

Energy crisis, conservation topics discussed

By SCOTT DALTON
Of the Emerald

"We know we have the capacity, but we don't have the water," said Norm F. Stone. "We could be accused of crying wolf," he added noting that heavy rains this fall could relieve the water shortage.

Stone, Director of Administrative Services for the publicly owned Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB) believes that the situation is critical now and indicated that future power demands may exceed capacity.

Stone and Jim Soukup of Pacific Power and Light (PPL) were speakers at a luncheon

meeting of the Eugene Metropolitan Civic Club Friday, October 5 at the Valley River Inn. The topic of discussion was "Credibility of the Energy Crisis."

Stone noted incidents where an editor of one paper had dismissed the shortage as "contrived," and another where an environmental group had indicated that they did not consider the statements of the utility credible.

Pointing out that transportation accounts for 25 percent of the energy consumed in the United States, Stone attacked the national administration for failing to deal with the crisis on an emergency basis.

"We are disappointed in the

failure of the national administration to institute a crash program of mass transportation," he said.

While generally applauding efforts of environmental groups, Stone was sharply critical of the Consumer advocate Ralph Nader's proposal to stop nuclear plant construction stating that such an action "would mean total economic disaster," and "smacks of an authoritarian approach."

Stone indicated that no group possesses inherent credibility in today's society. He related the problem to the McCarthy era of the fifties, the U-2 incident, and Watergate as the kinds of events

which have helped create an atmosphere of distrust.

Soukup, Manager of Customer Service and Technical Supervisor for the privately owned (PPL) in Springfield introduced a new public relations program aimed at energy conservation.

Soukup stated that public and company surveys indicate that a substantial number of people do not accept the energy crisis. He explained the P.P.&L. is launching a program to convince customers to voluntarily cut back on their consumption of power. Otherwise consumers will face "mandatory curtailment," he added.

Noting that many consumers waste electricity, Soukup

distributed sheets with hints on how to save energy at home. He noted that while a black and white tv uses approximately 30 kilowatt hours of electricity in a month, a color tv uses 50 kwh in the same period.

Soukup said that when a consumer buys a tv which features "instant on," that television set will consume an additional 46 kwh per month more than sets without the feature.

Soukup indicated that the slogan of the (PPL) program is "Use What You Need, Save What You Can," and added that a company representative would be willing to come out to anyone's home to help show areas where electricity can be saved.

Batman banned

Television shows such as Batman and Superman will soon no longer be seen by viewers of a major Los Angeles television station and precautionary warnings to parents will be aired before scores of other animated cartoons under an agreement announced Monday.

The agreement was reached between the National Association for Better Broadcasting and KTTV Channel 11 and will remain in force for the next four years. The pact is the result of a two-year challenge by the NABB to the operating license of the station, owned by Metromedia, Inc.

"For the first time parents will have an opportunity to protect their children from excessive violence on commercial television," said NABB vice president Frank Orme. "The agreement is the most far-reaching and fundamental revision of policy related to violence ever undertaken by any commercial broadcaster in the United States."

He said the agreement would be used as a pattern in attempting to get other television stations to adopt "responsible policies in the presentation of programs viewed by children and youth."

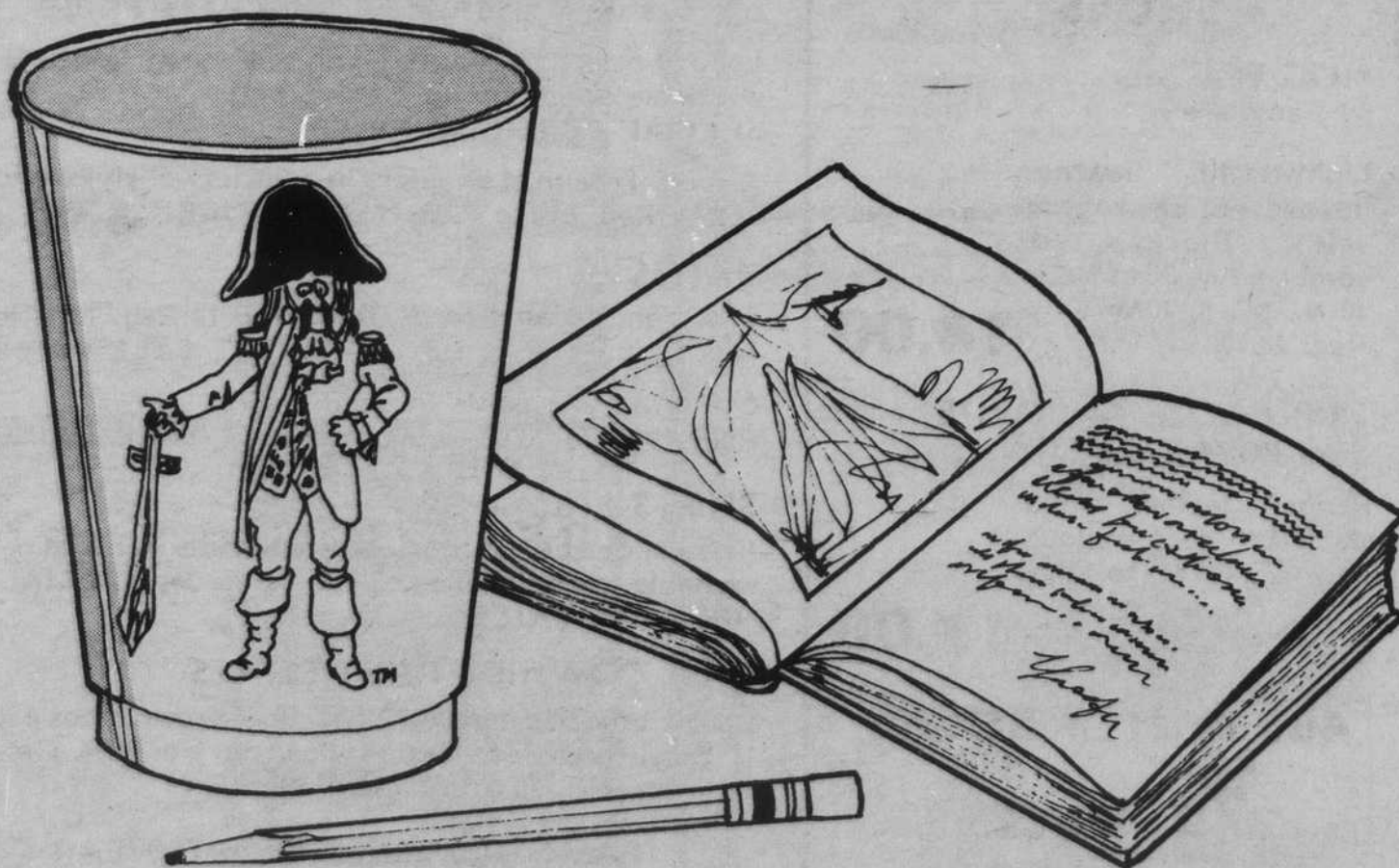
Orme said the agreement, filed with the Federal Communications Commission, calls for 42 violent television shows to be banned within the next 90 days and pre-broadcast "caution to parents" warnings displayed before another 81 programs. The warning signs will be displayed beginning in two weeks time.

Although the agreement covers a total 123 children's shows, KTTV-11 actually broadcasts only three of the programs that are to be banned altogether. They are "Superman," "Batman" and "Aquaman."

The warning consists of a video slide "Caution to Parents" while two bongos are sounded on a soft chime. An announcer's voice will say: "Parents, we wish to advise that because of violence or other possibly harmful elements certain portions of the following program may not be suitable for young children."

The NABB said that information provided by the station indicated that by no longer showing "Batman" and the other banned programs it would lose at least \$60,000 and would have to spend more than \$70,000 in production of other series.

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