### COURTS. continued from Page A1

"We are putting in a sprinkler system," Schneider said. "We redug a 70-foot trench to water down the courts if they get hot. We're also changing the tension system on the nets."

Schneider noted other issues have come up since the courts were completed in late

July. "The ground is so packed down, if the ball goes outside the perimeter of the court it rolls forever," he said. "You could be chasing it 200 feet or so. We're looking at temporary fencing. We're also having a little issue with dust from the sand. I think it'll rectify itself with time."

One of the main issues Schneider sees down the road is making sure everyone gets a chance to use the courts. He has had discussions with Johnson and Bill Lawyer, the Public Works director, about the topic.

"Over the next couple of months we want to see what happens," Schneider said. "Sometimes volleyball programs will come in and dominate the courts for two or three hours. We have had McNary High School volleyball use it a couple of days, putting up signs. We have had discussion about reserving the courts

"We're not going to de-

groups coming in," he added. "That's not the reason it was built. When for-profit organizations come in, I have an issue. In other places they come in and use them from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m."

Parks Board member Dylan Juran asked if signs could be put up about fair play and sharing, while William Criteser noted basketball courts often have a challenge system in which the winner gets to keep using the court.

"There are different systems that can be used," Schneider said. "One court could be reserved for recreational play. We want to see how it works first. The courts have been getting a lot of use. The only time all three courts have been used at the same time is when Mc-Nary used all three."

Johnson said there is no system in place currently for reserving the courts.

"This winter we will come up with some type of reservable system like we do with other parks," Johnson said. "It's still too new right now."

In response to a question from J.T. Hager, Schneider said there is the potential of groups coming in and blocking the community from being able to use the courts.

Johnson said any general comments or questions about the courts can be sent to him.

Scott Klug wondered if setting up a reservation system would become permanent. "Once we start reserving,

it will be hard to change it,'

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## pend on outside volleyball Klug said to Schneider. "You **EXPERIENCE** We have years of experience in design, carpentry, and engineering. PROFESSIONALISM We won't stop until the job is finished and you are content.

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understand better than us the etiquette system that works the best."

Juran asked if people would be able to share without signage or reservations.

"Is it too much to assume people will be polite?" he asked. "I don't know if that's too much to hope for."

Schneider noted he's at the court two or three times a day talking with players, with the season slowing down soon as fall approaches.

One of those players, Rodney Dean, spoke about being able to play on the courts.

"I'm so grateful you put in the three courts," Dean said."I just returned from a Seaside volleyball tournament. They were excited to hear about what we're doing in Keizer. I love what you've done here. It's great to have such a nice facility locally."

Dean gave an example of a bigger city not protecting access to the courts for citizens.

"In Seattle, a lot of the players were jealous of what we have here, with the courts not being rented out to clubs," Dean said. "In Seattle they are renting courts out to clubs. People show up at 6 a.m. to get on the court, but they are getting pushed out by the 5:30 clubs. Anything we can do to keep the courts available for citizens would be great."

Schneider worked with the Parks Board for more than a year to get everything lined up so the project could be done.

"Thank you for the opportunity to build it," he said. Juran and Tanya Hamilton

paid back the gratefulness. "We want to thank you for

building it," Juran said. "Thank you for being so patient," Hamilton said.

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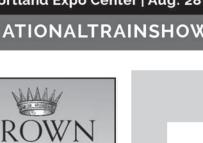
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# **HAGGEN: 'I'm disappointed** for the loss of jobs...'

(Continued from pg. A1)

"We expected to operate all 164 stores when we agreed to the acquisition, and it was a great opportunity to introduce the Haggen experience to more shoppers," Pleva said on Tuesday. "Haggen will continue to evaluate its operations to identify opportunities to strengthen its overall business. While the decision to close a store is always difficult – given the impact on associates and customers - it is guided by what is best for the company's future success."

Last week's announcement and store closure list indicated stores would be closing "over the next 60 days." An exact closure date was not listed for any of the stores, including the Keizer one.

"The store will continue operating and will wind down its business and close within 60 days," Pleva said on Monday. "The fate of the building is up to the building owner from whom we leased.'

With the acquisitions in the spring, Haggen went from 2,000 employees to more than 10,000. A filing with the state indicated the five closures in Oregon would affect 331 employees.

Keizer Haggen store manager Darren Dye referred questions to corporate headquarters, while Pleva declined to say how many employees the Keizer location has.

"Haggen is currently focused on working through this transition with store teams and

leadership so, out of respect for the process and employees, no additional information or details about the number of employees impacted will be shared at this time," Pleva said.

While she didn't give timelines, Pleva on Tuesday gave a bit of a picture into how the news was announced to employees.

"In the Pacific Northwest, a meeting with store managers and department heads was conducted personally by members of Operations and (Human Resources)," Pleva said."Some other associates attended. The date (of closures) will be determined when a number of factors become clear. We'll be letting our associates know first."

Mayor Cathy Clark mentioned the closure news at the end of Monday's Keizer City Council meeting.

We're sorry to see them close," Clark said. "We wish the best to our residents to get new jobs and take care of their families."

City Councilor Amy Ripp noted she, like everyone else, was surprised by the news.

"I'm disappointed for the loss of jobs and the loss of competition," Ripp told the Keizertimes following Monday's meeting."Competition is good. It didn't feel like Haggen brought their 'A' game to Keizer. I was looking forward to the opportunity to buy Haggen products. They did an excellent job cleaning up the store and the service was excellent, but there was not the Haggen product level we were all looking forward to."

Last week's announcement noted most of the 27 stores being closed were ones recently acquired. There was also a line which seemed to give the impression stores being closed were underperforming.

"Haggen's original stores continue to perform well," one line in the announcement stated.

crossword

Ripp wondered if more effort could have led to better performance in Keizer.

"They could have been more successful if they had done more of a higher product level," Ripp said. "I was very surprised by this. I hadn't heard any rumblings about it. It was a shock to the whole community."

Almost immediately, there was speculation and questions about whether another grocery store might open in Keizer. Not surprisingly, the two most popular names were Roth's Fresh Markets and Winco Foods. Roth's closed its Keizer location at Chemawa Road and River Road in June 2012, while Idaho-based Winco has a large distribution center just north of Keizer in Woodburn.

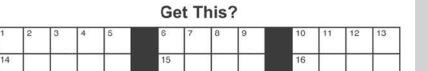
On the day of Haggen's announcement, a "Bring Roth's Back to Keizer" group was formed on Facebook. By Tuesday afternoon, the group had nearly 400 members.

Michael Roth, president of the company started by his father Orville in 1962, said on Monday no decision had been made yet.

"Keizer is a wonderful city," Roth said."We are honored by the Facebook page. We only found about this new opportunity when it was announced last Friday, so we cannot give a definitive yes or no now."

Messages left for leaders at Winco were not returned. However, several residents posted on Winco's Facebook page and asked if the company was coming to Keizer.

"We love the area and while we do not have stores scheduled for Keizer yet, we will gladly let our team know that our friends would love a store closer than Salem," read one response from the company. Another response noted that "we can't guarantee a yes" and pointed out there are many factors that go into location decisions.



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