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Transcript of Showing Off at the Derby

Ben Hogevoll

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Title: Showing Off at the Derby

Storyteller: Ben Hogevoll

Interviewer: Stephanie Raso

Interview Date: 2011-07-14

Collection: *Launching through the Surf: The Dory Fleet of Pacific City*

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Transcribers: Casee Clark, Andrea Snyder

BEN HOGEVOLL: Uh, Benson L. Hogevoll.¹

I think that I saw the best of it in the '70s, and then I think it, when the uh, Coho became endangered, uh, took a beating, um. That's when the dories, I think started struggling, but we had moved on.

And we had dory fished before, when I was in uh, junior high, back in the late '50s, '60s—um. My dad² built a dory in our yard, a double ender. And, we were a family of seven. And we would go to Pacific City every chance we had, and he was a state police officer. But he had, uh, you know, on, on, we, on his days off and, and vacations, we would all go to Pacific City and fish, and then it was for food for the family.

One of my better friends, Scott Rabe, uh, he had a beautiful boat called *The Patriot*. It was red, white, and blue, and we entered the Dory Derby races. And he had a really fast boat; it was an outboard, a big Mercury outboard. And, uh, I was running the boat and he was with me, the two of us. And it was, I believe it was a race around the buoy. And we're in the lead. We're just hauling. Beautiful, we're ahead of everybody. And I look on the beach and there's these two cute girls with bikinis—there was a big

crowd. And these two girls, I could see 'em, oh, show off. So I told Scott, I said, "Watch this." So we angled toward 'em and, the tide was out and we slid up on the beach doing about 20 miles an hour. The boat turned sideways, hit a rut, and flipped a little bit, didn't roll over, but I mean just flipped. And, Scott fell out and, I think he cracked a rib, but it hurt him bad on the davit, bent over. And I'm going through the air hangin' onto the steering wheel, in mid-air, hangin' on the steering wheel, 'til it came to the end of the cable, and I fell on the sand, and the beach, and these girls, and I—and it knocked the wind out of me. And these girls are lookin' wild-eyed, and I can't get my breath. Have you ever had the wind knocked out of ya? So I get up and I'm tryin' to breathe and pretend like nothing happened 'cause everybody's starin', so I'm going, "Uhh—" [Gasps] And I can't breathe, and I can't get my breath. And everybody's looking in horror and another boat came in, and the guys got out and walked by us and won the race. [Laughter] I mean, that was, that was uh, everybody thought that was pretty funny.

NOTES:

¹ Ben Hogevoll began finishing in the late 1950s.

² Jack Hogevoll