

ys Films Gave False Impression

Peterson Calls Safari Island 'Compatible'

by Jane Fader
 Concrete's State Senator Lowell Peterson this week challenged a recent CBS film documentary on Safari Island in the Senate, stating that clipping the film, which widely separated the activities on the game preserve located on the island, was formerly known as Safari Island.

"A recent CBS film documentary picturing Safari Island as a natural slaughterhouse, with animals running down the hills

into the waters of the San Juans is highly mis-representative of factual conditions," Senator Peterson, chairman of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Fish and Game, said late Tuesday.

His statement followed a tour of Safari Island with Regional State Game Department Supervisor Reade Brown.

"I have concluded that Safari Island would be highly compatible to the various species of trophy animals provided there

for those who desire to hunt on a game preserve," the senator said.

"Safari Island, approximately 2400 acres in size, provide excellent cover on its thickly wooded north side and has open grass slopes and bluff on the southern exposure," Peterson added.

"Contrary to popular belief," Senator Peterson continued, "most of the clients patronizing the island are there to hunt birds of various species or to

fish in the adjacent waters. Since opening of Safari Island as a game preserve approximately a year ago only about 20 trophy animals have been taken. Hunters are only allowed in when accompanied by a guide so breeding stock is protected."

The senator denied headlines comments in other area newspapers that he would "seek controls" over Safari Island, stating he made the trip to carry out his quoted promise to "take a firm look" at the situation.

"To attempt to legislate

against such an enterprise, one should consider the broad implications that might follow, such as elimination of state game farms, private pheasant preserves or even trout farms," Peterson said.

"With some 3,000 private game preserves presently operating satisfactorily in the United States, any attempt to close Safari Island should not be considered seriously by the legislature until further study and until factual information is obtained," the senator concluded.



Vol. 70, No. 52, Thursday, December 24, 1970

Lions Bow to Lynden Lyncs 68-61 in Hard-Fought Game

By Coach Bill Thompson
 Concrete's Lions lost to the Lynden Christian Lyncs after a hard-fought battle Friday in the Lyncs gym.

Concrete got off to an early lead but trailed 33-31 at half-time. The Lyncs snapped several quick baskets early in the second half for a ten-point lead. The Lions cut this to four points before the Lynden team went into a stall in the fourth, ending the game 68-61.

Players and the points each scored included: Scott Culbertson, 16; Robert Johnson, 13; Jeff Thompson, 13; Ed McNeill, 7; Kevin Kelly, 6; Jim LaFayette, 2; Bob Wright, 2; Russ Johnson and Jerry Ross. The Lion Jayvees were on the low side of a

55-37 score in the preliminary game. Players included Ryan Wood, 11; Kim Green, 9; Guy Clements, 8; Arnie Strand, 5; Steve Novy, 4; Vic Bradley, Jim Hooper, Jerry Ross, Mark Sutherland, Larry Jones and Greg Shephard.

Election Slated For School Levy

Directors of Upper Skagit Valley School District 102 set a February 9 date for a special levy and bond election approved in special session this Monday evening.

The school board will ask voter approval of a \$165,000 one-year levy to cover maintenance and operation at present level and repairs to the grade school roof and high school gymnasium floor.

A \$125,000 five-year bond issue will be put on the ballot to finance costs of a new heating system for the high school.

Snowmobilers Courses Due

Support of snowmobiler user groups throughout the state was urged this week by the Western Snowmobile Association for a snowmobile safety education program cooperatively sponsored by the Association and the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission.

The voluntary program is aimed at promoting safe operating standards for this increasingly popular winter sport, according to State Parks Director Charles H. Odegaard. He said instructors' clinics will begin next month and certified instructors will then schedule courses for the thousands of snowmobilers anticipated in the state's outdoor recreation areas this winter.

The safety education program was cooperatively developed following studies conducted by a Snowmobile Coordination Committee established by the Parks Commission last March at the request of Governor Daniel J. Evans. The participating state and federal government agencies, private land owners, and winter sports groups repeatedly identified safety as a major area of concern in subsequent subcommittee meetings over the ensuing six months. In view of the extent of this concern, it is felt that a voluntary safety education program will receive widespread acceptance.

Deadhorse Bridge Declared Unsafe

A bridge across the Nooksack River in Mt. Baker National Forest has been declared unsafe and barricaded against further use, Forest Supervisor H. C. Christwell announced.

Deadhorse Bridge at Bridge Campground, originally constructed in 1923 by the Washington State Department of Highways, has been closed. AC.

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'Open Space' Tax Deadline Next Week

Landowners wishing to place property under provisions of the Open Space Taxation Law must apply to the county assessor by December 31 to qualify it for 1971 assessments on a basis of current use values.

Written applications, post-marked on the last day of the year will be accepted, even though appraisal of the land and processing by the local legislative authorities occurs after that date.

Forms are available at the Skagit County courthouse.



SANTA CLAUS IS HERE—Little Dale Gardner gleefully welcomes the jolly old gentleman in red who arrived in Concrete last Saturday for a preview of tonight's Christmas Eve swing through the countryside. Flanked by brothers Gregory, left, and Patrick,

Dale was among the nearly 200 youngsters visiting Santa during his stop at the Concrete Library arranged by volunteer firemen and members of the Lions Club, Eagles Lodge and American Legion.

—Concrete Herald Photo

Senator Peterson Challenges Northern State Closure Plan

Governor Evans' proposed closure of Northern State Hospital in Sedro Woolley to cut \$6 million from the state's annual budget was termed "the Malaise Measure of Skagit County" by State Senator Lowell Peterson of Concrete.

Writing to the Concrete Herald publishers Tuesday night, Senator Peterson said "the economic loss to Skagit County, already number one in unemployment in the state, can't be over-emphasized. More important, the governor must have lost all sense of compassion for those receiving care in the excellent facilities of Northern State Hospital and their families.

"Although cuts must be made in the state budget in many de-

partments, to close Northern State to the indigent and mentally infirm is inconceivable," the Democratic state senator from Concrete added.

"When the state budget is presented to the Senate I will use every conceivable means to restore funds necessary for continued operation of Northern State Hospital," Senator Peterson pledged.

The governor's proposal calls for closure of Northern State facilities by July of this coming year, with a February 1 cutoff for new admissions there. Under this proposal patients would be moved to Western State, near Tacoma.

Buildings at Northern State (Continued on Page 16)

Holiday Lane

Judging for the annual Holiday Lane, sponsored by the Upper Skagit Garden Club, will tour the area next Wednesday evening, December 30.

Mrs. Al Onkels, chairman, said all decorated homes and businesses in Concrete and nearby areas will be judged this year.

Mrs. Onkels urged that all residents light their displays the evening of the judging. Results will be announced the following week.

Wrestling Results

Concrete wrestlers lost by two points in a meet with Oak Harbor jayvees December 8.

Winners for the Lions were Laurie Ruddell, Greg Brown, Jim Curd, Lewis Crookshank, Richard Johnson and Frank Seaman.

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