



Spring has brought sex back to Pine Valley. It's dishonest sex, as usual, and this time it's Tom Cudahy that better watch out 'cause Erica would like to snare him as a trophy.

It's an old story — a scheming female subscribing to the

All my children

conquerer school of sexual relations uses her feminine wiles (and the prospect of her naked body) to trap an unsuspecting man. Seems like all the negative characters in Pine Valley are female but in a male dominated society, guess that's not surprising.

Anyway, Erica's been there before and it's sure to bring unhappiness again. When relationships are dishonest, pain is very close. But enough preaching.

Last week, Erica was at the Goalpost when she learned Tom had a date with Brooke after work. Females on this show view each other as competition, and Erica's the worst. She was determined to break up Tom and Brooke's date and so suddenly she felt faint.

"I'll just lie here 'til the rush is

over. Then you can give me a lift home."

Nice try, Erica. Tom ended up keeping his date but friction's sure to increase there.

As Erica's regaining her coniving ways, Phoebe's trying to regain control over people's lives. Right now, it's Charles that better watch out.

Charles has agreed to act as Phoebe's doctor and she's attempting to use her "handicap" to get him back home. Like Erica, Phoebe's dishonesty continues to bring her pain. Charles isn't going to come home anymore than I will greet today in someone else's bed.

In Minneapolis, things are getting really wired. Kelly (the singer Myrtle swears is Kitty) looks like Kitty with a new hair-do. Myrtle has talked her

into coming to Pine Valley for a vacation and a look-see (Kelly was born in Pine Valley on the same day as Kitty).

Kelly (played by the same actress that played Kitty) will spice things up. Linc will probably fall for her, she'll get her hair cut like Kitty and take up where Kitty left off.

Back in Pine Valley, Edna's about to join Kitty in that studio in the sky. David's been slowly poisoning her, but the speed is about to be increased. Kristina has accepted Jeff's proposal. That shoots David's plans to hell. He figured if Edna kicked off, he and Kristina would find the happiness that's been eluding them. Sorry Dave, even your new haircut won't make Kris change her mind. Besides, Dave's acting really crazy. He's jumpy as hell and not

much fun to be around. Looks like he and Edna will soon be gone from Pine Valley.

Finally, Danny's sex life is similar to mine. For a while, he was an equal in his relationship with Brooke. But then she was worried about him not answering to her beck and call. It's all changed.

Once her performance between the sheets lured Danny back, she issued an ultimatum. Either spend the week-end with me or we won't see each other anymore. Danny's future depends on him studying this week-end (they'll take him in graduate school if he does well on his last set of finals) and so he can't go. Which leaves him where he was two months ago: having to choose between his career and Brooke. Forget her Danny. She's no good.

Commission prohibits benzene use

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Consumer Product Safety Commission continued a government assault on benzene, voting unanimously Thursday to ban the suspected cancer-causing agent found in many household products.

The commission took the action in response to a petition filed nearly a year ago by the Health Research Group, an organization affiliated with consumer advocate Ralph Nader.

But the organization criticized the commission for delaying the ban, saying it had allowed businesses to continue selling products containing benzene instead of ordering them off store shelves.

Earlier this year, the Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency had laid siege to benzene, both citing it as a threat to public health.

Thursday's action by the consumer agency will not become effective until sometime in the fall because of legal procedures to put the ban into effect.

Benzene, a clear, colorless liquid with a rather pleasant odor, is used in such consumer products as paint thinners, rubber cement, artist's supplies and household cleaning solvents.

Salem fake rock's building halted

SALEM (AP) — Work has been stopped on the city of Salem's fake rock because the builders didn't get a Marion County building permit.

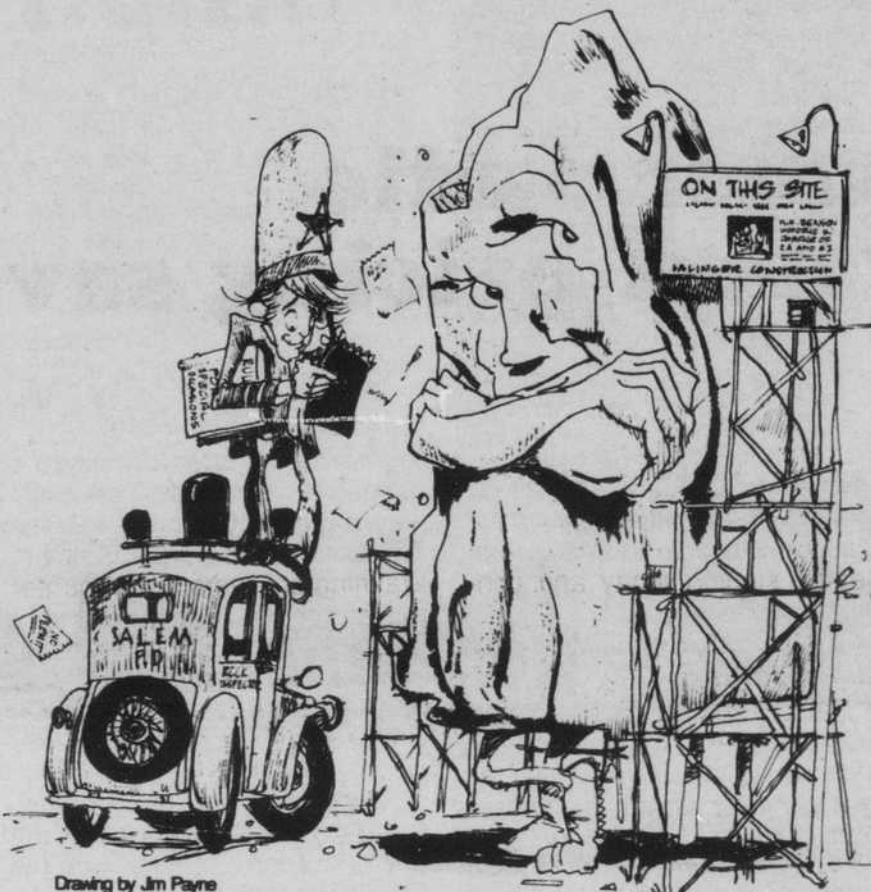
Also, county officials said, the rock might not meet the county's building code because it doesn't appear to be structurally sound.

The city received a \$31,000 federal grant and started building the 30-by-60 feet concrete and steel rock a month ago. It was to have given local mountain climbers something to practice on.

The Comprehensive Employment Training Act money also provided jobs for a half dozen persons.

City Council members became upset because construction began before they heard about the rock. The council split 4-4 on a motion to halt construction.

It was called Salem's pet rock,



Boondoggle Butte and Mount Minto, because it was to be on Minto Island in the Willamette River.

As it turned out, the land was too spongy to support all that concrete and steel, so the builders moved a few hundred feet and started pouring concrete on county land.

Roland Withrow, county building inspector, ordered construction stopped Wednesday.

He said the builders didn't submit architect's or engineer's plans and did not get approval from the three county commissioners.

Two of the commissioners said they were against building the rock on county land.

The commissioners were part of a nine-member Federal Manpower Consortium board that had approved the city's grant in the first place.

Draft losses may result in doctor shortage

FORT LEWIS, Wash. (AP) — A doctor shortage may be developing in the armed forces because of the loss of the draft, says Maj. Gen. Marshall McCabe, head of the Health Services Command.

McCabe told doctors and hospi-

tal officials Tuesday the number of doctors on active duty will drop to 1,600 this summer, while the Army needs 2,500. He called it "a very significant problem."

Budget shortages will also hinder patient care this year, McCabe said. Congress provided an increase of only \$300,000 in the Army's \$500 million health-care budget, he said.

With an 8 percent inflation rate for medical costs, the net result is a substantial cut in services, he

said.

The Health Services Command has taken steps to diminish effects of the shortage. Laboratory and radiology work has been contracted to private doctors in some hospitals where there are no Army professionals to perform those tasks, he said. Civilian doctors have been hired and services cut at some small posts.

A new scholarship program is expected to begin soon, bringing new doctors into the Army, he

said.

The Fort Lewis Madigan Army Medical Center will feel some effect from the shortage, he said, but not as much as some other hospitals. Madigan is one of eight regional Army medical centers.

The medical centers, because of their teaching functions will retain more doctors than post hospitals.

At Madigan, a hiring freeze has been in effect since late last year in an effort to cut costs.

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