butcher blocks, while others are integrated into private herds or used to begin new herds.

There now are 400 buffalo on the range. Managers say they want to keep the herd at between 300 and 325 head.” September 23, 1977 The Missoulian

Buffalo Roundup Under Way



An angry bull leaps from a squeeze chute as he is released



The annual roundup at the National Bison Range at Moiese always attracts a crowd of spectators. The roundup, which began Monday and will go through Wednesday, will bring in about 400 buffalo. Seventy-three of them will be checked to be sure they're free of disease and sold. Animals rounded up also will be vaccinated and calves will be branded. (Sanders County Ledger Photos)



The roundup is directed by Babe May, foreman, and Bob Brown, new manager of the range, right. This photo was taken in a roundup in May.

October 5, 1977 The Missoulian

“Man Charged in Bison Range Rape

Polson – Gerald Keniston, 29, Hood River, Ore., is in custody in the Lake County jail, charged with sexually assaulting a 27-year-old Missoula woman on the National Bison Range at Moiese Sunday afternoon. Bond was set at \$50,000.

Lake County Attorney Richard Heinz said Keniston has been charged with sexual intercourse without consent with an alternative charge of aggravated assault. In addition, e is charged with assaulting a federal officer.

Officials said the woman stopped in a rest area at the Bison Range late Sunday afternoon and waited in her car while two children with her went into a nearby rest room. They said Keniston reportedly got into the car through an open door on the passenger side, held a 22. Caliber magnum pistol to the woman's head, he ordered her to drive down the road.

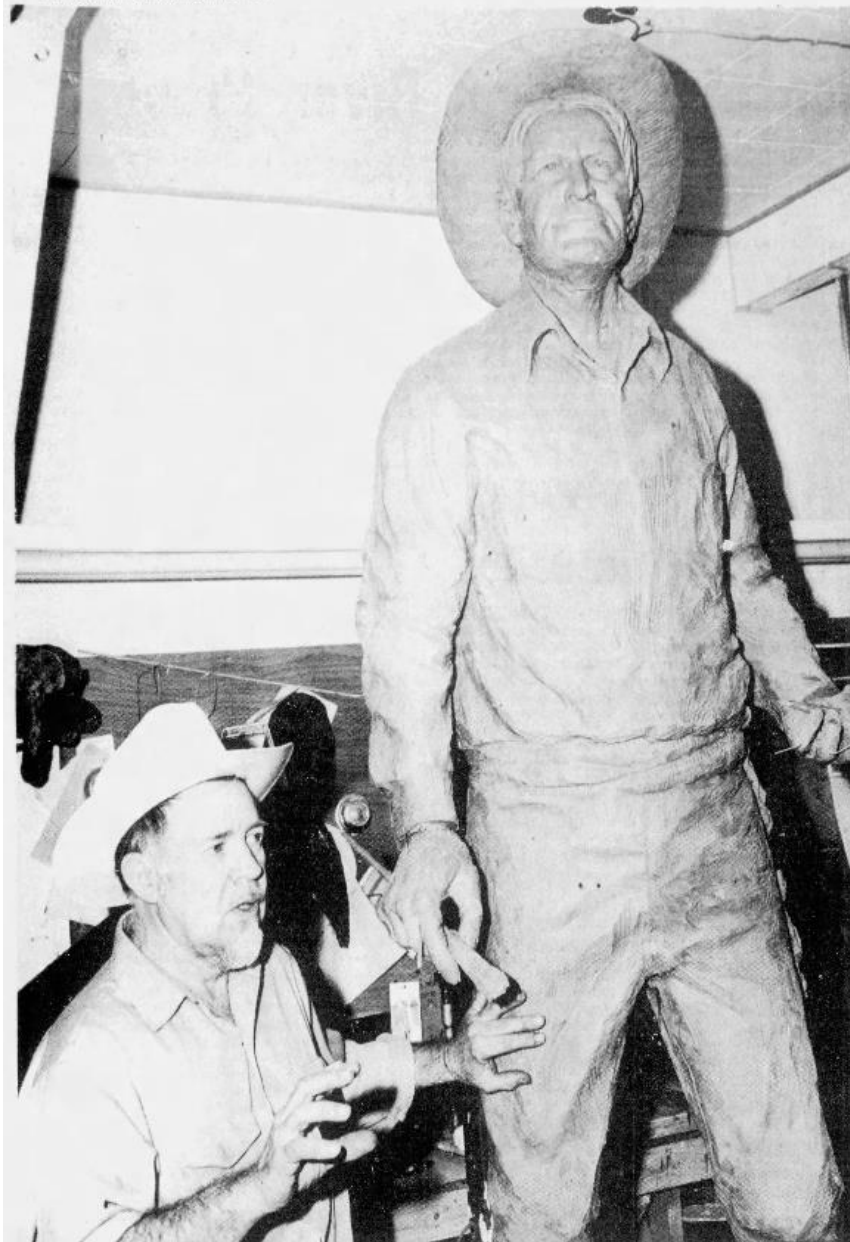
Officials said after he allegedly sexually assaulted the woman, he ordered her to drive back to his vehicle and then told her to drive away.

The woman stopped another car and the immediately went to Bison Range headquarters to report the incident. Officials closed the gates, and Keniston was stopped minutes later at the north entrance. A ranger armed with a shotgun ordered Keniston from the car and allegedly was struck in the face. Keniston reportedly grabbed the shotgun, but the ranger regained control by drawing his service revolver and jamming it not Keniston's stomach, officials said.

Keniston who was turned over to Lake County officials, was arraigned in justice court in Polson Monday and is scheduled to appear in district court next Monday.

The alleged assaults occurred on federal lands, and s United States attorney has been contacted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to determine whether jurisdiction in the case rests with state or with the federal government, Heinz said.

A public defender was appointed to represent Keniston.” November 1, 1977 The Missoulian



Sculptor Bob Scriver stands near a statue of Charlie Russell which he made. (Mel Ruder Photo)



Western Montana News

Artists in Montana

Bob Scriver Carves Large Sculptures

By JoANN SPEELMAN
Missoulian Flathead Bureau

BROWNING — Montana sculptor Bob Scriver will be awarded the William F. Cody Art Award Nov. 21 by the Old West Trail Foundation.

The foundation will give its awards in Cody, Wyo. Others to be honored are Walt Disney Productions for motion pictures, Gunsmoke for television, Malboro Cigarettes for advertising and the Sons of the Pioneers for music.

A Browning native who once taught music in high school, Scriver is one of the few sculptors who tackles the difficult task of carving large sculptures.

He was selected to make the models for the memorial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, unveiled and dedicated last year at Fort Benton.

The heroic-size pieces show Meriwether Lewis, William Clark and the Indian guide Sacajewea looking off across the broad scenery of the unexplored West.

The memorial was one of the outstanding contributions made by Montanans to the celebration of the Bicentennial of the United States.

Scriver started his career as a sculptor in 1960. He also does taxidermy work (he started in 1951) and gained statewide recognition in 1960 when he was selected to mount Big Medi-

cine, the white buffalo which died at the National Bison Range near Moiese.

The buffalo is in the Montana Historical Society Museum in Helena.

Scriver was honored several times by the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and won gold medals for two of his sculptures. He also produced a 33-piece rodeo series which shows every aspect of that sport.

Scriver is a prolific sculptor who carves many pieces each year.

For his sculptures, he draws on his knowledge of anatomy acquired during his practice of the taxidermy business.

A large collection of his work in sculpture and taxidermy is currently exhibited in a Browning museum.

Scriver said he plans to construct a museum complex in the Flathead Valley and move the collection from Browning to the new museum.

Its location would be a 10-acre parcel south of Kalispell along U.S. 93.

The project would be implemented "sometime in the future," the sculptor explained. The museum would contain art pieces, Indian artifacts and mounted wildlife.

For a while Scriver operated his own bronze foundry in Browning and cast his works.

Now his work is handled by Arrowhead Bronze in Kalispell.

Clarence Young

Clarence "Cy" Young, 75, 3715 Schilling St., died Saturday afternoon in a local hospital following a long illness.

He was born June 8, 1902, in Fletcher, N.C.

He moved to Jordan, Mont., in 1919, where he engaged in ranching until he entered the U. S. Army in 1923. After his discharge in 1926, he began working at the National Bison Range at Moiese where he was a range foreman. He retired in 1958.

He moved to Missoula in 1968, and resided here until his death.

On September 5, 1934, Mr. Young married Gladys Gillis in Minneapolis, Minn.

He is survived by his wife, Gladys, of Missoula; one son, Ronald Young, Metaline Falls, Wash.; one brother, Herbert Young, San Diego, Calif.; one sister, Bernice Lance, Fletcher, N. C.; three grandchildren, one niece and two nephews.

Rosary will be recited Monday at 7 p. m. in the Geraghty Funeral Home. Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated Tuesday at 10 a.m. in St. Anthony's Catholic Church. Father Michael Driscoll will conduct the services. Burial will be in St. Mary's Catholic Church Cemetery.

Pallbearers include Victor B. May, Grant Hogge, Ernest W Kraft, Forest L. Largent, Jack Lampshire and John Morigeau.

Memorials may be made in Mr. Young's name to the Heart Fund." April 17, 1978 The Missoulian

Insect Problems Expected to Persist In Region's Forests

Forest insect studies in northern Idaho and western Montana indicate that western spruce budworm defoliation will vary widely, pine butterfly infestations will increase this year, and ponderosa pine needle miner defoliation will be variable in the Missoula valley and on the Flathead Indian Reservation.

Ponderosa Pine Needle Miner

In June of 1977, heavy defoliation was detected on the Flathead Indian Reservation in western Montana. Aerial surveys last summer showed the needles of pine trees on approximately 10,000 acres were heavily mined; most of this acreage was on the Flathead reservation.

Recent studies of needles mined on the reservation indicate a reduction from the heavy defoliation last year. Defoliation is expected to be light this year in Agency, Ashley, and Mikes Creeks, north and east of Arlee, and around Mission Reservoir, and moderate in Stevens and McClure Creeks, west and east of Arlee, and along the Jocko River.

In the Missoula valley, defoliation is expected to be moderate in Roman Creek and heavy in Houle Creek.

Pine Butterfly

From 1969 to 1973, an epidemic of pine butterfly injured more than 40,000 acres of ponderosa pine in the Bitterroot valley and the Missoula area. Infestations occurred on the National Bison Range of western Montana in 1976 and light to heavy defoliation was detected on about 1,500 acres of ponderosa pine west of Big Arm on the Flathead Indian Reservation.


Egg mass samples taken around Missoula in the Lolo National Forest suggest defoliation in 1978 will be generally very light.

The only heavy damage expected in 1978 will be on the National Bison Range. The infestation may increase on the southern portion of the Flathead Indian Reservation.

Western Spruce Budworm

From 1948 to 1971, approximately 10 million acres have been infested for varying periods in northern Idaho and western Montana. Most outbreaks last three to 10 years. At least one infestation has persisted for 52 years.

Defoliation predictions for 1978 are for moderate to heavy in the Helena National Forest, moderate to heavy in the Bitterroot National Forest, heavy in the Gallatin National Forest, heavy in the Lewis and Clark National Forest, light to moderate on the Flathead Indian Reservation and light in the Beaverhead National Forest.



Steve Smith

A little of this and a little of that

Odds and ends abound in western Montana, and here's a week's worth of both.

Odd about good-byes

It's odd how you know you're going to miss some people, even before they're gone. Missoulian Executive Editor Ed Eriandson, who reported, wrote columns and backed up generations of staff writers while on the copy desk, is winding up a 42-year newspaper career as of today.

In a recent profile, and also at his retirement dinner, Ed's co-workers speculated about who will keep reporters honest and the paper's gaffe quotient at a minimum. I'm not too worried about that; those things tend to take care of themselves. What I wonder is where we're going to find as good and kind a newsroom friend as Ed has been. And how we're going to replace his special sense of humor. Sam Reynolds calls him a man of innate graciousness. I'll go with gentleman — a real gentleman.

So long, Ed, see you in Bigfork. And yes, I'll put two r's in occurred and two m's in accommodate, and I'll try to keep the North Side separate from the West Side. I'll even continue to support the Kiwanis pancake sale, even though you won't be here to sell me my ticket.

End of the books

Jud Moore of the Forest Service's information office in Missoula tells me that the folks there have been in the process of mailing out more than 1,000 sets of "Early Days in the Forest Service," a three-volume compilation of reminiscences of early-day Northern Region foresters that was described in this column several weeks ago.

Jud said people telephoned from Missoula, Libby, Kalispell, Thompson Falls, Darby and Hamilton requesting the books. And then came letters, including one from James L. C. Ford, Carbondale, Ill., one-time dean of the University of Montana School of Journalism.

"We're cleaned out completely," said Jud, "but we're trying to get some funds to print more."

I still think some Tinseltown producer who has his mind on something besides sex and sadism could adapt parts of the books into a pretty fair movie or television documentary.

Odd mistakes

Odd that experienced dispensers of ice cream such as the people at Higgins and Strand should make mistakes, but they do.

I was in line for my weekly overdose of cholesterol the other day when a tow-headed kid popped up to the window. He didn't say anything, so I gathered that he's a pretty familiar face around the premises.

"Sorry, no mistakes today," said a sweet young thing who dishes up treats.

The kid went on his way, but I stopped him, out of curiosity, luring him back with the prospect of a Buster Bar.

"What's a mistake?" I asked.

"Oh," he said, hesitating a little, as though he didn't want to divulge any valuable information. "Sometimes somebody'll order a banana split but the girl'll make a chocolate sundae or something by accident. They don't like to throw it out so they just put it in the freezer and save it."

"And if your timing's good you get the mistake for free, right?"

"Yeah."

I have five bucks that says that Mark Kester, 9, of Paxson School, whose timing at the ice cream window has been good several times this summer, will do okay in this life.

End of a problem, at least for now

There must have been a shake-up in the Writing Instruments Department of the Missoula post office. At least something happened at the Hellgate Station where for a long time the customer tables had only inkless ballpoint pens. I stopped in a few days ago to address and mail a let-

ter and there — attached to beaded chains, as I'm sure they have to be — were a half dozen or so new government-issue ballpoints. They worked, too. Many thanks to those responsible.

Odd about time and people

Odd how time never seems to touch some people. I wonder if part of the secret lies in going by your initials rather than by your given name. Anyway, a belated happy birthday and three cheers for Bitterroot Valley writer-poet-historian B.K. Monroe of Hamilton, a beautiful lady who is 90 years young as of last week. And three more cheers for educator-author-scholar H.G. Merriam of Missoula, 95.

End of the pot

Anybody who wants to can write a news release and mail it or bring it to the Missoulian. Whether the release sees the light of day and makes the morning edition is another matter, a matter usually decided by an editor.

Here's a news release, unedited, that arrived recently that won't be in the regular news columns. Sources tell me that it's on the up-and-up and that the woman mentioned in the lead is the author of the item:

"A Missoula woman has notified the Missoulian today that she was robbed over the weekend of 25-30 marijuana plants from her vegetable garden on a quiet, older neighborhood here in Missoula. The theft occurred sometime between 5:00 p.m. Saturday and 10:00 a.m. Sunday.

"Inflation has hit everywhere, and that includes the local marijuana market," the woman stated. "At \$40 to \$60 an ounce, I could no longer afford to buy marijuana. I hold down a full-time job, but I also have a family to support."

The pot, grown from Oaxaca seeds, was planted in late May and had just flowered the Friday before it was stolen.

"The unidentified woman did not notify local authorities. I would be the person prosecuted for a crime. I tend to question the laws of this land that punish a pot-smoker and yet allow thieves to roam our streets. Would you rather

be associating with a pot-smoker or a thief?"

"The marijuana was still green and growing when pulled from the garden. Value of the pot is unknown, but sources say it was 'dynamite' pot and that there was approximately one pound on the stalks."

Odd about TV news

Odd what local television news comes up with sometimes. President Carter went before a joint session of Congress recently to explain the Mideast summit events at Camp David. I'm told by colleague Larry Elkin that Missoula's KPAX-TV was having trouble picking up the ABC network feed on the story; the audio signal came through, but without the picture.

KPAX promptly put on a picture of the National Bison Range showing a herd of bison against a backdrop of the Mission Mountains....just as ABC's Frank Reynolds said, "You are looking at the chamber of the House of Representatives."

Maybe you can't roller skate in a buffalo herd, but I guess you can legislate in one.

End is near

Deane Jones, a man of class and color who a few years ago departed this newsroom after a long career as a reporter, editor and columnist, leaned toward me at Ed Eriandson's retirement dinner the other night. We had been talking about writing, and I had told Deanno, who had had some kind words for me, that sometimes the columns don't come easy.

"I always found that the ones I had to reach for for three hours weren't worth a damn," said the Bearded One, swirling his bourbon and water. "But if one was giving me an especially bad time, I'd just walk down to Eddie's Club for a minute or two and it'd come right away."

I don't think that the man from Keeping Up With the Jones ever had to reach for many columns.

September 29, 1978 The Missoulian

“Visitor center is planned for National Bison Range

Columbia – The addition of a visitor center at the National Bison Range at Moiese will provide a facility for interpretive programs and materials, a service not available to date at the site.

The Bison Range, administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, has been told by the Glacier Natural History Association that the association accepts to oversee acquisition and distribution of the interpretive information at Moiese.

Bob Brown, manager of the Bison Range, met with association directors last week at Columbia Falls to work on the arrangement – a private non-profit group must handle such tasks for national parks, recreation sites, and wildlife preserves.

The Glacier Natural History Association handles that work for Glacier Park. Its directors decided they were close enough to Moiese to handle the Bison Range also.

The new center will open in 1980, and the association will gather book, maps, leaflets and other interpretive material about the range and its wildlife.

Also at the meeting, the association directors adopted a budget for the coming year which included agreement to purchase several thousand copies of a book on wildlife flowers of Glacier. Area photographer Danny On of the Flathead National Forest staff, is co-author and photogtapher of the new publication.” December 17, 1978 The Missoulian

Regional briefs

Bighorn sheep transplant to begin in a few days

HELENA (AP) — As many as 100 bighorn sheep may be airlifted from Wild Horse Island within the next week, the state Fish and Game Commission was told Thursday.

Gene Allen, director of the wildlife division of the state Fish and Game Department, told the commission that a department biologist has installed traps on the island, which will be used "in the next few days."

He said as many as 100 of the sheep could be trapped. They will be taken by helicopter from the island, in the southwest corner of Flathead Lake, to the National Bison Range near St. Ignatius. They will remain there until arrangements can be made to transplant them someplace else, he said.

The trapping was ordered after a number of the island's sheep died in a severe, snowy winter last year. The commission decided that the island could not support the entire sheep herd, which was estimated at about 500.

Allen also told the commission that fishers, the largest members of the weasel family, have adapted readily to the forests of northwestern Montana since being planted there 20 years ago. He asked for, and received, permission to plant additional fishers in remote areas that the first group has not reached.

The Forest Service will pay at least half the cost of the new plantings, Allen said. Fishers, like their relatives, mink, are prized for their fur.

Erwin Kent, director of the department's enforcement division, told the commission that most recent complaints have been against four-legged intruders. Since the onset of winter, some animals, especially deer, elk and antelope, have invaded ranches to eat hay that ranchers were saving for their cattle. The problem has been worse than usual because of an unusually severe early winter, Kent said.

The department has resorted to using firecrackers with delayed-action fuses and hog wire to keep the animals away, Kent said. He said the department has had "limited success."

January 5, 1979 The Missoulian

"Tribes will get 25 of sheep taken from Wild Horse by Richard Eggert Correspondent

Pablo — The state Department of Fish and Game and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Monday reached an agreement under which the tribes will receive 25 bighorn sheep trapped on Wild Horse Island in Flathead Lake. The sheep will be transplanted on the Flathead Reservation.

Tom Pablo, chairman of the tribes, said that, according to the agreement, the tribes will reimburse the state for the costs of trapping and transporting sessions conducted on Jan. 17 and

Jan. 20 by Fish and Game officials, who captured a total of 59 sheep – one animal died. Pablo said he had hoped for 40 sheep, but “I am pleased we were able to arrange for 25,” he added.

Pablo said the agreement resulted from recent discussions between him and Fish and Game Director Robert Wambach.

The tribes’ 25 sheep will be released in two areas on the reservation this winter and next spring, Pablo said. He added a group of 15 would be planted “as soon as possible” in the Little Money across the Flathead River from Perma. The other 10 animals will be kept in pens at the Bison Range until spring breakup, and then planted in a yet to be determined site in the Mission Mountains, Pablo said.

Tom Hay, Fish and Game supervisor for Region 1 in Kalispell, confirmed details of the agreement with the tribes Tuesday. He said the contract calls for the tribes to pay a prorata share of the local trapping and transportation costs.

The tribes will be billed for about one quarter of the entire trapping efforts this winter, which has yielded a total of 102 sheep in three attempts, Hay explained. Figures for the total cost of the operation should be available in a week.

Hay added that the final draft of the contract does not allude to the future management of the sheep on Wild Horse Island.

The island is within the boundaries of the Flathead Indian Reservation, and tribal officials had objected to the wording in a previous draft, which, they said, implied state management over the sheep.

Dick Wickwerth game manager for Region 1 of the Fish and Game Department, said that that three of the trapped animals had died, leaving 99 for introduction in other areas. Now there are about 80 sheep left on the island, he added.

Wickwerth said that 41 of the trapped sheep were transplanted earlier this month to the 14-mile area south of Paradise on the Clark Fork River. Eight other animals were sent this week to the University of Washington for epidemiological study. The university will try to discover causes of a parasitic lung worm which affects the species.

And 25 bighorns wintered at the Bison Range will be transplanted next spring to the upper Rock Creek area east of Missoula.

Fletcher Newby, deputy director of the Fish and Game Department in Helena, said none of the remaining 50 sheep currently impounded at the Bison Range will be moved until they have been graded for age and sex. The animals sent to Rock Creek and those taken by the tribes will have approximately the same age and sex distribution, he said.

Jim Clair, a Bureau of Indian Affairs game biologist in Ronan, said the preferred sex ratio of the animals is about one ram to four or five ewes. “We hope to get that kind of ratio (for sheep transplanted on the reservation), but, of course, we don’t know what we are going to get yet,” Clair said, adding the grading of the animals would be conducted this week.

Claar said the 15 animals to be released near Perma will be moved by tribal employees using stock trucks as soon as roads are clear to the Little Money area.” January 24, 1979 The Missoulian

Western Montana

Bighorn sheep returned to homeland

By RICHARD EGGERT
Correspondent

PERMA — A small band of bighorn mountain sheep found a new home on the Flathead Reservation Tuesday.

Or rather, according to Bureau of Indian Affairs Biologist Jim Claar, the 15 transplanted sheep just returned to an old home.

Claar, who is part of a wildlife management team for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, said the area across the Flathead River from the small hamlet of Perma was natural range for the mountain sheep. He said that bighorn sheep occupied the rugged alpine terrain of the Western Boundary Mountains up to about 30 years ago.

Claar said that he and Tribal Wildlife Biologist Bob Klaver had examined the area carefully and found that all the habitat requirements of the sheep were still abundant in the area.

At any rate, the band of eight rams and seven ewes didn't waste any time making themselves at home in the snow-covered rocky foothills. Some 20 tribal officials watched as the animals bounded out of a stock truck, took one last look at their admirers and scampered up a slide chute and disappeared into the ridges and mountains.

The sheep were part of a group of 102 which had been trapped from Wildhorse Island in Flathead Lake during three trapping attempts late last month. The animals were trapped by the Montana Fish and Game Department to relieve overcrowding on the island and to provide seed herds for other areas and wildlife research.

The state planted 66 animals in the Rock Creek drainage and the Fourteen Mile area south of Paradise. Eight sheep were sent to Washington State University for research on disease and 25 were given to the tribes on a cost-sharing basis.

The tribal transplant Tuesday was the first of two. A second group of 10 animals will be held over in a pen near Ronan until July and will then be planted in the North Crow Area of the Mission Mountains, Claar said.

The seed herd planted Tuesday will be carefully monitored, Claar said. He said radio transmitters have been colared on two ewes and their whereabouts will be tracked regularly by Tribal Game Technician Frank Acevedo. All the animals are marked with identifying ear tags and blue bibs which will enable the tribal game team to keep an accurate record of how the seed herd is progressing, Claar explained.

Dennis Dumont, the chief of the tribes Division of Enforcement and Wildlife, added that a 10-year-old tribal ordinance forbidding hunting or disturbing mountain sheep on the Flathead Reservation would be rigidly enforced. He said the area would be patrolled regularly and that roads into the remote region would be closed in necessary. "We are going to do our best to protect those sheep," Dumont said.

Claar pointed out the seed herd animals could easily be identified by the ear marks which should make it easy to prosecute persons who illegally kill the animals.

Claar said Tuesday's transplant "represents a milestone in tribal game management." He said the costs of the program, which had not yet been calculated, would be borne by the tribes and "I think that shows the interest and commitment the tribes have in developing a sound game management program."

Tribal Chairman Tom Pablo, who was among the entourage that braved zero temperatures to see the animals off, said, "it has been a lot of time and trouble seeing this thing through, but I think it will be worth it."

Tribal Councilman Tom "Bearhead" Swaney, who also attended the send-off, added "mountain sheep are part of the wildlife heritage of our reservation and a healthy community of wildlife is an important part of the culture of the tribes. Wild animals are as important a resource as trees or water and now we are beginning to realize this."



Jim Claare, a member of the wildlife management team for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, herds the bighorn sheep from the holding pen to a stock truck. The sheep were moved from the National Bison Range near Moiese to the foothills near Perma.

Richard Eggert Photo

February 2, 1979 The Missoulian



February 18, 1979 The Missoulian

MOUNTAIN LANDSCAPES
Springtime in the Missoula Valley and Bison Range

Spring "Mountain Landscapes" helps explore what to see, what to do and where to look for the elements making up unique spring in the Missoula Valley and Bison Range. Five illustrated lectures and two field trips are designed for the community — citizens, teachers and students — with a touch of spring fever. Topics to be covered are: birds of Western Montana; biology of streams and rivers (for fishermen and others); the Bison Range; spring wildflowers, edible plants and mushrooms, spring skies. "Mountain Landscapes" will be held on Mondays, 7:30-9:00 p.m., April 23-May 21, in the Science Complex Room 131 on the UM campus. The fee for this non-credit course is \$25.00. Interested persons should register with the Center for Continuing Education by April 16.

March 24, 1979 The Missoulian

"Flathead Resource Organization general membership meeting and picnic, 4 p.m. Sunday, National Bison Range.

According to the organization's chairman, Don Winston, the group will discuss plans for a series of educational forums. Among the subjects being considered for these forums are Lake County and use plans; water quality in the lower Flathead River drainage; pesticide use; and plans to expand Highway 93 near Arlee.

The organization will also discuss plans to oppose continued funding of U. S. Army Corps of Engineers hydro-electric studies on the lower Flathead River." May 16, 1979 The Missoulian

"Danny On's photography to be featured in book

color photographs of the late Danny On, well-known naturalist photographer from the Flathead area, who died Jan. 21 in a skiing accident near Whitefish.

The On family has agreed to let the nonprofit Glacier Natural History Association handle the thousands of slides and negatives taken by On.

Kalispell – The initial work has been done for publication of a book containing 100 of the best. Last week, the association reached contract agreements with Lowell Press in Kansas City, Mo., and writer-photographer Davis Sumner of Colorado to write, lay out and publish the book.

Payson Lowell, owner of the publishing company, along with Barbara Funk, senior editor, and Dave Spaw, designer, were in the Flathead area for several days, with Sumner, sorting through On's photographs and visiting Glacier Park.

They selected nearly 200 of the best slides and negatives for consideration, and will begin work on the book immediately. They plan to have the book in print by this fall.

Mel Rader, a Pulitzer-prize winner and former owner and publisher of the Hungry Horse News weekly paper in Columbia Falls, will write the forward of the book.

The Glacier Natural History Association is a nonprofit educational group responsible for publishing and distribution materials relative to Glacier Park and the National Bison Range.”

May 26, 1979 The Missoulian

Western Montana

Bison range opens Friday



Rod Paskey of Frenchtown and Rick Gray of Helena look out over the Mission Valley.

By DENNIS JONES
Correspondent

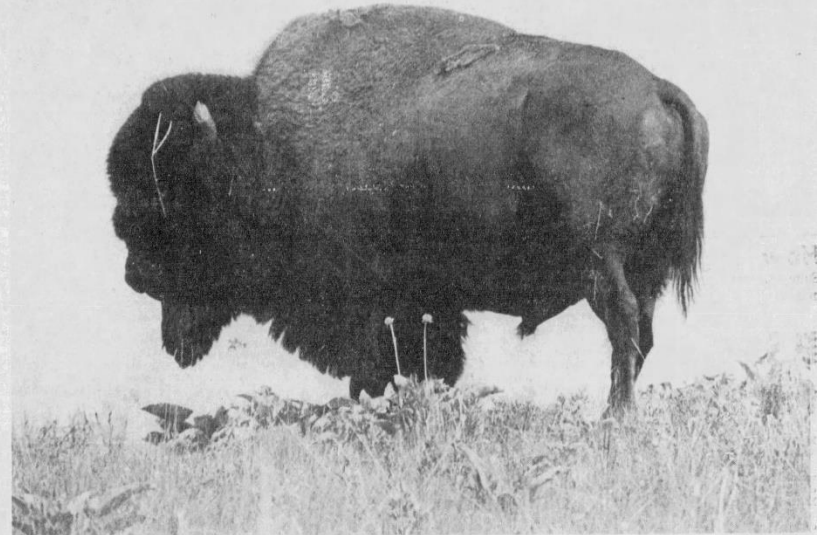
MOIESE — In the early 1800s as many as 60 million bison roamed the prairies. But by 1883, following 40 years of slaughter, a mere 26 wild bison were known to exist. A few privately owned herds remained, scattered throughout the United States.

One of these herds, the well-known Pablo-Allard herd which later was to become the Conrad herd at Kalispell, got its start in 1873. Written accounts show that a Pend d'Oreille Indian, Walking Coyote, journeyed east of the Rockies and returned from a hunting trip from the plains with several live bison calves.

It was from that stock that the Pablo-Allard Herd was built.

In 1909 the American Bison Society purchased a small herd from the Conrad Estate. Those animals, along with two others from Montana, two from Texas and three from New Hampshire, were combined to form the National Bison Range herd. They were introduced to the range in October of that year.

Today, almost 70 years later, a large herd of bison flourishes on the 19,000-acre reserve that lies west of U.S. Highway 93 about 40 miles north of Missoula. The \$10,000 spent by the Bison Society to buy the seed stock for the range has provided hours of pleasure to mil-



A buffalo grazes in the sun on the National Bison Range.

lions of Americans who have toured the sanctuary. The range will open for another season of self-guided tours Friday and will remain open through Sept. 30. The tours take about an hour and a half.

The open grasslands and forested mountains of the National Bison Range support almost 200 bird species and 40 different types of mammals. Elk, deer, antelope, bear, bighorn sheep and a host of smaller animals create a balance of nature.

A management program includes the reduction of the bison during the annual October buffalo round-up. Some of the surplus animals are sold live for exhibition or propagation and some are sold as meat.

The 19-mile, gravel tour road is well marked, and signs identify various landmarks. Winding loops take visitors to the Red Sleep Mountain viewpoint, at 4,885 feet the highest point on the range, more than 2,000 feet above the tour entrance. From there visitors can see the Mission Valley from the town of St. Ignace in the shadows of the Mission Mountain Range in the south to the glistening waters of Flathead Lake to the north.

Shoreline contours on the rolling hillsides can be seen, reminders of the 3,300 square miles of water that once

formed Lake Missoula in the valley below. The depth of that lake at locations on the range would have been up to 1,600 feet.

Visitors have to be alert to spot wildlife along the tour route. Bighorn sheep, elk and other wary animals blend with the habitat, but with the use of binoculars and a degree of patience visitors can see much as they make the trip through the reserve.

Exhibition pastures near the headquarters of the range usually contain bison. Photographers generally prefer the open range for picture taking, though, so they can avoid having fences showing up in their photos.

There are range fences, however, throughout the reserve. They are used for a rotation grazing system. As the herd is shifted from one section of the range to another, grazed areas are given time to regenerate.

There are no overnight camping facilities on the National Bison Range, and motorized two-wheel vehicles and bicycles are not allowed.

There is a large picnic and recreation area just inside the range entrance off Highway 212 at Moiese. Restrooms and picnic tables are available.

There is no charge to tour the National Bison Range.



With patience and binoculars, visitors to the bison range will find groups like this one.

Text of the above article is below:

“Western Montana – Bison Range Opens Friday – by Dennis Jones correspondent

Moiese – In the early 1800s as many as 60 million bison roamed the prairies. But by 1883, following 40 years of slaughter, mere 20 wild buffalo were known to exist. A few privately-owned herds remained, scattered throughout the United States.

One of these herds, the well-known Pablo-Allard herd which later was to become the Conrad herd at Kalispell, got its start in 1873. Written accounts show that a Pend d'Oreille Indian, Walking Coyote, journeyed east of the Rockies and returned from a hunting trip from the plains with several live bison calves. It was from that stock that the Pablo-Allard herd was built.

In 1909 the American Bison Society purchased a small herd from the Conrad Estate. Those animals, along with two others from Montana, two from Texas and three from New Hampshire, were combined to form the National Bison Range herd. They were introduced to the range in October of that year.

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The \$10,000 spent by the Bison Society to buy the seed stock for the range has provided hours of pleasure to millions of Americans who have toured the sanctuary. The range will open for another season of self-guided tours Friday and will remain open through Sept. 30. The tours take about an hour and a half.

The open grasslands and forested mountains of the National Bison Range support almost 200 bird species and 40 different types of mammals. Elk, deer, antelope, bear, bighorn sheep and a host of smaller animals create a balance of nature.

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The 19-mile gravel tour road is well marked, and signs identify various landmarks. Winding loops take visitors to the Red Sleep Mountain viewpoint, at 4,885 feet the highest point on the range, more than 2,000 feet above the tour entrance. From there visitors can see the Mission Valley from the town of St. Ignatius in the shadows of the Mission Mountain Range in the south to the glistening waters of Flathead Lake to the north.

Shoreline contours on the rolling hillsides can be seen, reminders of the 3,300 square miles of water that once formed Lake Missoula in the valley below. The depth of that lake at locations on the range would have been up to 1,600 feet.

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There is no charge to tour the National Bison Range.” May 30, 1979 The Missoulian

“Among Other Things by Paul Fugleberg

Another summer ... another Flathead Courier Vacation Guide. With another summer, of course, comes a whole host of new faces wearing pleasantly surprised expressions as they discover the beauty of western Montana, particularly of the Flathead and Mission Valleys.

Hopefully, the springtime gasoline shortages won't carry over into Montana this vacation season. If they do, just stick around a little longer and visit our local places of interest a little more thoroughly. There's lots to do, sights to see ... that's what this Vacation Guide is all about. Please read it ... and use it ... as a visitor's guide.

One of the more interesting place to visit around these parts is the National Bison Range at Moiese. They get some unusual requests down there from visitors. A few years ago, a group pulled in late at night and asked C. J. Henry, then the manager of the range, if they could see the buffalo. At that time of night, he told them, it was impossible. They responded, “You mean you don't put them in a barn at night?”

Not long after the range's albino patriarch, Big Medicine, had died, a traveler wandered in and wanted to see “the whole herd of white buffalo.” She was quite indignant when told there were none ... that the birth of an albino buffalo was an incredibly rare event.

Still another visitor asked, “How long does it take for a deer to grow into an elk?”

And then there was the lady from New York who told the range manager “One thing I've always wanted to see when I came out west is buffalo chip. I've read about them in western stories”

She was told, “Look right there, M'am, you're almost standing in one.”

She gasped, “Why, you mean they're just manure?” June 14, 1979 The Flathead Courier

Recreation Roundup

By TOM BRYANT

City Recreation Department

The Missoula Department of Parks and Recreation is offering something for almost everyone this week.

The Missoula parks will celebrate Pet Week, which is July 9-13, with a Dog Show at Bonner Park Thursday at 6 p.m. All youngsters aged 4 through 14 may enter any dog, 6 months or older, regardless of breed, pedigree or training. The dogs will be judged in seven classes: best trick dog, smallest, largest, best looking, best costumed, funniest and best behaved dog. First, second and third place ribbons will be awarded in each category, plus a ribbon to the "best of show" winner.

Ketch and fetch

Ketch and Fetch is a national tournament for you and your dog. The local competition will be conducted in McCormick Park Friday at 4 p.m.

Competition consists of you throwing a frisbee and your dog returning it or "fetching" it for you. There is no restriction to age of owner or breed of dog. Winners here are eligible to go to the state tournament in Billings July 18.

Puppet workshop

The Patchwork Puppet Company will offer a puppet workshop at Bonner Park Tuesday at 10 a.m. Puppet shows will be presented at Pineview Park Wednesday at 1:30 p.m., at Playfair Park Thursday at 1:30 p.m., and at Westside Park Thursday at 4 p.m.

Outdoor day camp

The second session of the Outdoor Recreation Day Camp begins Monday. The two week environmental awareness day camp is for children aged 7 through 12 and costs \$20 per child. Some of the activities included in the day camp are: backpacking, tree planting, field trips to the Bison Range and the Wildlife Range. Participants are required to provide their own

equipment and should bring a lunch.

Rattlesnake backpack trip

The Outdoor Recreation leaders will head a backpack trip into the Rattlesnake Back Country Lakes July 11-13. Cost of the trip is \$10 per person and participants must provide their own food and equipment; however, transportation will be provided.

The group will depart from McCormick Park at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday and return by 4:30 p.m. Friday. The trip is mainly for youth ages 13-17, however, any interested person is welcome to participate.

The outing is limited to 10 people and registration is accepted at the Parks and Recreation office. Registration will close at 1 p.m. Tuesday.

Swimming lessons

There are still a few spots available for the first session of Junior Swim Lessons in the intermediate and advanced classes. The two-week instruction begins Monday at Spartan Pool at a cost of \$5 per child. Applicants must be at least 44 inches tall.

McCormick Pool is still under construction and no opening date has been established at this point. We are taking registration for lessons at McCormick, but are not collecting money at this time.

Volleyball clinic and leagues

The roster for the 4-person, 2-men/2-women, summer volleyball league are due Wednesday.

There will be a volleyball clinic and open play Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Kiwanis Park.

For more information or to register for any of these activities, visit the Parks and Recreation Department office at 100 Hickory St., or call 721-4700, extension 243.

July 8, 1979 The Missoulian

Around the region

Ravalli County

• **DARBY LA LEACHE LEAGUE BAKE SALE**, Saturday, 8:30 a.m., in front of People's Market, Darby.

The organizers report that wholesome foods made with as many natural ingredients as possible will be sold. Proceeds go to fund a program of providing free educational materials for women interested in the breast feeding of babies.

• **DEDICATION OF LAKE COMO RECREATIONAL TRAIL**, Wednesday, 2 p.m., Lake Como.

Lake Como is in the Bitterroot Range of the Rocky Mountains between Hamilton and Darby. The seven-mile trail around the lake is the first National Recreation Trail to be designated on the Bitterroot National Forest.

Three miles of the trail along the lake's north shore is open to hiking only. The four miles along the south shore is open to hikers, horse travelers and trailbike riders. The trail can be reached from two trailheads, one at the Lake Como Campground on the north shore of the lake; the second along the Como-Bunkhouse Road just east of the dam. The latter trailhead has an unloading ramp for horses and parking space for larger trucks.

Lake County

• **NORTHWEST MONTANA FUN RUN**, July 28 and 29, Polson High School parking lot. All street rods, street machines, street customs and pickups may be used, finished or unfinished.

Activities include games for adults and children Saturday, a dance Saturday night, parade and tour of the National Bison Range in Moiese Sunday.

July 12, 1979 The Missoulian



July 28, 1979 The Missoulian

“Vehicle Rolls Near Charlo

C. J. Henry of Charlo was treated for cuts at St. Luke Hospital in Ronan on Monday, following an accident in his vehicle about 4:15 p.m. east of Charlo.

Montana Highway Patrolmen, investigating the mishap, said Henry lost control of his vehicle on a gravel road, about eight miles west of Charlo, and it rolled over into an adjoining irrigation ditch.”

June 14, 1979 The Flathead Courier

“Bison tour route closed

Moiese – Because of extreme fire danger, the 19-mile tour route of the National Bison Range in Moiese will be closed Saturday and remain closed until further notice. Manager Robert Brown announced Friday. The picnic ground will remain open, but visitors are urged to use extreme caution.” August 11, 1979 The Missoulian

“Building project under way at National Bison Range

Moiese (AP) – Ground was broken Monday for a \$606,368 office and visitor center complex at the National Bison Range here.

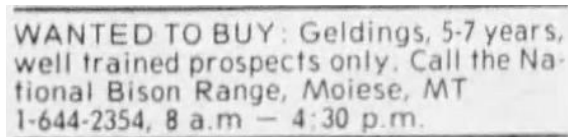
The contract for the 5,000 square-foot complex in the Flathead Valley went to Northwest Erection Inc. of Missoula.

When completed in the fall of 1980, the building will serve as headquarters for the refuge staff, plus as an education center for visitors to the refuge, said Bison Range Manager Robert Brown.

The National Bison Range, on 19,000 acres of grassland and timber, draws about 100,000 visitors each year.

The range was established in 1908 to protect and preserve the American bison.

The original bison herd on the refuge totaled 34. Today, the range supports between 300 and 500 buffalo, plus whitetail and mule deer, elk, bighorn sheep and pronghorns.” August 8, 1979 The Missoulian



August 16, 1979 The Missoulian

“Regional briefs

Buffalo go on auction block

Moiese – So, you’ve always wanted a buffalo. Well, now is your chance. The National Bison Range at Moiese is offering 56 live American buffalo for sale by sealed competitive bid.

This annual sale of surplus bison is part of the National Bison Range’s management program for keeping the herd compatible with available forage.

Bid sheets can be obtained by writing the National Bison Range, Moiese, Mont., 59824, or phone 406-644-2354. Deadline date for all bids is 11 a.m. Sept. 5. Rules and bidding instructions are enclosed with each bid sheet. Anyone may bid on one or more animals as shown on the bid sheets.

Available for bid are age classes in both sex ranging from long yearlings through 10 plus year olds. Top bid per animals for each group will be awarded first, then the second highest bid, and so on until all animals in each sex and age group have been awarded.” August 17, 1979 The Missoulian

“Tour route still closed at National Bison Range

Moiese – The 19-mile tour route through the interior of the National Bison Range here is still closed, said Bob Brown, manager of the wildlife refuge.

Visitors are welcome to use the picnic area and may watch some bison and elk in the exhibition areas near headquarters, Brown said.

He explained that the recent thunder showers in the Mission Valley have had little effect on the extremely dry conditions that have plagued the range most of this summer and caused the closure of the tour road since early August.

A fire at this time of the year could be very destructive because of the carry over of last year’s dense grass growth added to fairly good stand that grew last spring, Brown said. There is a tremendous amount of fuel on the ground right now, he’s added, “A fire could be whipped along faster than a man could run by these dry afternoon winds we’ve been having and the problem doesn’t end there. A lot of the animals on the refuge would be trapped in fenced corners by the fire.”

“Just as soon as we have enough moisture to reduce the fire danger we will open the tour road. In the meantime, all we can do is hope for rain and ask folks be particularly careful with fire and smoking materials,” Brown said.” September 3, 1979 The Missoulian

“Bison Range road open

Moiese – Rain and cooler weather have reduced the fire danger at the National Bison Range near here, and the 19-mile tour route is now open, said Jo Kuroz, public use specialist for the refuge.

The road through the wildlife refuge will be open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily until the end of September, Kuroz said Tuesday.

Recent dry conditions, had placed the grasslands and wildlife in extreme danger from fire and necessitated the closure of the interior road for 20 days during August, he said.” September 5, 1979 The Missoulian

“Gas prices have public buffaloed by K. A. Eggensperger Sanders County Ledger

Moiese – The clouds of dust and the thunder of hooves in the distance haven’t changed much over the years at the National Bison Range’s annual buffalo roundup.

What was different this year was the absence of a large crowd to watch the best free, man produced show available in western Montana.

As range manager Bob Brown observed, “The price of gasoline is beginning to be felt. Our travel (through the Bison Range), like that in Glacier and Yellowstone parks, was down this year about 30 percent,” Brown said.

But the small crowd doesn’t worry Range officials. For the past few years, they’ve felt the crowds have really grown too big for the limited facilities available for viewing the activities at the roundup corrals.

Four hundred bison were rounded up and brought into a large holding pasture above the corrals last week.

Then on Monday, groups of 15 to 35 animals were cut out by a quartet of horseman and brought charging down into the big corral. From there, a few animals at a time were moved into an adjacent pen, and then one-by-one they were driven into the squeeze chute for branding, inoculations and blood tests or sent directly to the weighing scale.

This year’s calves were branded with a figure “9” to designate the year of their birth and blood samples were taken to test them for leptospirosis, tuberculosis and brucellosis. Each calf also received an inoculation for leptospirosis.

Fifty-five of the 400 buffalo had been sold in a bidding auction last month. The goal of the annual auction is to hold the herd at about 325 adult animals plus calves, Brown said. Calves are not counted in the herd population until they are a year old.

By keeping the herd at its present level, the condition of the range is maintained in excellent shape.

The highest price paid for the animals was \$1,200 for a 10-year-old bull. The lowest bid was \$451.60 for a yearling bull.

This year’s average price per animal was \$768.921 compared with \$691.05 last year.

Bids were received from Arizona, Washington, Montana, Utah, Oregon, Idaho, North Carolina, California, Wyoming, Colorado and Minnesota. Most of bidders plan to use the animals to start new herds or expand existing herds. Few are scheduled for butchering immediately.

This was Brown’s third roundup, but it was no. 33 for Babe May, range foreman and veteran of the National Bison Range.

“I’ve got one more roundup before I retire,” May said.

Other long-time veterans of the roundup are Grant Hogge, who came to the range in 1952 and has 27 roundups behind him, and Ernie Kraft, who has worked in 26. Bob Middlemist of Dixon has worked in an even dozen.

The bison refuge in the lower Flathead Valley, about 40 miles west of Missoula, is one of the oldest big-game sanctuaries in the country. In 1908, Congress, at the request of President Theodore Roosevelt, provided for its establishment. That action was the outgrowth of considerable public sentiment for the preservation of the vanishing bison.

Congress appropriated \$40,000 to buy 19,000 acres on the Flathead Reservation and to build a strong fence around the area. The American Bison Society raised more than \$10,000 to buy 37 buffalo to stock the range.

Today the grasslands and forested mountains of the National Bison Range support almost 200 bled species and 40 different types of mammals. Elk, deer, antelope, bear, bighorn sheep and a host of smaller animals.” October 6, 1979 The Missoulian

Outdoors

Missoulian, Thursday, November 1, 1979— 19



Flathead River, Ninepipe Reservoir and Smith Lake areas are included in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's aerial waterfowl census.

Where the WILD GEESE grow



Canada Geese take flight over the Pablo Reservoir, spooked by the Fish and Wildlife Service census takers flying at normal, tree-top level.

In one mid-morning swoop, biologist-pilot Bob Twist and colleague Babe May counted more geese than most of us will see in a lifetime of hunting. Information they gather may improve hunting in the future.



Victor "Babe" May and pilot Bob Twist check the waterfowl census figures after the 300-mile flight across prime waterfowl habitat in northwestern Montana.

"The sky was far above, the mud a mere five feet or so below the single propeller of the Cessna 180 as it skimmed the shoreline of Pablo Reservoir.

Hundreds of wraithlike shapes fluttered into the sky, veering off in alarm at the buzz-saw sound of the aircraft's throbbing engine. Then, as the aircraft banked up toward the stately Mission Mountains 12 miles to the east, The Canada geese – "honkers" as hunters call them – circled and settled back down along the shoreline, some preening their ruffled feathers like so many disturbed mother hens. A single cormorant still circled above the water, a sentinel waiting to see if we would return.

"I'll put as close to those geese you want to get," U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service pilot-biologist Bob Twist had told Missoulian photographer Carl Davaz and myself after we boarded the aircraft at a dirt landing strip near Ronan.

He was as good as his word. In three hours of flying, we traversed some 300 miles of the most productive waterfowl range in western Montana – from the Swan River National Wildlife Refuge to the federal Wildlife Production Area at Smith Lake, along the shore of Flathead Lake, on the Flathead River and back to Pablo and Ninepipe reservoirs. At tree-top level – sometimes lower – we had been eyeball to eyeball with thousands of ducks and geese, plus a bald eagle hunting on Swan Lake and a herd of bighorn sheep and two mules grazing on Wild Horse Island on Flathead Lake.

Except for Pablo, Ninepipe and Swan refuges – traditionally off-limits to hunters because of their special status as federal game preserves – most of these areas were open to waterfowl hunting during the fall season.

Twist, manager of the Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge near Stevensville, had invited us along to observe a waterfowl census study that will help experts estimate what is happening to the wild goose population in the western Montana portion of the Pacific Flyway.

Why are Twist on the federal level and his counterparts in the state Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks interested in the population of Canada geese and other waterfowl with exotic names like widgeon, scaup, ringnecks, mallards and gadwall duck?

“We’re trying to evaluate the waterfowl population and compare trends,” said Dale Witt, until recently a project biologist in the state’s waterfowl program, and one of the prime movers behind a special waterfowl management effort that is improving waterfowl habitat in the Flathead.

“The census shows us the relative distribution of birds in the fall, gives us an idea of goose production in the spring, helps us assess if they are migrants and tells us how long we have birds available,” he said.

The information helps state and federal waterfowl managers keep tab on the short and long-term trends of geese and duck populations. The limiting factor, of course, is habitat – the special biological niche where waterfowl can feed, breed, rest and raise their young. And habitat is threatened more than ever by man’s invasion of their traditional nesting and breeding grounds in the Bitterroot, Flathead, Mission and Clark Fork River valleys. The populations are further threatened by increasing pressure from hunters across the state and nation.

But so far, the news of goose production has been good.

With the cooperation of state and federal agencies and private landowners, habitat has been and continues to improve. Bulldozers have dozed up small goose-nesting islands from the mud of valley-bottom lakes and potholes dotting the Flathead and Mission valleys. High school students have helped erect hundreds of nesting sites through the region.

All this helped increase the waterfowl population. Goose production in the areas studied has increased substantially over the last few years – 25 to 40 percent in some areas, according to Twist.

“But more important, it’s changed location,” Twist said. “Most of the production has moved off to the rivers and onto Ninepipe refuge in particular, where they brood in the spring and the summer.”

How come? “We think it’s the greatly increased river traffic of people, and also manipulation of water levels (by hydroelectric dams) and irrigation projects,” he said.

On our goose census flight, Twist not only flew the aircraft but did the actually counting, calling out the numbers to assistant Victor “Babe” May, foreman of the National Bison Range, who transcribed then onto paper. The census is not accurate down to the “nth” degree, but comes within plus or minus 10 percent accuracy, says Witt. If the goose population trend continues to increase over the long term, hunting limits eventually can be liberalized and seasons lengthened to give the sports men more opportunity to hunt the wild “Honkers.”

On our census flight, made on Oct. 16 at the peak of the area’s goose population Twist counted the following:

Geese – 3,465; widgeon – 14,000; mallards – 7,500; gadwalls – 4,000; ringneck ducks – 1,200; and scaup – 3,500.” November 1, 1979 The Missoulian

“Rare gyrfalcon flees the nest by Richard Eggert Correspondent

St. Ignatius – A lot of people around the Mission Valley are looking for a missing juvenile who flew the coop Monday from a St. Ignatius-area foster home.

The juvenile, in this case, is a young female gyrfalcon. The gyrfalcon is a rare arctic hawk which is only an infrequent visitor to Montana.

The gyrfalcon was captured in late January in the Post Creek area north of St. Ignatius by hawk rehabilitator and falconer Dwight Tracy.

Tracy said he was called by a farmer who threatened to kill the bird because it was harassing his chickens.

Tracy has a state license to possess hawks, which are protected under state and federal law. He and a Ronan veterinarian cooperate in a rehabilitation program for injured hawks and Tracy keeps other hawks for hunting.

Tracy said he had notified the state of the capture of the gyrfalcon and was deciding whether he would seek a permit to keep the bird. But the bird had ideas of its own.

Tracy said he took the falcon outside Monday on a 3-foot leather trace leash so it could be photographed by Jim Claar and Bob Klaver, Bureau of Indian Affairs wildlife biologists, when it bolted.

“She was a lot stronger than I would have expected and I just couldn’t handle her,” Tracy explained, adding “it is a real tragedy.”

Tracy urge that anyone seeing the bird, which he suspects is either still around the St. Ignatius area or headed north, call him at 745-4171.

The gyrfalcon is a fairly large hawk, about 20 inches in length, with a 48-inch wing span. The bird was in a light gray face with barred white feathers. And, Tracy noted, she is probably still trailing the 3-foot leash.

The normal winter range of the gyrfalcon extends southward to about the middle latitudes of Canada.

Although there have been confirmed sightings of gyrfalcons in Montana, they are extremely rare.

Ornithologist C. J. Henry, Charlo, who is a former superintendent of the National Bison Range and Ninepipe Bird Refuge, said he had not seen a gyrfalcon in Montana during the 20 years he has lived here. “I’ve seen them in Michigan and North Dakota and I have looked hard for them here, but have yet to see one,” said Henry.” February 9, 1980 The Missoulian

“Leo Rouiller

St. Ignatius – Leo “Scrub” Rouiller, 86, St. Ignatius, died Sunday in St. Luke Hospital in Ronan.

Mr. Rouiller worked as a truck driver for the state Highway Department from 1943 until 1958, when he retired.

He was born July 26, 1893, in New Bedford, Mass., and moved to Frenchtown in 1908. He attended schools in Frenchtown and on July 7, 1910, he married Laura Martell in Missoula.

He was employed as a farm laborer around Frenchtown and then worked in logging camps and lumber mills in the area.

He moved to St. Ignatius in 1910 and was employed by the Flathead Irrigation Project. He later worked at the Bison Range near Moiese.

He was a member of the Senior Citizens of St. Ignatius.

He was preceded in death by a son, Paul, in 1966.

Survivors include his wife, St. Ignatius; two daughters, Amelia Harris, St. Ignatius; and Yvonne Fret. Yuma, Ariz.; a son, Sam, St. Ignatius; a sister, Rose Deschamps, Missoula; 14 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. in the Fearon Chapel in St. Ignatius with the Rev. Robert Larsson officiating. Burial will be in the Pleasantview Cemetery in St. Ignatius.” March 4, 1980 The Missoulian

“Changes brewing for Bison Range by Richard Eggert Correspondent

Moiese – The season for driving the 20-mile loop at the Bison Range in Moiese may be lengthened under management changes currently being considered by the U.S. Fish and Game Service.

According to Joseph Quiroz, public use specialist for the range, the present Labor Day-to-October season or public use of the range may be extended to begin in May and end later in October.

The loop, which covers a variety of geological and wildlife habitat areas within the 18,000-acre range, would also remain open to private motor vehicles, Quiroz said in an interview last week.

The recommendations and other possible management changes came out of a public meeting held last week in Charlo on the federal management of the Bison Range and the Ninepipe and Pablo National Bird Refuge.

All three areas and the Swan River Bird Refuge are managed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Bison Range staff.

Quiroz said the hours for the circuit tour of the Bison Range would probably remain the same as they have been for the past several years – from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. He pointed out the closing hour excludes entry into the circuit but the tour would remain open to cars already in the gate until dark.

Quiroz said, some kind of traffic monitoring device is also being considered. This would probably involve a free ticket which would operate a gate.

The monitoring device would enable range management to reduce the personnel currently required to check visitors out of the park by dark, Quiroz explained. He also pointed out the system would provide a more accurate count of visitor use.

The range is also constructing a new visitor and office building south of the entrance to the range. Quiroz said this should be completed by fall.

Under consideration is a new building at the high point of the which would provide information on the relationships between the plants and animals of the range.

Quiroz said comment at the meeting indicated the possible need to expand the circuit tour to include areas currently closed to the public.

Weed control in the refuge is also being studied by the range management. Assistant range supervisor Hugh Noll said the use of herbicides was phased out in 1977, cept as a last resort.” Instead the range has contracted with local farmers to cultivate some areas on a crop-sharing basis. Under the agreement, farmers get part of the harvest and the remainder is left to provide winter feed to game birds.

Noll said the system is designed not only to control weeds but also to develop dense vegetative cover for game bird nesting.

Noll said the range is looking into the problem of fluctuating reservoir levels at Ninepipe and Pablo. Both areas are used jointly as waterfowl nesting areas and for irrigation. He said the Flathead Irrigation Project has been “real cooperative,” in adjusting levels at Ninepipe, but “there is room for improvement,” in cooperative water use at Pablo.

According to Quiroz, the range management is considering the purchase of 13 areas north of Flathead Lake for waterfowl propagation.

People at the Charlo public meeting questioned the range’s current policy on predator control. Quiroz explained the range is not presently involved in any coyote control. “It is our policy to maintain natural balances,” he said, adding the policy does not even consider control “unless a species is in danger of being eliminated and then only if study determines the species is biologically suited to the range.

He said there is some indication that coyote predation is affecting the reproduction of pronghorn antelope on the range, but “that situation needs a lot more study.” [The first years of the Bison Range the small antelope herds were repeatedly killed off each year by coyotes. It took several decades to get them back. Doesn’t this guy know that? Note by Chalk]

He said the Fish and Wildlife Service Animal Damage Control team would provide predator control for specific situations “if a genuine problem can be biologically substantiated.”

The sharp tail-grouse, a species that was native to the area but was eliminated during the 1930s because of overgrazing, could be re-introduced. Quiroz said the birds will be restored as soon as funding for the project can be found.

However, money is scarce, and Quiroz said current budgetary restraints may result in a reduction in range personnel.

If this occurs, Quiroz said, the range would accept local volunteer help to maintain the level of management. Volunteers would be asked to help expand the range’s educational program, develop leaflets, update bird lists and assist in animal observation work.” April 1, 1980 The Missoulian

“Spring flowers, bison calves welcome visitors to Bison Range by Richard Eggert Correspondent

Moiese – The 19-mile automotive tour of the National Bison Range will open Saturday, and at the same time trail riders will be making their annual trek through the range.

According to Joe Quiroz, public use specialist for the range, the automobile tour will be open a week earlier than usual this year. Normally, the range opens to automotive traffic Memorial Day weekend.

A warm, dry spring and good road conditions allowed his staff to open the range early this year, Quiroz said, noting that those attending a public meeting on range management in March indicated support for opening the road in mid-May.

Quiroz said the trail riders will begin their annual tour Saturday on a special horse trail. He said the horse tour would end Sunday.

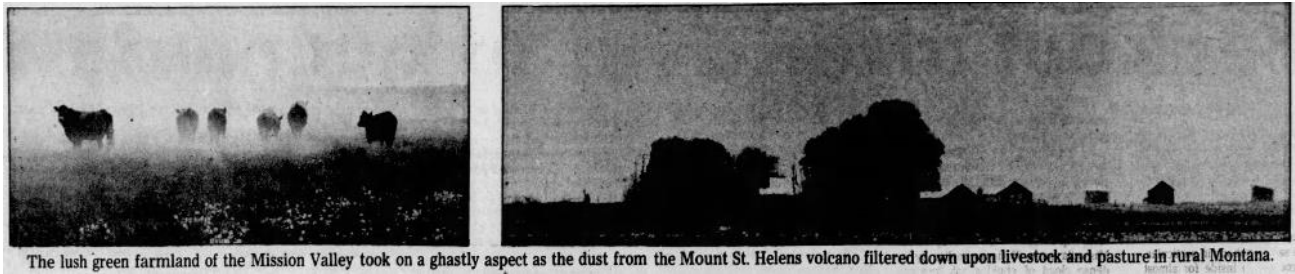
Persons driving or riding through range this weekend would be greeted, he said, by abundant spring flowers in full blossom. He also said buffalo calves are being born now and should be visiting from the tour road.

Quiroz said spring bird migrations and nesting activities would be an added bonus to early bison range travelers. He s

aid blue grouse mating rituals, which include “a curious something” could be seen or heard from the forested portions of the High Point on the tour road.

Opening the range early could become policy, he said. “We are going to try to open the road as early in the season as possible and keep it open as late as practical,” he said.

The hours for daily range hours this year are between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Quiroz said.” May 17, 1980 The Missoulian



A4- Missoulian, Sunday May 25, 1980



“It seemed ‘really spooky’ out on the farm by Richard Eggert Correspondent

Charlo – “Ash Sunday,” as one country-store owner dubbed the eruption of Mount St. Helens, relieved the conversational monotony of tired, old subjects like Iran, Inflation and the primary political campaign.

But the volcanic ash that sifted down on western Montana earlier this week created a new set of problems and anxieties for rural residents.

Favorite subtopics of the volcanic fallout, which shrouded the agricultural and mountain landscape of rural western Montana with a skiff of gray powder, were variations on “where were you when the lights went out.”

One tribal member had retired early Sunday evening, before the fallout began, in order to rise before dawn Monday to hunt on the Flathead Reservation. He drove up the normally dust St.

Mary's Road east of St. Ignatius before the first glimmer of light Monday and hunted until sunup.

"I got back to the truck, and found it covered with this gray dust and thought the world had blown up," he said, "It was really spooky."

Bud Liberty of Dixon, who works at the Champion International pulp mill west of Missoula, said he was aware of the cause of the strange dust Monday morning when he started for work, but "didn't think they would stop the world because of it."

Liberty said he got to the top of Evaro Hill, about 15 miles northwest of Missoula, when he heard an announcement of the radio that all industry in Missoula had been shut down.

"I was the only car on the road and was starting to wonder what was going on, and when I heard that I just turned around, went home and stayed," Liberty recalled.

Livestock owners were worried about the health of their animals when the volcanic dust settled on rich, green spring pastures. Many said they attempted to round their animals and put them under shelter Monday but, as one goat farmer put it, "that seemed to cause more problems than the dust outside."

Gene Pitts, a Dixon cattleman and the town's postmaster, said his cattle were spread around several different pastures and "it would have been impossible to get them all rounded up even if I had some place to put them."

"Besides," Pitts added, "they seem to be eating this stuff all right even if they are snorting out a little mud out their noses."

Pitts said he was a little concerned about the long-range effects of the dust to his cattle, but "there isn't anything I can do about it so I'm not going to worry."

Barbara Burns, who raises registered quarter horses near St. Ignatius, is worried about the implications the fine, abrasive dust will have on the future health of her livestock.

"I am worried about what this stuff is going to do to our arena (performance) stock," Burns said as she brushed the dust off the nostrils of her barrel racing quarter horse, Ricky. They are like athletes and their lungs have to be in really good shape. They have their noses in this stuff all the time and I am worried it is just getting into their lungs and staying there."

Ronan veterinarian Harry Disney said he didn't think performance horses would be harmed by fine particles of silica "unless you just run the heck out of them while this stuff is still suspended."

Disney said horse and other animals have a better system for dealing with particulates than humans do. He said animals breathe through their noses, passing the air through a series of mucous membranes which trap the particles and flush them back out when the mucus is excreted. He also noted that the respiratory system in animals is horizontal, rather than vertical as in humans, which "makes it a lot easier for them to clean this stuff out."

“I have seen a lot of snotty-nosed horses and cows the last few days, and that means they are getting the stuff out and are healthy.” Disney said.

Jo Ann Sandoval, Dixon, said she gathered up her milking goats Monday and put them in a shed, but “that didn’t seem to help much.”

“The hay was dusty anyway, so I let them back out Tuesday,” she said.

Sandoval said milk production had fallen off Monday, but “that was the only thing I noticed with the goats and I am not sure whether that was the dust or confinement.” She said one of the family horses was wheezing, but “I probably would be too if I had been out in this stuff.”

Although bison and other big game species at the National Bison Range at Moiese did not seem to suffer much from the ash, range superintendent Bob Brown was worried about other wildlife. He said he had seen dead insects that appeared to have been caught in dust and smothered or bogged down in the fine, gritty film.

“If this stuff is directly affecting insects, it could have a secondary effect on birds,” he said.

Joseph Quiroz, public-use specialist for the range, said that bird activity had decreased the first two days after the fallout began, but had picked up again Wednesday. “We don’t know what kind of long-term effect it is going to have, especially on birds and insects,” Quiroz said.

Trout raiser Dave Harriman, Post Creek, also was worried about the food chain. “This silica powder is like small rocks, it sinks through water just like a rock and I wonder if it isn’t going to sink to the beds and bottoms of small creeks and ponds and smother out aquatic insects,” said Harriman.

Harriman speculated that another possible environmental ripple from the ash might be algae blooms in ponds and lakes that could change their ecology of the water for the worse.

Harriman’s son, Alan, said Wednesday that algae in some of the family fish-rearing ponds had increased markedly since the ash settled. “We get “some algae every year, but this stuff could make it a lot worse,” he said.

Harriman said millions of tiny rainbow trout which hatched this spring had not been affected thus far by the fallout.

“At first we were really worried about bacterial gill disease because silica can be abrasive to the gill filaments of trout, but I think the stuff is sinking fast enough so there isn’t that much exposure to the fish,” said Harriman.

Harriman said the only problem created thus far by the ash was a delay in delivery of small fish to trout farmers around western Montana. “This is stressing our carrying capacity here and putting the trout growers off schedule,” Harriman said, “and if we can’t get on the road pretty soon it is going to cause problems at both ends.”

Arlee beekeeper Jerry McGahan said he was worried about his bees, but was “cautiously optimistic” about the long-term effects.

McGahan said his bees had exhibited some aberrant behavior since the ash settled, but “so far they seem to be holding their own.” Bees outside of the hives seem to be struggling with the dust, but “in the hives the bees, brood and pollen appear to be clean.”

Many rural businesses closed down during the first couple of days of the ash fallout. Motorists were stranded because gas stations and garages were closed Monday and beleaguered travelers had a hard time finding places to stay.

Motels such as Allentown south of Ronan and Mission Motel in St. Ignatius were closed.

But businesses that stayed open did very well as soon as customers started moving around.

Jim Largent, owner of the Moiese Mercantile, swept the overnight accumulation of dust off the front porch of the weathered frame building Monday and opened as usual. “It was a little slow Monday most people seemed to stick pretty close to home, but Tuesday and Wednesday were both good days,” he said.

Delores Swalling, owner of Wiebkes Grocery in Charlo, also opened Monday and enjoyed a three-day boom. “People started flocking in as though nothing had happened,” she said as she hosed off the road outside the store.

“These were the best three days we have had since we took over the store four years ago,” Swalling said.

Sarah O’Conner said Tuesday and Wednesday were especially busy at O’Conner’s Country Corner in Dixon. “Guess people just ran out of food,” she explained while checking out two huge boxes of groceries.

Some rural merchants were worried Wednesday that road conditions might prevent delivery of supplies to remote areas.

However, Mike Allik, of Polson Meadow Gold Dairies, said he had been delivering milk and other dairy products throughout the ash storm.

Allik said his route, which takes him through Ronan, Charlo and several other small communities, was “a little rough Monday, especially when I met another truck on the road, but there were no real problems.”

Most bars in western Montana were closed, but the Dixon Bar and Grill stayed open throughout the ash storm. JoAnne Schmauch said the Sanders County sheriff’s office had allowed her to stay open “to supply food and communications to people who were stranded by the storm.”

“We had a lot of traffic but it was mostly for food and the use of the telephone,” Schmauch said as she wiped some of the fine grit from the bar.

All three of the Mission Valley’s weekly newspapers put out editions despite the grit. Spokesmen for the Mission Valley News, Ronan Pioneer and Flathead Courier said their editions were smaller than usual because of the difficulty rounding up advertising Monday.

Dwight Tracy, editor of the Mission Valley News, said he considered putting out two editions, one early in the week without ads and a regular edition later, but “decided to put out one scrawny paper with an awful lot of news in it.”

Transportation was difficult during the first three days of the fallout. Small, isolated rural communities and farms were especially struck with the remoteness created by the dust. “this place was like a ghost town Monday,” aid O’Conner in Dixon.

“It was almost as if the world had stopped up here,” observed Doug Allard in St. Ignatius, owner of the Flathead Indian Museum, Trading Post and Art Gallery.

Traveling was hard on both people and vehicles. Tuesday, the first Burlington Northern motorized push cart plowed a trail through the dust on the Ravalli-Dixon track. Through the storm of dust kicked up by the small cart, all that was visible of the cart were the front heels and the cab’s yellow front end.

Later in the day, the first full train through since the storm began created a blizzard of ash near the tracks.

Wednesday, Burlington Northern engineer Glen Watters and his crew stopped their north-run train at Moiese for a soda pop break. Watters said most of the engines that were being operated in western Montana are having a variety of dust problems, mostly clogged filters.

Watters and his crew had taken the trip from Missoula to Polson “real slow, 15 miles per hour through inhabited areas,” but had still managed to coat the train and themselves with a film of dust.

The volcanic ash settled on the lives of just about everybody in western Montana and left some lasting impressions.

“It has been interesting living through a rare geological phenomenon and I wouldn’t have missed it for the world – but enough is enough,” said Frank Wright of St. Ignatius.

“This stuff is odd, it looks a little like a skiff of snow, even acts something like snow, but it doesn’t melt,” observed Bison Range official Quiroz.

“I think people are overreacting to this,” said Pitts. “A farmer working in a field all day gets a lot more than this in a day’s work and it doesn’t hurt him.”

May 25, 1980 The Missoulian

Western Montana.



Photo by Richard Eggert

Bison are the most powerful guests at the National Bison Range, but the preserve's animal population also includes antelope, above, and many species of birds.

Bison Range becomes classroom

By Richard Eggert
Correspondent

MOIESE — Teacher Beth Hogg doesn't have a classroom and her only students are other teachers.

Hogg is the coordinator of an environmental education program centered at the National Bison Range at Moiese. But Hogg and Joe Quiroz, public-use specialist for the range, aren't exactly in the business of teaching anything.

"What we are doing is helping teachers use the Bison Range and other natural areas as educational tools to teach students classroom topics," Quiroz explained.

He said the program helps teachers in drawing up study plans, offers a small library of study materials, and helps in applying for small education grants.

Quiroz said about 30 classes from schools in Plains to Missoula are using the program.

"What we are talking about is not the 'Oh gee' wildlife-birds-and-flowers kind of field trips," he said. "Rather we are trying to show teachers how to use the natural envi-

ronment to teach math, history, science or any other classroom topic."

Each student develops his own study project and does the field work, he explained. "It is something the students can actively become involved in and still be learning nuts and bolts in science."

Hogg is planning to conduct one-day seminars for teachers designed to explain the project and how study plans are used. One seminar is set for September.

"We don't want to convert anybody from teaching methods they presently use. We want to work with teachers who have an existing interest in using the outdoors as a classroom," Quiroz.

Quiroz said the idea of using the range and other natural areas as a classroom took shape about two years ago. Hogg, who was a school teacher in Michigan, was hired part-time to coordinate the program and collect materials.

The program's budget is limited and "the way things are, it probably won't get any better," Quiroz said.

Around the region

Lake County

• **FLATHEAD RESOURCE ORGANIZATION POTLUCK DINNER AND MEETING**, Sunday, 1 p.m., National Bison Range picnic area near Moiese.

The agenda includes discussion of pesticide use, the possibility of further Corps of Engineers studies on the lower Flathead River and Bonneville Power Administration's plans to route transmission lines through the Flathead Reservation.

Flathead County

• **GLACIER CHARITY OPEN HORSE SHOW**, June 27-29, Flathead County Fairgrounds, Kalispell.

Entrants will compete for almost \$5,000 in prize money. About 300 participants have signed up for the show.

Performances will start at 8 a.m., 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. each of the three days.

Ravalli County

• **STEVENSVILLE SCHOOL BOARD**, Monday, 8 p.m., high school library. The trustees will hold a hearing on the preliminary school budget for 1980-81.

• **LONE ROCK SCHOOL BOARD**, Monday, 8 p.m., school cafeteria. The trustees will hold a hearing on the preliminary school budget for 1980-81.

• **FLORENCE-CARLTON SCHOOL BOARD**, Monday, 7 p.m., high school library. Items on the agenda include the preliminary budget hearing, recommendations for new elementary teachers, contract for non-certified staff, student handbook, evaluation process for coaches, credit for junior high students taking high school courses, and a proposed hot lunch program.

June 21, 1980 The Missoulian

Around Missoula

• **FIRST ANNUAL ALBERTON SPORTSMAN'S CLUB STREET DANCE** Saturday, 1 p.m. Music by Lillian Young and the Younguns.

• **WORKSHOP FOR EXHIBITING VEGETABLES AT FAIR** Saturday, 1 p.m., in 4-H Exhibit Building on fairgrounds. The program, sponsored by the Missoula 4-H Council and the County Extension Office, is open to the public and will include a vegetable-judging contest.

• **NEW GAMES WORKSHOP** at Kiwanis Park Sunday, 1 p.m. It will be for those wishing to find out the how, what and why of New Games. Bring a friend. For more information call 543-8469 or 549-4527.

• **WORKSHOP, FIELD TRIP, FIVE VALLEYS AUDUBON SOCIETY** Saturday and Sunday. The first annual All Chapters Workshop, hosted by the Bison Range and the Flathead Audubon Chapter, will include a tour of the range,

birding trips, films, campfires and a chance to meet statewide Audubon'ers. Campsites will be reserved at \$2 and \$3 per person or nearby-motel reservations will be available at Allentown.

• **SINGLES UNITED** reservations for the Bigfork Summer Playhouse of July 26 must be made with Pris Chadduck, 549-8255 by Monday.

• **CHILDREN'S CENTER**, 432 E. Pine St. is a participant in the Child Care Food Program, providing midmorning and afternoon snacks and lunch, regardless of race, color or national origin.

• **NINEMILE REMOUNT DEPOT HISTORIC DESIGNATION CEREMONY**, at the Ninemile Ranger Station 30 miles northwest of Missoula, off Interstate 90, beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday with displays and tours of the Ninemile saddle shop, blacksmith shop, a mule-packing demonstration and a look at

the Lolo Forest Plan. At 11 a.m. local and national Forest Service officials will dedicate the station as a national historic site, followed by picnic lunches at noon — and more tours and a smokejumper exhibition at 1 p.m.

• **THE SILENT WITNESS**, a British film which is a historical and analytical look at what has been called the burial shroud of Christ, will be shown free-of-charge at the Crystal Theatre July 19. Sponsored by Christ Brotherhood, a local group which sponsors the Free Folk Celebrations each Sunday at Jacobs Island Park, the film is a documentary which investigates the mystery which surrounds the Shroud of Turin.

• **VACANCY ON ZONING COMMISSION** — The City Clerk's office will be accepting applications for a vacancy on the Zoning Commission until 5 p.m. Wednesday. The term will run until April 30, 1981, and is a non-paying position. Applicants must be a resident of the City of Missoula. Interviews by the City Council will be scheduled for Thursday, July 24.

July 18, 1980 The Missoulian



Staff photo by Kurlenon Dotter

Recuperating in Missoula are British bicyclists, from left, Kahinde Emiabata, Helen Hannigan and Taiwo Emiabata.

Cross country bicyclists pull up lame in Missoula

By Mea Andrews
Staff writer

It was early Sunday evening when 25 bicyclists pedaled into Missoula, tired and hungry and ready for a rest. They had started their trip in Washington seven days before, with a destination of Yorktown, Va.

Early Monday morning, most of the bicyclists were back on the road for the next leg of the trip, a 120-mile jaunt to Helena. But three bicyclists — 16-year-old Helen Hannigan and 13-year-old twins Taiwo and Kahinde Emiabata — remained in Missoula to nurse inflamed knees and sore muscles.

Were the girls disappointed in being left behind? Yes — but just a little. They are enjoying their four-day rest and the chance to see a little of Montana.

While the others were puffing over mountain passes, the three girls took turns navigating a speed boat on Flathead Lake, went on a cherry-picking excursion, visited the Moiese Bison Range and toured the University of Montana.

"It just feels good to sleep and rest," said Helen.

The trio are part of a six-week bike tour called "Discovering America," which was organized for youngsters from low-income and inner-city families in England, Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland.

Alan Evans, head of the education department of the National Union of Teachers in London, planned the trip as an educational experience for the youngsters.

Taiwo and Kahinde, identical twins from London, were suffering from inflamed knees when they arrived in Missoula, and were treated in the emergency room at Community Hospital. The two sisters were told to forgo the bike trip for a few days and allow their knees to recover.

Helen, also from London and a schoolmate of the Emiabata twins, decided that she, too, would stay in Missoula — "just for some rest," she said.

"In a way, I regretted not being able to go," said Taiwo. "I came to America to do the trip and see the sights, and I feel like I didn't do what I came to do. But I needed the rest."

Unlike some of the other bicyclists on the tour, Kahinde, Taiwo and Helen are not experienced riders, having started their training only six months ago. At first they

rode 36 miles each day, eventually working up to more than 90 miles a day.

"But London is flat," said Kahinde, and there was little training for the mountainous routes the group took through Washington and Montana. Coming over Stevens Pass in Washington, "my knees just started hurting," remembered Taiwo.

Also, the heat and the fast-clipped pace of the trip took a toll on the three girls. "We don't have any rest days and we go 90 to 120 miles every day," said Helen. "It is very tiring."

Left in the group are 18 boys (one boy will go home to Wales this week because of heat exhaustion), two men chaperons who are riding bikes and two women who are driving a supply truck and overseeing the photographic part of the trip.

Kahinde, Helen and Taiwo will take a bus to Yellowstone National Park Thursday where they will join the other bicyclists.

Despite all the setbacks in their trip — including numerous detours to avoid Washington's Mount St. Helens — the three girls already have some fond thoughts about America and Americans.

"People are very friendly," said Helen. "When we ride, they wave and say hello. In London, nobody ever said anything, they just passed by."

Even though the girls speak English, they have found that English English and American English are not always the same.

"I asked for some chips (at a restaurant) and the lady said they didn't have any chips," said Kahinde with a smile. "But I could see that they had them — chips in England are called french fries here."

And Americans have a hard time understanding Helen, Kahinde and Taiwo because they speak with cockney dialect. "We have to repeat everything," said Helen.

While in Missoula, the girls are staying with Dave Andrew, a speech teacher at Sentinel High School, and his wife, Gloria. Teachers in several Montana cities — as in other states — are sponsoring the overnight stays of the bicyclists.

"We were frustrated because they were only staying the one night," said Gloria Andrew. "When we found out they were going to get to stay longer, we were overjoyed. It's been a delight."

“Bison Range staff to hold environmental workshop

An environmental education workshop for area teachers and interested persons will be sponsored by the staff of the National Bison Range at Moiese.

The range is organizing an outdoor education program for use by schools and other community groups. This program emphasizes many varied hands on learning activities that can be done with students while visiting the Bison Range or associated wildlife refuges (Ninepipe, Pablo, Swan River).

The workshop will be held September 20 at the range from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

One unit of credit from the University of Montana is available at a cost of approximately \$25. There will be a required text for the course which will cost one dollar. Bring a lunch. Some refreshments will be provided – for which a \$1 contribution is requested.

If you are interested in attending the workshop, please fill out the following form and return by Tuesday, Sept. 16, to: Teacher Workshop, National Bison Range, Moiese, 59824 (ph. 644-2354).

September 8, 1980 The Missoulian

“Correction

Form not attached

The last paragraph of an article in the Monday Missoulian about an environmental workshop for teachers at the Moiese National Bison Range incorrectly indicated that an application form accompanied the story.

Persons interested in attending the all-day workshop, to be conducted by the bison-range staff on Sept. 20, may obtain application forms or additional information by writing to: Teacher Workshop, National Bison Range, Moiese, 59824, or by calling 644-2354.” September 10, 1980 The Missoulian

“A grizzly relocation plan that didn’t work by Sherry Devlin



In the wildest of British Columbia’s wild country, Charles Jonkel got a rude reminder about the wild animals recently. The tale goes like this:

It was the day after Labor Day – Sept. 2 – and Jonkel was relocating a troublesome grizzly from Montana to British Columbia. It was a task Jonkel has tackled scores of times, as head of the Montana Border Grizzly Project and an expert on the endangered animals.

The bear was first trapped July 7 after it killed more than 15 sheep near East Glacier. That time, Jonkel took the animal to Bunker Creek near Spotted Bear – hoping that it would take kindly to a new locale and stay out of trouble.

But four weeks later, the 225-pound grizzly was back on the prowl near East Glacier, killing more sheep on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation. This time, Jonkel asked for a permit to relocate the bear in Canada. “We had two choices,” he said. “We could either kill the bear or relocate it outside Montana.”

On Aug. 29, the permit arrived from the endangered species office in Washington, D.C., Jonkel could move the grizzly to an isolated area on the Upper Bull River of British Columbia – about 100 miles from the U.S. border. “It’s beautiful country,” Jonkel said. “Extremely wild, extremely mountainous and extremely rugged.”

On Sept. 2, the Labor Day weekend passed, Jonkel arrived in Upper Bull with the grizzly, a Canadian game warden and Jon Almack, a junior wildlife biology major at UM. Almack was a volunteer on Jonkel’s grizzly research project in the Cabinet Mountains this summer.

“We had to go over a pretty bumpy road for about an hour before we got to the right spot,” Jonkel said. “Up until then, the bear had been in a pen we keep in Missoula. But he was in this cage for the ride to the Upper Bull spot.”

Once at the site, the threesome backed the cage up to a steep embankment, with the bear heading downhill. The cage had a remote-control switch, so the crew could open the door while sitting inside the pickup cab.

But, the switch wasn’t working.

Jonkel took a post atop the cage, with the other two men standing behind. The door was lifted open and the grizzly – a 4-year-old male – headed out and down the hill. Then he stopped.

“He hadn’t gone too far, when he turned towards to cage and headed back at me,” Jonkel said. “He had three paws up on top of the cage, and was slapping the fourth one at me when the Canadian warden shot him. There wasn’t really anything else that could have been done.”

The warden, Bill Ellis of British Columbia Fish and Wildlife Department, shot the grizzly once in the chest. The bear then moved down the embankment and into an aspen grove by the river, where it died.

“I’ve never had that happen before,” Jonkel said, “but I guess it really wasn’t too surprising. I suppose he (the grizzly) wasn’t in the best nature after that bumpy ride. These are wild animals we’re dealing with, you know, and there’s just no predicting what they’ll do. That’s something we can’t afford to forget.”

Another Bear Story

Yet another bear – this one a black bear – was accidentally killed last weekend by Glacier Park rangers and members of the Blackfeet Indian tribe.

That tale began when the bear killed eight sheep in 24 hours in an area about 15 miles south of East Glacier. The bear was caught last Sunday in a snare set by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Four Park Service rangers went to the spot, to tranquilize the bear and transport it out of the area. But the bear died soon after it was tranquilized.

The problem, according to a government report, was that the rangers made a mistake when they drugged the animal. The marauding bear died of an overdose of tranquilizers.

A Buffalo Story

At the National Bison Range in Moiese last week, the story was one of bidding and buffaloes. There, 70 American bison were sold by sealed bid – part of the range's herd management program.

Restaurant owners, ranchers, butchers and "a number of small landowners" bought the animals, according to refuge assistant Susan McCollum. Highest price paid for an animal was \$1,402 for an 8-year-old bull. Average price was \$780.43 per animal.

"We sold 124 to a man in Roosevelt, Utah, who has a private herd, McCollum said. "He raises buffalo like beef cattle, and then butchers them for market. One guy in South Dakota buys our animals and then lets hunters come in and shoot them."

Another 18 buffaloes went to a butcher who owns a meat market in Rollins, along the west shore of Flathead Lake. Another 8 or 10 went to additional buyers interested in butchering the animals for meat.

"One man who owns a café in Eastport, Idaho, buys a buffalo every year," McCollum said. "It must be a specialty he offers or something, I don't know for sure. We never see most of these people, since all the bids come in the mail."

McCollum said the animals will be taken out of the herd during the annual range roundup on Oct. 6 and 7.

"We'll bring all the buffalo in off the range and cut out those that have been sold," she said. "Then, it will be up to the buyers to pick them up."

The bison range carries a herd of about 325 buffalo, McCollum said, "and with the calf crop we'll probably be up to about 400 during the roundup. That's why we sell a certain number each year to try and keep the herd manageable."

During the roundup, all the animals are sorted and counted – and the calves are vaccinated, McCollum said. Then all are turned back out on the range's 18,540 acre for the winter.

A Report on Penguins

South of here – way south of here – the animal under watch is the penguin. Long the hardy survivor of the Antarctic winter, the penguin is falling prey to ravenous huskies brought to the South Pole by scientists.

In the September issue of Adventure Travel magazine, writer Richard Harrington tells of the million-plus penguins that inhabit Hope Bay – an isolated scientific station manned by Argentinians.

There, the scientists keep 20 to 30 sled dogs for exercise and patrol. The dogs are chained in three rows parallel to the shoreline, straight across the path taken by penguins on their way to the sea for food.

The problem is that penguins never learned to fear or avoid huskies. They waddle right into the lines of the chained dogs and are instantly attacked and usually killed. “During one visit, I saw six mutilated birds, and watched others blithely hobble to disaster, Harrington wrote.

Millions When asked why they didn’t chain the dogs elsewhere, the Argentinians were surprised. “Ah, there’s millions of penguins,” the scientists said. Harrington disagreed. “The Antarctic will soon be another trouble spot in the world,” he wrote.

The Antarctic is no longer the beautifully remote area it once was.” In Harrington’s words. “World powers are preparing their arguments to determine who will eventually own the resources of the vast, icy continent. Before long, even the seas around it will be plundered. Icebergs will be sold to arid countries, mineral resources removed, and krill might become a substitute for hamburger or pet food.” September 14, 1980 The Missoulian

“Bison range tours suspended during annual roundup

Moiese – Tours of the National Bison Range at Moiese will be discontinued through Oct. 10 as animals and crews from the range wind up to and down from the annual buffalo roundup.

However, visitors will be able to view the last leg of the roundup Monday through Wednesday outside the administration complex.

This year the range sold 70 head of buffalo. These animals will be tested, vaccinated and held for buyers who purchased them last month by bid auction.

This years’ buffalo calves will be branded and some of them marked for a biological project. The calves will also be vaccinated.” October 4, 1980 The Missoulian



October 22, 1980 The Missoulian

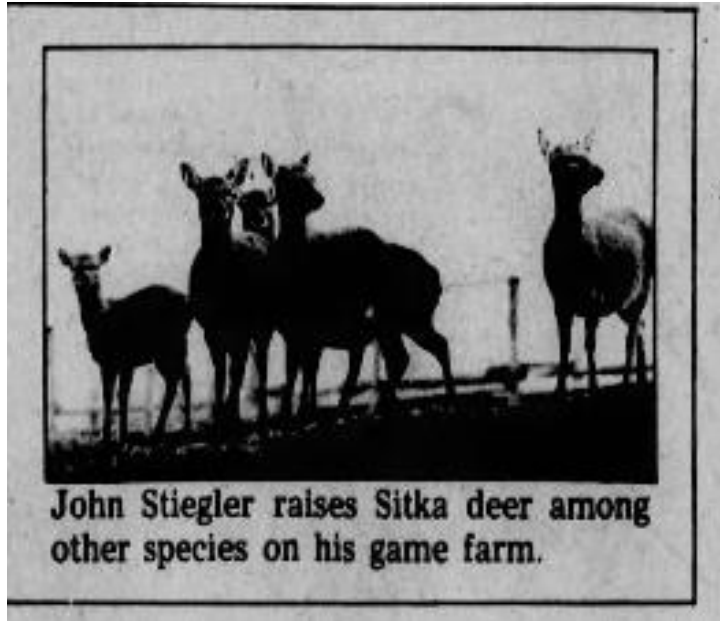
Missoulian, Sunday, November 23, 1980—A-1

Montana territory

The Thanksgiving table is set, the wine chilled, so where is dinner? Luckily, the traditional pioneer feast does not have to include the hunt for . . .

A WILD main course

By Connie Poten and photos by Ray Gehman of the Missoulian



“Thanksgiving: The labor of the harvest and the hunt have been richly rewarded with a root cellar full of canned goods and wild game from the abundant fields and forests.

Ah, wilderness, the American dream. Let us gather together and give thanks.

For some the dream dies hard. Consider the hunter who spots only one herd of elk – the herd is behind a sheep-wire fence. Or the hunter whose partner refuses, for ethical considerations, to shoot a Canada goose sitting on a river bank not 30 yards away. And then the hunter’s anguished cry flushes a flock of mallards that also escape. Meanwhile, back at the ranch, the garden freezes.

Ah, wilderness.

Hope springs eternal for the inept, however. If the idea of catching, dressing and savoring a wild harvest, as in the days of our ancestors, holds you in its lure, while the hunt eludes you, there are answers.

The annual roundup at the National Bison Range, game farms, game bird farms, wild meat auctions, trout ponds, and even certain meat markets offer wild meat, fowl and fish in all stages, from live to wrapped and ready for the oven.

If you’re interested in visiting private game farms to buy or just look the Montana Department of Fish, wildlife and Parks has available to the public a seven-page list that covers the state.

The owners of these farms offer a wilderness tableau; they raise elk, antelope, deer, buffalo, beaver, fox, mountain lion, bighorn sheep, chukar, pheasant, wild turkey, quail, Canadian geese and ducks. The owners welcome the public, but ask that people call before coming.

Anyone may buy game to eat from the farms, but only those with game farm permits may buy for breeding. Following is a description of area game farms that offer fowl and fauna for feasting.

Fowl, wild and domestic

The largest game bird farm in the Missoula area is the Burnt Fork Game Farm, east of Stevensville, owned by David L. Majors. He raises pheasant, both ring-necked and exotics like the golden and silver; quail, California and bobwhite; and Merriam turkeys, all for sale.

In Missoula, Fred Frey raises wild Merriam turkeys, quail and pheasants to sell for eating, but he also raises some exotic species of pheasants that are worth the drive on Mullan Road to see. His peacocks' plumage pale beside the radiant scarlet, golden, green and blue found in the blue-eared pheasant, Lady Amherst and golden pheasant.

President of the Western Montana Aviculturists Club, Frey started raising birds in 1968. His family's ranch stretches down to the Clark Fork River and includes part of Kelly Island. During mating season the caged pheasants trade calls with wild pheasants that inhabit the area.

Chris and Lorraine Houppart, 1025 Lost Mine Loop, Missoula, are selling ring-necked pheasants for Thanksgiving. They will kill and clean the birds for customers.

East of Florence, Roy Nicolet offers mallard ducks for sale. "I have 16 bird species, and nine of them are endangered subspecies of pheasants, said Nicolet. His farm is home to pheasants, Candian geese, ducks, and small white European fallow deer.

While digging gravel for road in 1974, Nicolet decided to fill in the pit with water. He sealed the bottom with 25 tons of bestonite, a porous clay produced by the decomposition of volcanic ash, namedv after Fort Benton, where it is found. Nicolet then brought in geese and ducks to enjoy the large, new pond.

"To keep the geese I clip their flight feathers, which grow back each year. I don't believe in pinioning them, which means cutting a muscle so they can never fly again," said Nicolet. "My dream is to some day have 400 pairs of Canadian geese on my land."

For people who wish to buy a live bird, butcher and dress it themselves, but prefer domestic varieties, at least three in the Missoula area offer an option. In Florence, Sharon Mills, 244 Tie Chute Lane, raises and sells white domestic turkeys. The Gunnysack, 1804 North Ave.W., Missoula, sells domestic geese and ducks, raised on a farm 25 miles from town. And Carolyn Hieb, 3030 Lower Miller Creek Road, usually sells turkeys, but this year has domestic ducks and geese for sale at her place.

Large wild game:

"I hear \$50! Will anyone give me \$60? \$60 it is. Will anyone give me \$70 for this fine four-point mule buck?" chanted Dennis Hagenston, game warden and auctioneer at a game auction on a recent Wednesday night.

Region 2 of the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, 3309 Brooks, Missoula, conducts public auctions when the stockpile in its large freezer builds up with poached game and road kills.

At the most recent auction 20 animals were sold, including a black bear (which went for \$80), a cow moose (\$380), two cow elk (\$180 and \$205), whitetail and mule deer (ranging from \$70 to \$75), and quarters and halves of elk and deer. An undressed pheasant went for \$1.

The department does not guarantee the meat, but Hagenston always gives the history of how and when the animal was killed, dressed out and brought to the locker.

At the last auction, the majority of the animals were in good condition. Hagensen warned the approximately 75 participants when he thought blood might have spread into the meat of a particular animal from having been hit by a vehicle. The next auction, planned for an evening this coming week, has not yet been scheduled.

On the hoof, herds of buffalo, elk, whitetail, mule and Sitka deer roam woods and pastures along the Clark Fork River in Grass Valley, west of Missoula. John Stiegler, whose grandfather homesteaded in the area in 1909, takes great pleasure in wandering the 475 acres he has set aside for his game farm.

He leaves alfalfa hay uncut for wild whitetail and mule deer that also find refuge in the rich bottomlands. Heron nests fill out the boughs of cottonwoods along a spring-fed slough that runs three-quarters of a mile.

Stiegler invites senior citizens to fish the slough for rainbow trout that weigh up to seven pounds.

On a tour of his farm near Harper's Bridge, Stiegler pointed to shallows in the slough, "there, the trout are spawning where the rocks have been piled together." Platter-size rainbows knifed by, silently fanning the nest, or redd, to increase the depression in the rocky bottom.

Under natural conditions, rainbows spawn in the spring, but in farm ponds, or sloughs, their spawning cycle alters, and they will spawn at anytime.

"These trout like to feed on the natural freshwater shrimp," Stiegler explained.

When he threw some specially made molasses and barley food pellets to the herd of elk, just coming out of rut, one 13-year-old bull and his harem came at a fast trot. The rest of the bulls held back, drifting in slowly for the treat.

All the bulls have been dehorned, to avoid destruction of the herd during rutting warfare. For the last three years, Stiegler has sold the horns to the Oriental market. Far Easterners believe that elk and deer horns in velvet make a potent aphrodisiac.

Elk horns in velvet bring as much as \$115 a pound.

"We need tighter regulations on this market," said Stiegler. "Poachers are killing magnificent animals simply for the horns now."

Soft, high whines filtered through the air, as the does complained for more food. A bull bugled halfheartedly – at a safe distance from the reigning king and his harem. Nearby, a herd of Japanese Sitka deer, shorter and huskier than whitetail or mule deer, watched curiously.

The Sitka are very good eating,” said Stiegler. “People especially like them for pit barbecues. Wild game meat is very lean, and excellent for people on low-cholesterol diets.”

Stiegler also sells his buffalo for eating and breeding.

“This area is legal for shotgun and bow and arrow hunting only,” he said. “I would allow someone to kill a buffalo with a bow if he wanted to, but we usually pen the animal” and someone from a local butcher shop comes out and shoots it with a rifle.

Depending on the need for thinning his herds of whitetail, mule and Sitka deer, and elk and buffalo, Stiegler will allow people to come on his land to buy and kill their own animal. Right now, the only game he wants to sell are buffalo and Sitka deer.

For permission to take a tour of the gamelands, or to hunt, call foreman Clarence Jette or John Steigler at 728-1307.

The National Bison Range at Moiese stages a buffalo roundup every fall. This year’s crop has already been brought in and sold in a competitive sealed bid auction. To get your name in for next year’s auction, call the refuge at 644-354.

“Invitations go out in August and the bidding takes place in September,” explained Susan McCollum, refuge assistant. “The bids go according to age and sex. Successful bidders buy the buffalo on the hoof and take them away for slaughter.”

The bison for same range in age from yearlings to 10 years.

“We maintain a representative herd of 325 animals,” said McCollum. “So we weed out the animals that exceed the limits of a natural herd.”

The overall average price is \$780 per animal, and about 50 percent of the weight of the animal makes good meat.

“This last season M & S Meats in Rollins bought 18 animals. A private rancher bought 14 to build up his herd,” McCollum said. “We sold 75 head of buffalo.”

Antelope and bighorn sheep that live on the range are transplanted by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks to populate other areas of Montana.

“Our own people hunt the extra deer, and we donate some of the meat to the public school hot lunch program,” said McCollum.

Rainbow Trout:

Trout growers throughout western Montana have banded together and formed the Western Montana Trout Growers Corp. The 60 members have opened a trout processing plant two miles north of Arlee, where they clean, bone and freeze the fish for market.

“These trout are pretty good bargains,” said Margaret Harriman, whose husband, David, is chairman of the corporation. “They are also very good for people with heart problems or those who must follow fat-free diets. The plant is capable of producing more than 150,000 pounds of fish a year.”

The plant also will mail fish to customers within a 100-mile radius of Arlee.

If you would rather go to a pond than a plant for your fresh rainbow trout, Harriman said many trout growers have occasional “fishouts” for sportsmen. For those who want fresh fish, but usually fill the shoes of frustrated fishermen, they may call ahead and the owner will catch and clean the fish for them.

“Different pond owners charge for their fish differently,” said Harriman. Some go by the pound, some by the inch.”

In order to make arrangement for fishing or picking up frozen or fresh fish from the plant or pond, call Margaret Harriman, Arlee, 745-4355.

Bon appetit!” November 23, 1980 The Missoulian