

Outdoor Program investigates Old tires littering John Day River

By KATHLEEN MONJE
Of the Emerald



The tires decorating these rocks, retrieved by the University Outdoor Program from the banks of Idaho's Salmon River, represent a similar problem in Oregon, according

to program workers. They plan a canoe reconnaissance trip next weekend down this state's John Day River to check out reports of tires littering the banks.

Photo courtesy of Outdoor Program

The University's Outdoor Program has begun an investigation into reports that 4,000 old tires are littering the Wild and Scenic John Day River.

The eastern Oregon river's problems began about four years ago when a farmer used about 10,000 tires for fill on his land near a John Day tributary stream.

A flood displaced the buried tires, sending them down the tributary and into the river. Recovery operations were ordered by the state Department of Environmental Quality, (DEQ), but were only partially successful, according to Peggy Cramer of the Outdoor Program.

University student Art Pope, who coordinated the clean-up efforts on Idaho's Salmon River for the Outdoor Program, says a DEQ official told him the John Day tire retrieval was 60 percent successful.

Pope and Cramer are concerned about the 4,000 tires they think are still in the river and on its banks.

"We're organizing the canoe reconnaissance trip (May 12 to 15) to determine the extent of the problem," Cramer says.

Pope says the tires may not be a visual problem, although "there are probably tires on the river and banks somewhere."

If volunteers find the tire litter is as bad as they think when they canoe down the river, the next step, Cramer says, is to decide whether to take legal action or clean it up themselves.

However, DEQ Official Fred Bolton says his department considers the case closed.

"We felt the person who was in violation did remove the observable tires that he could reach, with the help of the community," Bolton says.

Bolton and other staff members floated the John Day after the clean-up was finished, he says, and decided it was successful.

"I don't know if we ever had an exact count on the tires," Bolton says. "We closed the case, because we felt that percentage-wise and environmentally he came very close to solving the problem."

Lawyers claim Chicago 7 denied fair trial

NEW YORK (AP) — Lawyers for the Chicago Seven said Monday that former Chief District Judge William Campbell deprived their clients of a fair trial by inform-

ing the FBI of behind-the-scenes developments during their stormy conspiracy trial.

Morton Stavis, who is working with William Kunstler on the case, said in a telephone interview from Newark, N.J., that they would ask federal court in Chicago in a week or two to vacate 13 contempt citations that resulted from the trial.

In Chicago on Monday, the chief federal prosecutor in the trial

denied the charge that he and federal judge Julius J. Hoffman collaborated to provoke incidents and thus the court citations.

Thomas Foran, who was U.S. attorney at the time of the trial in 1969-1970, commented on FBI documents which Kunstler said "prove conclusively" that Hoffman spoke to the prosecution side about the possibility of citing the defendants for contempt of court

without telling the defense about those conversations.

"That's quite absolutely untrue. It's flat out untrue," Foran said. "It is not only untrue but there is no conceivable reason to do it. It's ridiculous."

Foran recalled that four of the defense attorneys were cited for contempt of court the weekend before the trial began and Hoffman kept talking about possible

contempt citations "all during the trial."

Judge Hoffman refused to comment, saying, "I don't comment about these people, never have. You can't dogfight with people like that."

Kunstler said the documents show that "the prosecutor and the judge were working together to destroy the defendants, their lawyers and their supporters."

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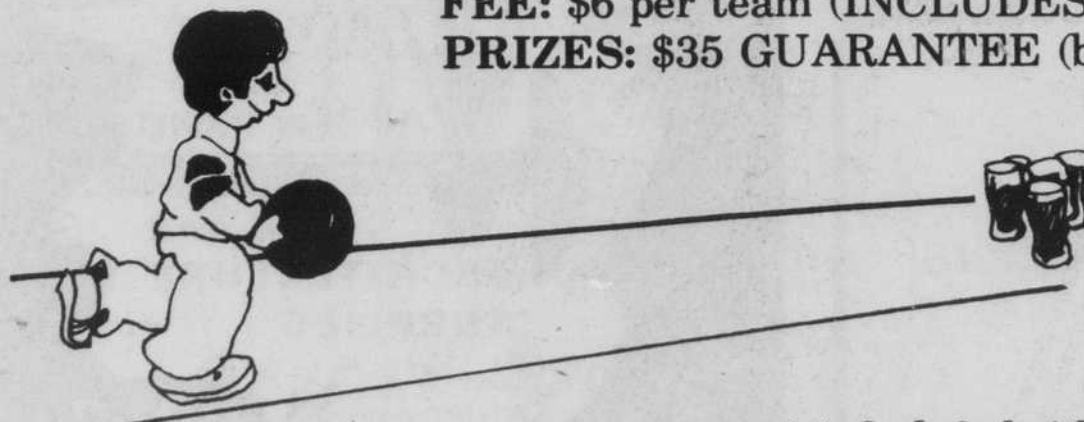
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