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CUB CAMP

Small boys embark on a big adventure/p4

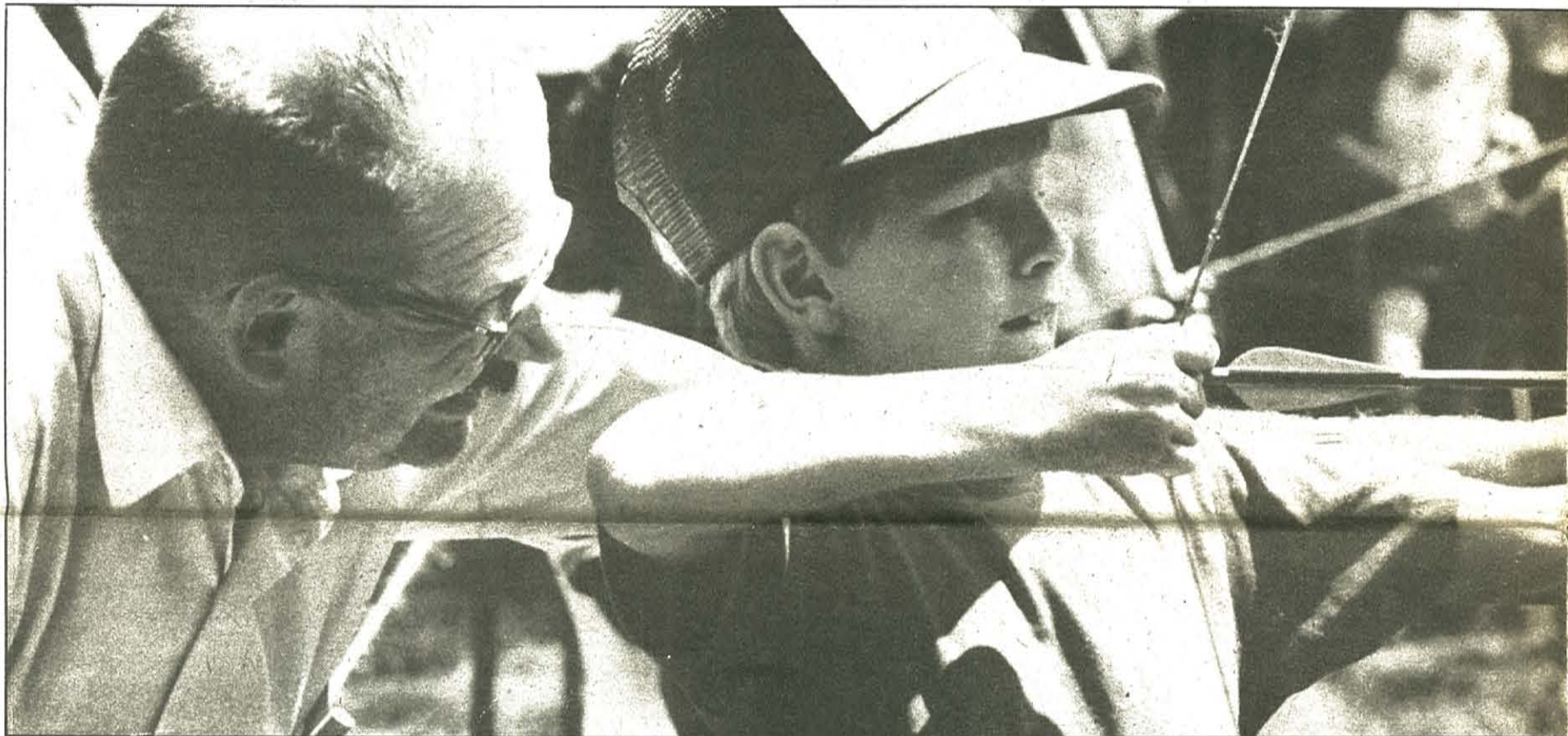
ALSO:

Snyder funeral homes a family affair/p8

Downtown Mansfield's super salesman/p3

Story by **Maria Dimengo**
Photos by **Lucy Lien**

Heart's at home, but fun's at



Brad Kline, 8, of Loudonville appears to be headed in the right direction as John Feiertag of Mansfield assists during an archery session.

In a remote area near the northern end of Clear Fork Reservoir lies 230 acres of grassy fields and clusters of towering trees where, for many 8-year-olds, an overnight adventure begins.

Hundreds of area Cub Scouts and Webelos will spend their first few nights away from home at Camp Avery Hand.

Cub Camp '84, which came to a close last weekend, is a program which teaches youngsters about the experience of outdoor camping. Cub Scouts are there two nights, while Webelos, who are in their third year of Cub Scouting, spend three nights. Dave Bisbee, adviser of this year's Cub Camp, was in charge of making sure everything ran smoothly.

"Most of the kids in the first session are 8 or 9 years old, and for a lot of them it's their first night away from home," said Bisbee. "When they get homesick, we just give them something to do to keep their minds off home."

A typical day at Cub Camp begins at 8 a.m. with breakfast, followed by a flag cere-

mony and the first activity sessions which include archery, nature, boating, swimming, crafts and sports competition. Each den participates on a rotation basis so that everyone has an equal amount of time in each session. Sessions usually last about 45 minutes and begin with a quick explanation of safety procedures.

"Safety is a real major concern in all our areas," Bisbee said. "The kids are here to have fun, so safety is very important."

Safety is also a major concern in the pool area, so every youngster is given a buddy tag. While in the pool, each Scout is responsible for their buddy. Scouts are also required to take a swim test before they are allowed to enter the pool area, and a head count is taken every 10 minutes.

While participating in Cub Camp, the Scouts work toward achieving their Wolf, Bear and Webelo badges which are a requirement of the Scouting program. Every activity is geared toward the standard Scouting program across the country. There are four sessions, and the cost of each session is \$25

for Cub Scouts and \$27.50 for Webelos. All must be registered Cub Scouts from the Johnny Appleseed Area Council which includes Richland and Ashland counties and parts of Crawford county.

Activities are a major part of Cub Camp for the Scouts, mostly because they can win prizes, but also because participation in a camp activity adds a bead to their recognition badges.

Over in the craft area, Scouts were busy making den boards to sign and hang in the dining hall so when they return to camp they can see their names and the dens they belong to. During other sessions, Scouts were busy shooting arrows at prize balloons in the archery area and learning safety procedures at the BB gun range.

Bisbee said there are times when activities don't work out, and the camp staff has to implement a Plan B, which Bisbee refers to as "punting."

"When it rains, we always have a Plan B," Bisbee said. "When the pool was broken we

made up a water slide and the kids had a ball."

But when it rains at night, Bisbee said the Scouts have no choice but to rough it outdoors in their canvas tents. In severe thunderstorms, the Scouts sleep in Tappan-Ott Lodge, a multi-purpose building where some of the staff members stay. But in less severe rainstorms, the Scouts are expected to grin and bear it. As for Bisbee, he sleeps in a teepee.

After a long morning of activities, the Scouts get ready for lunch. Part of the menu plan includes a Progressive Picnic which the Scouts prepare themselves.

The Scouts take great care in chilling the moo juice (milk) and gathering ingredients for the walking salad (pickles, carrots, and radishes on toothpicks). Appetizers include red ants on a log (celery, cheese spread and paprika) or, for those with a taste for sweets, bugs on a log (celery, peanut butter and raisins).

The main course includes frankabobs (hot
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