

Who's laughing now, hyena?

"Where do you think I could take archery lessons?" I asked my husband on our way out of town. "No, he's gonna meet us there," Denny replied, because the roar of our truck makes rational conversation impossible.

The sport had been tickling the back of my mind for two years. A confirmed night owl, I had been flipping through the late night channels and landed on women's Olympic archery. Unlike many games, this one held my interest in part because of the setting. The backdrop of the ancient Panathinaiko Stadium lent an air of authenticity and mythology. One could readily picture Greek goddess Artemis or her Roman counterpart Diana dazzling the crowd with

her gold arm bands and dead-on skill.

Upon our return to an Internet connection, I Googled archery in the area, and a couple of links later found an upcoming public archery event. The First Annual Archery Day of the Fort Collins Archery Association was

Something Ventured



Surveyor Columnist **Debbie Draper**

scheduled for the following weekend. The event offered free instruction and the use of equipment to folks of all ages. I couldn't have designed a more perfect introduction to the sport.

My friend Carla, who had practiced archery with her ex-husband (her "wasband," as she refers to him), gamely agreed to accompany me, provided she wouldn't be my "game." The FCAA outdoor range was neatly tucked amid trees and dirt roads off Frontage Road. We arrived around 10:30 that morning and were delighted to discover that the party was already in full swing. Scores of people moved about in various stages of archery ability, with a handful of

FCAA members weaving throughout, dispensing instruction and conversation.

Orientation leader Toby gathered a group of us newbies around him and delivered his spiel. Afterward, our first act of participation was to determine which of our eyes was dominant. We made a triangle-shaped gap between our two hands and looked at Toby through it. The eye that was visible to him was our dominant eye. Right-handed people are nearly always stubbornly right-eyed, and I was as mulish as the next righty. Lefties, however, can go either way. Like many southpaws, Carla performed certain sports right-handed, including archery. It turns out she was left-eye dominant, though, so Toby encouraged her to try shooting left-handed.

At Home on the Range

Under a white canopy, we stared down our beginner targets — hay bales dressed up as tic-tac-toe grids with a balloon in center square. We each had three blunt-edged arrows to shoot per round. Carla took aim first, and squarely missed each time. Her dominant left eye was passive today, apparently.

I never realized how many incorrect ways there are to hold a bow. I tried all sorts of variations — right-side down, back-end front, in the wrong hand — until I was corrected. By the time I actually clutched an arrow, I had two FCAA fellas coaching me, one in front and one behind me. "Pull back the string. More. Anchor it to part of your face. Your nose, your jaw. No, not behind your ear. Good. Bend your left elbow to pull your arm out of the way. Ladies usually need to turn outward more so their, er, chest won't get caught. Right. Separate your fingers from the string a bit. You're aiming too high. Bend a little at the waist. That's better. Now just release your fingers."

I was frozen. Something was going to go wrong. I was going to catch part of my body in the string, or the arrow was going to end up heaven knows where. An FCAA photographer squeezed in, lens awaiting some action. With all these expectant eyes on me, I couldn't stand there forever. I expelled my breath, closed my eyes and straightened my three fingers.



Photo by Carla Turner

Draper sets her sights on a plastic armadillo at the First Annual Archery Day sponsored by the Fort Collins Archery Association.

Zing. Thud. "Good job!" I hit the bale, just barely, but hit all the same. Thud. Thud. My next two arrows also found the mark, closing in on that balloon.

Take that, fish

We each shot another round with the same results. Carla gave up on shooting left-handed, making it possible for us to share a right-handed bow. We selected a magenta one and set off for the animal range. Colorful 3-D animals were arranged at varying distances from the shooting line. Initially, I assumed that I would have emotional difficulty taking aim at a critter, even a plastic one, since I approach the sport with an extremely non-Ted Nugent mindset. But the animals themselves kept my mood light. The usual suspects were there: deer, wolves, boar. But the notion of shooting an arrow at an alligator, stegosaurus or frog was comical, and targeting one held no hint of blood-thirst.

This was where most of the event's participants were assembled. Every demographic was represented, and families with even small children abounded. No one was worried about looking foolish, as everyone chatted, laughed and hunted down each other's mal-aimed arrows when the coast was clear.

"The line is hot!" shouted an FCAA member when we were all ready to fire. I took aim at a nearby fish whose glassy-eyed stare rubbed



Photo by Deb Draper

Carla Turner defies science with a right-handed shot at a sassy hyena.

me the wrong way. And it paid for its attitude, as two of my three arrows got it. They were both off-center, but satisfying nonetheless.

Carla set her sights on a mid-ranged hyena, and her right-handed shots nailed him. He had it coming. In typical hyena fashion, he was laughing at her. A man in a mustache

and camouflage shirt cheered us on, assuring us that our targets were particularly deserving of an arrow in the fin or knee, as the case may be.

We called it quits a couple of rounds later. In typical female fashion, we were ready for lunch. Shooting makes a gal's inner Diana hungry.

July Fourth "Heat is On" campaign reports 602 DUI arrests in Colorado

Law enforcement agencies participating in The Heat Is On! campaign's July Fourth holiday weekend DUI enforcement made 604 DUI arrests according to preliminary results, reports the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT).

The arrests came from the Colorado State Patrol (CSP) and 49 police and sheriff's departments during an enforcement period that started at 6 p.m. on Friday, June 30th, and ended at 3 a.m. on Wednesday, July 5.

CSP made nearly 28 percent (168 DUI arrests) of the campaign's arrests statewide while the Denver Police Department and the Colorado Springs Police Department made the most DUI arrests amongst local law enforcement agencies. El Paso County made the most DUI arrests, 65, of any county in Colorado. Below is the number of arrests per agency listed by county:

Larimer County — 50 DUI arrests Fort Collins P.D. (16); Larimer County S.O. (21); Loveland P.D. (13)
Adams County — 41 DUI arrests Adams County S.O. (12); Brighton P.D. (2); Commerce City P.D. (13); Thornton P.D. (14)
Alamosa County — 1 DUI arrest Alamosa P.D. (1)
Arapahoe County — 38 DUI arrests Arapahoe County S.O. (9); Aurora P.D. (19); Greenwood Village P.D. (6); Littleton P.D. (4)
Boulder County — 40 DUI arrests Boulder County S.O. (11); Boulder P.D.

(16); Lafayette P.D. (6); Longmont P.D. (7)

Broomfield County — 13 DUI arrests Broomfield P.D. (13)

Clear Creek County — 6 DUI arrests Clear Creek County S.O. (2); Idaho Springs P.D. (4)

Colorado State Parks — 3 DUI arrests

Denver County — 49 DUI arrests Denver P.D. (49)

Douglas County — 16 DUI arrests Castle Rock P.D. (6); Douglas County S.O. (10)

Eagle County — 6 DUI arrests Avon P.D. (6); Vail P.D. (2)

El Paso County — 65 DUI arrests Colorado Springs P.D. (49); El Paso County S.O. (9); Fountain P.D. (4); Monument P.D. (3)

Garfield County — 11 DUI arrests Carbondale P.D. (11)

Gilpin County — 6 DUI arrests Gilpin County S.O. (6)

Grand County — 2 DUI arrests Grand County S.O. (2)

Gunnison County — 6 DUI arrests Crested Butte M.O. (5); Gunnison P.D. (1)

Jefferson County — 29 DUI arrests Edgewater P.D. (1); Golden P.D. (10); Lakewood P.D. (16); Mountain View P.D. (2)

Mesa County — 17 DUI arrests Grand Junction P.D. (12); Mesa County S.O. (5)

Moffat County — 2 DUI arrests Craig P.D. (2)

Montezuma County — 2 DUI arrests Montezuma P.D. (2)

Park County — 2 DUI arrests Park County S.O. (2)

Pueblo County — 15 DUI arrests Pueblo County S.O. (4); Pueblo P.D. (11)

Routt County — 3 DUI arrests Routt County S.O. (2)

Saguache County — 1 DUI arrest Saguache County S.O. (1)

Weld County — 10 DUI arrests Erie P.D. (1); Greeley P.D. (9)

This year's July Fourth Heat Is On Enforcement also marked the beginning of a new program that dedicates checkpoints to DUI victims. The checkpoint held on Friday, June 30 by the Denver Police Department was dedicated to Kristopher Mansfield, a senior airman in the Air Force who was killed in September, 2004, just weeks after returning from duty in Iraq.

During the Denver checkpoint on Friday, 16 of Denver's 49 arrests were made and all drivers who passed through the checkpoint received information about Kris and the dedication.

CDOT and local law enforcement agencies across the state will continue to dedicate checkpoints to local victims as tributes to their lives and reminders about the deadly consequences of impaired driving.

In 2005, agencies made 632 DUI arrests during the July Fourth weekend.



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