

---

---

JUNE  
2024

**THE HOWLER**  
**At 5 Dogs**  
**Latest News, Updates & More**

5 Dogs  
Creek  
PO Box  
20051  
Bakersfield,  
CA 93390

---

---

2023-2024 Town  
Council

Mayor:

Fordyce Beals  
mayor@5dogscreek.com

Sheriff:

Lap Dog  
sheriff@5dogscreek.com

Banker:

Leia Tombstone  
banker@5dogscreek.com

Blacksmith:

**OPEN**

blacksmith@5dogscreek.com

Storekeeper:

Bull McFearson  
storekeeper@5dogscreek.com

News Editor:

Domino Blaze  
editor@5dogscreek.com

Range Wrangler:

Utah Blaine  
rangewrangler@5dogscreek.com

m

Telegraph Operator:

Montego  
telegraph@5dogscreek.com

Territorial Governor:

Professor Cubby Bear  
governor@5dogscreek.com



**The Mayor's Anvil:  
Forging Understanding  
By Mayor Fordyce Beals**

**Mayors Anvil: Battle of New Orleans-The  
first large battle between the smooth bore  
musket and the rifle**

In the Battle of New Orleans, January 8, 1815, the American troops were estimated by their leader, General Andrew Jackson, to total about 4,000 men. Of these about 300 were negroes, mostly without firearms of any kind; about 600 were La Fitte's pirates, armed with cutlasses and pistols; part of them served the 13 cannon and the rest were for hand-to-hand fighting in case the enemy scaled the breastworks: their influence upon the battle was very small: there were about 500 regulars armed with muskets; at close range they counted for something; and then there were about 500 regulars armed with Model 1803 Rifles, and about 2,100 militia from Kentucky, Tennessee and Louisiana who were the deadly units in that little army., Marine detachments were holding the center of General Andrew Jackson's defensive line, in the final major battle and one of the most one-sided engagements of the war.

---

---

The most widely used weapon in the War of 1812 was the smoothbore musket, which was carried by most of both sides' infantrymen in the field. These had an effective battlefield range of 50-100 yards, necessitating close assaults and bayonet tactics be employed. There were also some units equipped with rifles, which were used primarily as light or specialized infantry. The Model 1803 was considered accurate up to 150 yards, but a well-trained marksman could expect to hit a target at 200 yards.

General Jackson's opponent was Lieutenant General Sir Edward Pakenham, a respected veteran of the Peninsular War and the brother-in-law of the Duke of Wellington; his force was estimated to be about 10,000, veterans of many battles and some Royal Marines. General Pakenham did the attacking; General Jackson's riflemen did the shooting that counted; in about three hours the battle was all over except for burying the dead. General Jackson reported that he had lost 6 men killed and 7 wounded. General Pakenham couldn't report, Pakenham and his entourage were killed by a blast of grapeshot. His successor reported the loss of 2,100 men killed and wounded, including three generals and seven colonels.

The War of 1812 is important to United States history because it was viewed as a victory over Great Britain. It reaffirmed America's independence, ushered in the "Era of Good Feelings," and started the expansion of the United States past the Louisiana Territory. The war also marked the rise of men like William Henry Harrison, Andrew Jackson, Henry Clay, and John C. Calhoun, who would play important roles in shaping the trajectory of the United States leading up to the Civil War.

It was the first large battle between the smooth bore on the British side and the rifle on the American side. Europe was amazed at the U.S. dominance.

---

---

Napoleon, in exile upon Elba, refused to credit the report. The rifle, in flintlock and in percussion lock, from its infancy about 1750 until the time when the muzzle loader was superseded by the breech loader – and that was more than a century later – was ever true to type. No better all-purpose weapon was ever devised for conditions as they used to be.





In the early 19th century, Harpers Ferry began production of the Model 1803 flintlock rifle. These distinctive arms, with their Kentucky styling and half fore stock, are considered by some to be the most beautiful rifles ever produced by the United States government. The Model 1803 was a flintlock and fired a .54 Caliber round out of a 33-inch barrel. However, unlike a musket, which contains a smoothbore barrel, a rifle contains grooves inside the barrel that causes the bullet to spin through the air, making for a higher velocity gun with longer range and increased accuracy. As a result, riflemen armed with the Model 1803 could have a 50 to 100 yards advantage against an enemy armed with muskets. The downside of the Model 1803 is that it only fired 1-2 shots per minute, while the musket could fire 2-3 shots per minute. In retrospect, the Harper's Ferry Rifle signifies a turning point in American military history, marking the transition from reliance on foreign-made firearms to domestic production and the dawn of advanced manufacturing techniques. While it may not have seen extensive use or had the longevity of some other firearms, its influence on American and international firearm design and manufacturing cannot be overstated.

---

---

## **RANGE NOTES**

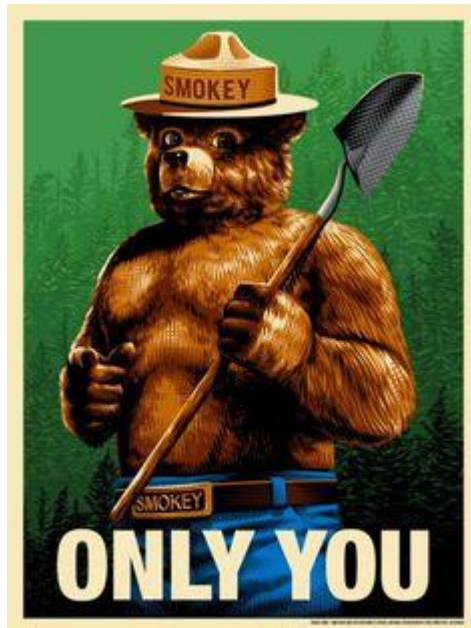
### **Fire Season is here!**

It's getting hotter and drier out here. Some of you 5 Dogs veterans may already know what that means: **fire season**. Starting Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 5 Dogs range will be checking rifle ammo for steel again, unfortunately. Steel rifle ammunition tends to create sparks when it hits our (the 5 Dogs Range) steel targets.

Steel pistol caliber ammunition is A-OK! If you aren't shooting rifles, we don't need to check what you're shooting. If you have any other questions or concerns, feel free to contact us and ask!

Cowboy action shooters with lead bullets are OK year-round.

- 5 Dogs Staff



---

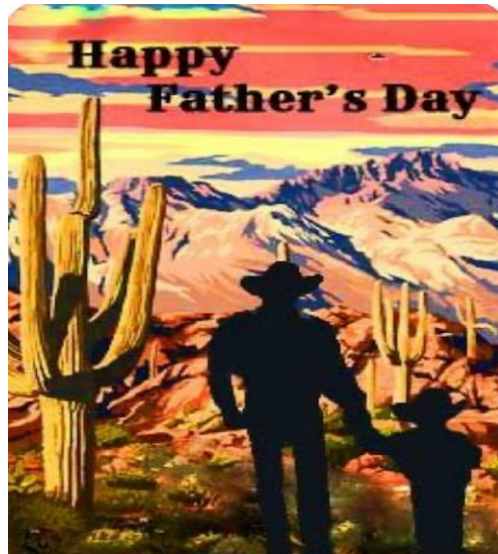
---

## Monthly Shooting Schedule:

Office opens at 8:00  
Shooter's meeting 8:30

Saturday, JUNE 1  
9:00 a.m.

Sunday, JUNE 2  
9:00 a.m.



## 2024 MATCH CALENDAR

**JUN 1-2**

**JUL 6-7**

**AUG 3-4**

**AUG 31-**

**SEP 1**

**OCT 5-6**

**NOV 30-**

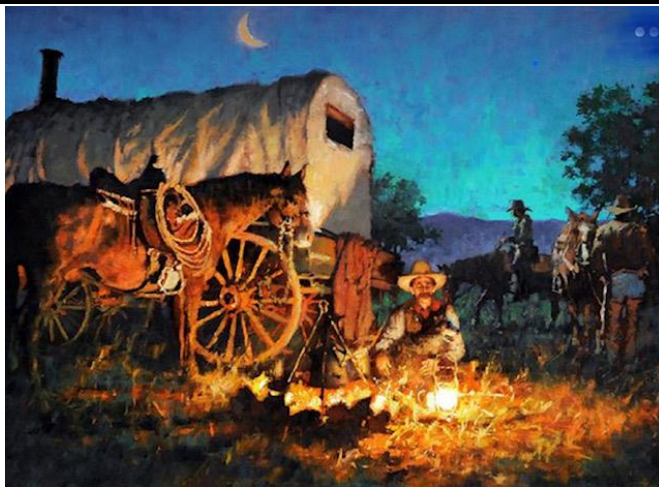
**DEC 1**

**DON'T FORGET!**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 16TH**

---

## COME JOIN US FOR SOME CAMPING FUN!



**Friday Evening, (5:30-ish): Bring your favorite campfire appetizer to share.**  
**Saturday Evening, (6:00-ish): 5 Dogs Potluck. (Bring your favorite dish to share.)**  
**(Plates & utensils provided)**

---

---

# **THE MAY 4 & 5 MATCH**

---

## **Saturday Clean Shooters:**

---



*Pinebox Filler, Dirty Hands, Sam Ootie, Badman Bob, Lucky Lu*

## **Sunday Clean Shooters**

---



*Fordyce Beals, Snake, Chick Ma, Dutch Longhorn, Sam Ootie*



**May 4th & 5th Stage Writer, Fordyce Beals &  
Posse Leader, Dutch Longhorn (aka: "Mr. Cinco de Mayo")**





## **STAN LYNDE'S COWBOY LORE & LEGEND**

The cowboy hat was wide-brimmed to protect the rider from the weather, and its high crown helped keep his head cool. A big investment for a thirty dollar a month cowboy, a good hat could cost up to \$20 and was absolutely essential to the working cowhand. His hat was the first thing he put on in the morning and the last thing he took off at night.

---

---

# **RANGE WRANGLER NEWS**

---



---

## **Utah Blaine**

On Friday, April 26, three of us, myself, D.B. Hawke, and Domino Blaze, cut and raked all the very high grasses and weeds around and down the sides of Bay's 1 - 5. (Some others who would have been there were attending the California State Championship match that weekend.)

Then several of us were out at 5 Dogs Creek again on Wednesday, May 1. Pan Handle Red brought down his riding lawn mower and mowed down all the very, very tall grasses and weeds between the fences on Bay's 6 -10 and the outside fence AND mowed down tall grass outside of the fence where several of us park our RV's during a monthly match. He also brought down with him a couple of handheld mowers and helped cut down grass and weeds along the sides of a few of the bays.

Also helping were White River Jack, Sam Ootie and Bull McFearson who put in considerable time helping until we were, for all practical purposes, finished. And finally, my heartfelt thanks to D.B. Hawke and Domino Blaze who put in many hours both days.

---

---

Of course, there are several tasks at 5 Dogs Creek that are still on the agenda, most of which I have mentioned in previous newsletters. Once again, I would like to remind those of you who have a Bay Proprietorship, to make sure divots are filled in and shotgun wads are raked up and disposed of in the trash cans. And, of course, since a few of our Bays are rented out for various purposes, there are places where 9 Mil and 45 ACP brass are scattered around on a couple of Bays. Apparently, those using these Bays do not feel it necessary to clean up after they are done shooting.



---

---

# **THE SHERIFF'S LOG**



Howdy All,

Utah Blaine and I missed all the fun of the May match due to family obligations, but it sounds like everyone had a great time. The weather mostly cooperated, windy and rainy Saturday afternoon but that didn't stop any shooting on Saturday or Sunday. I was told it was 'a great match' and 'a lot of fun' and I'm guessing since there were 5 clean shooters both days it was successful. Thank you to Fordyce Beals for writing the match!

Next month the match will be written by Utah Blaine. He always puts a challenge or two out there as well as using targets that tend to not get used very often. So come out and see what he has up his sleeve (gamblers get shot for having something up their sleeve!).

5 Dogs Creek was well represented at Fort Miller and the California State Championship and did some mighty fine shooting. Congrats to all!

If you shot in May or have been out to the range lately, you'll notice how good it looks. A big thank you to all the cowboys and cowgirls that were working on the range to get it cleaned up. Mighty fine ranch hands they make!

Club members, remember to watch your email and be at the match in June as the By-laws will need to be corrected or moved on for a vote. Your opinion is important so give us some feedback. Also, Town Council elections are coming up so be ready to step up and be on the Town Council!

See you at the range,  
Lap Dog

---

---

# TRAIL NEWS



Some of 5 Dogs finest shooters made quite a showing recently at both the “**2024 Fort Miller Shoot Out**” and the **SASS California State Championship Match**. Thanks to Miss Barah Lee Misditt, here are some of the results:

## 2024 FORT MILLER

1st Senior, Overall Winner: Sinful

1st 49'r: Big Bad Blaine

2nd Senior: Dirty Hands

2nd Cattle Baron: Sam Ootie

1st El Patron: Roger Rapid

4th Classic Cowboy: Dutch Longhorn

1st Grand Dame: Lap Dog

1st Lady Silver Senior: Miss Barah Lee Misditt

1st Lady Senior Duelist: Chick Ma

3rd Lady 49'r: Josie Albuquerque

3rd Lady Wrangler: Bonny Kate

(Miss Barah Lee Misditt's Side Note: “There were no clean shooters from 5 Dogs, as a matter of fact, there was only one clean shooter for the entire match.”)

---

---

**2024 SASS California State Championship**

1st Lady Duelist & Lady Duelist Shootout Winner:

**CHICK MA**

2nd Lady Silver Senior: Miss Barah Lee Misditt

1st Senior: Sinful

2nd Cattle Baron: Sam Ootie

2nd El Patron: Roger Rapid

3rd Senior Gunfighter: Professor Cubby Bear

4th Senior: Dirty Hands

5th 49'r: Big Bad Blaine

---

---

# **Territorial Governor's News:**

There was a meeting of the SASS Territorial Governors at the California State Championships last month. I attended on behalf of 5 Dogs. There are three items to report.

1. Smoke Factor. Ever since the creation of the Black Powder categories, there have been complaints about "gamers" shooting in the special categories but using ammunition that does not generate enough smoke to impair the shooter. It was reported that this issue was discussed at the End of Trail (EOT) Territorial Governors' meeting. A volunteer reportedly agreed to attempt to study smoke generation in the effort to develop an enforceable "smoke factor" standard along the lines of the previously enacted (but rarely enforced) power factor.

The California TGs agreed that there was nothing to do unless and until the volunteer reports his results. Even then, there is real skepticism that smoke can be adequately and consistently measured across various calibers and types of ammunition in various regions and in diverse weather conditions. Perhaps the volunteer will impress us all with his results, but until then, it seems unlikely that new "smoke factor" rules are going to come into being.

This is a non-problem with 5 Dogs. Our black powder shooters embrace the Dark Side fully and smoke up the stage with vigor. Locally at least, this ain't broke and does not need to be fixed.

2. 1873 Winchester in B-Western. A particular TG from Southern California consumed much of this meeting (at he did with the Regional Meeting last August) with a lonely crusade for a rule-change allowing the use of the 1873 Winchester lever-action rifle in the B-Western category. He argued that "tricked-out" 1973s now dominate competition among the top shooters, placing top shooters electing B-Western at an unfair disadvantage. He also pointed out that many film characters whose costumes were consistent with our B-Western category were portrayed using the 1873 rifle. It appears that a substantial majority were unpersuaded. Most TGs appeared comfortable with the division of historic rifles between Classic Cowboy and B-Western and are hostile to rule changes focused only perceived competition issues among a tiny minority of shooters.

Last August, the Western Regional TGs adopted a motion to ask SASS to consider the issue. That motion appears to have been ignored. In this meeting, the TGs passed a motion asking SASS to state the original basis for excluding the 1873 from B-Western. That may get ignored as well.

Again, this is not a local problem. Classic Cowboy and B-Western participation at 5 Dogs is minimal, with one or both of the "costume categories" usually going begging. The warm consequences of full costumes at 5 Dogs in the summertime probably has much more to do with participation levels than the status of the 1873 Winchester rifle.

---

---

3. Mild Bunch: Last November, SASS liberalized the rules for "Wild Bunch" side matches and distinct Wild Bunch main matches. The hope that Wild Bunch Action Shooting (WBAS) would become a separate and strong shooting discipline drawing participation from outside Cowboy Action Shooting has faded away. To its credit, SASS has graciously accepted this reality. The use of shotguns other than the 1897 Winchester and Winchester 12 have been legalized with "stoking" at the loading table dependent on the shotgun being used. Rifles chambered in calibers less than .40 are now permitted in State and Above matches. Shooters are still free to comply with the "original" rules. Local clubs are no longer being asked to appoint a separate Territorial Governor (called "ambassadors") for Wild Bunch. Until otherwise instructed, I will continue to serve as the TG for 5 Dogs, including being "ambassador" for Wild Bunch.

Separate Range Officer/Timer Officer training and qualification for Wild Bunch continues to exist.

I hope this report is helpful. Thank you for the honor of serving our club as Territorial Governor.

Professor Cubby Bear (cubbybear29521@aol.com)



Professor Cubby Bear



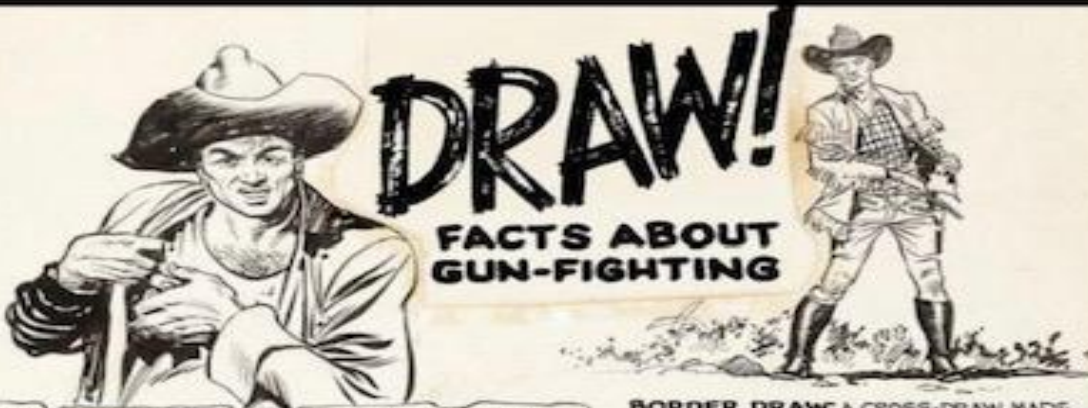
---

---

# DON'T MISS THIS!

---

---



# DRAW!

## FACTS ABOUT GUN-FIGHTING

**ACE IN THE HOLE:** A SHOULDER HOLSTER, A HIDEOUT, A MAN'S ACE IN THE HOLE MIGHT TAKE VARIOUS FORMS, AS THE CARRYING OF HIS GUN IN THE WAIST-BAND, IN A BOOT-LEG, ETC.

**BORDER DRAW:** A CROSS-DRAW MADE WITH GUN CARRIED AT OR NEAR THE HIP BUT HANGING BUTT FORWARD. A QUICK STAB OF THE HAND ACROSS THE BODY REACHES THE GUN, AND THE CONTINUATION OF THE MOVEMENT LIFTS IT CLEAR OF THE HOLSTER. POPULAR AROUND MEXICAN BORDER.

**CURLY BILL SPIN:** A GUN SPIN, MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS "ROAD AGENT'S SPIN", CURLY BILL GRAHAM USED IT TO KILL MARSHAL FRED WHITE WHEN THE LATTER ATTEMPTED TO ARREST HIM IN TOMBSTONE, ARIZONA.



### FANNING:

GUN GRIPPED WITH ONE HAND, RAPID PASSES WITH THE OTHER HAND KNOCKS BACK AND RELEASES THE HAMMER. FANNING IS MOSTLY DONE IN WESTERN FICTION. A MAN MIGHT FAN FOR PRACTICE AND PASTIME, BUT HE SELDOM RESORTS TO IT WHEN HIS LIFE IS AT STAKE. THE TRICK IS INTERESTING IN THEORY BUT DOESN'T WORK SO WELL. IN ACTUAL SHOOTING THE GUN'S RECOIL SENDS IT FLICKING INTO THE AIR; IT WOULD NOT STAY STILL LONG ENOUGH TO BE SLAPPED—AT LEAST NOT LONG ENOUGH FOR ACCURACY.

# **SOME COWBOY TRAVEL NOTES:**

**OVERLAND MAIL ROUTE  
TO CALIFORNIA.**

**Through in Six Days to Sacramento!**



**CONNECTING WITH THE DAILY STAGES**  
To all the Interior Mining Towns in Northern California and Southern Oregon.  
Ticketed through from PORTLAND, by the

**OREGON LINE OF STAGE COACHES!**

**And the Rail Road from Oroville to Sacramento,**  
Passing through Oregon City, Salem, Albany, Corvallis, Eugene City, Oakland,  
Winchester, Roseburg, Canyonville, Jacksonville, and in California—  
Yreka, Trinity Centre, Shasta, Red Bluff, Tehama, Chico,  
Oroville, Marysville to SACRAMENTO.

**TRAVELERS AVOID RISK of OCEAN TRAVEL**  
Pass through the HEART OF OREGON the Valleys of Rogue River, Umpqua and Willamette.

This portion of the Pacific Slope embraces the most BEAUTIFUL and attractive, as well as some of the most BOLD, GRAND and PICTURESQUE SCENERY on the Continent. The highest snow-capped mountains, Mt. HOOD, Mt. SHASTA and others; deep, fertile valleys and most beautiful valleys.

Stages stop over one night at JACKSONVILLE and YREKA, for passengers to rest.  
Passengers will be permitted to lay over at any point, and resume their  
seats at pleasure, any time within one month.

**FARE THROUGH, FIFTY DOLLARS.**  
*Ticket Office at Arrigoni's Hotel, Portland.*

**H. W. CORBETT & Co.,**  
Proprietors of Oregon Stage Co.

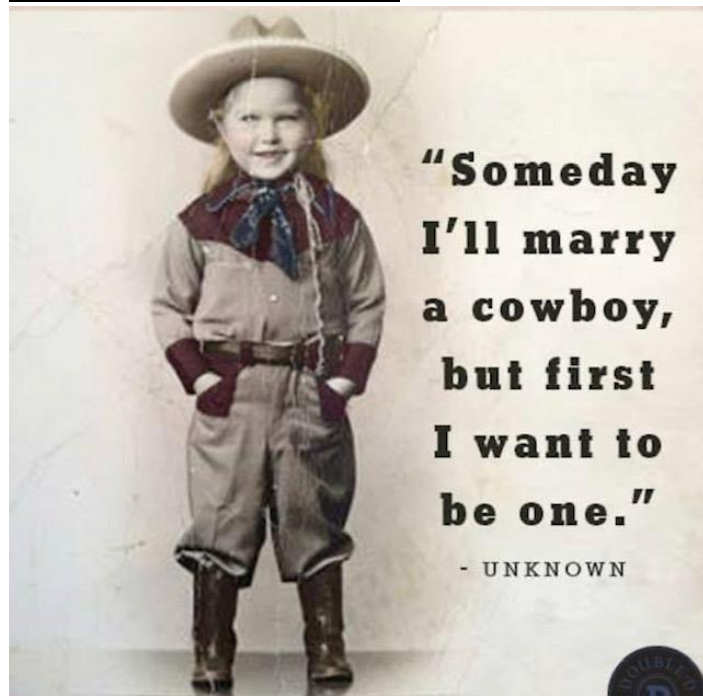
PORTLAND July 19 1866

---

---

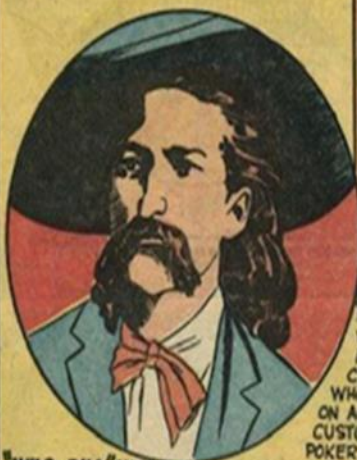
# June Brides?

---



COWBOY WESTERN

# THE DEAD MAN'S HAND



"WILD BILL" HICKOK CAME TO DEADWOOD WITH A SOMEWHAT EXAGGERATED REPUTATION AS A HARD-BOILED KILLER.



HICKOK FELL ONTO THE TABLE AND HIS POKER HAND, ACES AND EIGHTS DROPPED GENTLY TO THE FLOOR TO BE KNOWN FOREVER AFTER AT FRONTIER GAMBLING TABLES AS 'THE DEAD MAN'S HAND.'



WILD BILL'S MURDER BY JACK MCCALL HAS BECOME THE MOST CELEBRATED SHOOTING IN THE WHOLE HISTORY OF THE WEST. ON AUGUST 2, 1876, AS WAS HIS DAILY CUSTOM, WILD BILL SAT DOWN AT A POKER TABLE WITH SEVERAL FRIENDS, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS LIFE, HE SAT WITH HIS BACK FACING THE OPEN DOOR. THE GAME HAD BEEN IN PROGRESS LESS THAN AN HOUR WHEN-



JACK MCCALL, A STRANGER IN TOWN, WALKED OVER FROM THE BAR AND SHOT WILD BILL IN THE BACK OF THE HEAD.