

# Hearths prove theory

## Camas Valley targeted by dig team

An archaeological site in southwest Oregon which has already yielded buried hearths and stone tools will be more thoroughly excavated this summer by a team of 21 workers put together by the University's archaeology department.

Richard Pettigrew, University highway archaeologist, discovered the site near Camas Valley two years ago while he was examining an area scheduled for highway construction. Camas Valley is located on the Coquille River southwest of Roseburg.

Radiocarbon dating of charcoal taken from two buried hearths during test excavations has provided evidence of a people who used stone tools and occupied the area shortly after the time of Christ almost 2,000 years ago.

Pettigrew says researchers generally had believed these people migrated to Camas Valley from British Columbia about 1,000 years ago, but this new information seems to confirm recent theories that migration began earlier.

The first microblades found in Oregon are among the tools

already unearthed at the site. Microblades are small stone tools less than an inch long and are usually associated with Arctic cultures. Archaeologists theorize these tiny stone blades were attached to wooden handles and used to cut and butcher.

Sites of archaeological importance are legally protected and must be excavated any time they cannot be avoided during federally funded highway construction. Anytime the state highway department has plans to build roads with federal financial help, it is required to make certain that no site of archaeological importance is disturbed.

Pettigrew does the test excavation of such sites and submits a report about the area's possible archaeological significance. The Department of Transportation then makes the decision whether to excavate a site or move the highway in order to comply with the law.

Five laboratory technicians have been hired to work full time processing material in University facilities during the excavation process — expected to be completed in August.

## Babcock elected head of plant administrators

Harold Babcock, director of the University physical plant, was elected president of the national Association of Physical Plant Administrators in recent elections.

He was vice president of the organization during the past year, and is a past president of the group's Pacific Coast Regional Association. He will serve a one-year term as president.

Babcock, a native of Butte, Mont., earned his bachelor's degree from Montana State University in 1952 and later received a master's degree in physical plant administration there as well.

Before becoming director of the University physical plant in 1971, Babcock served as physical

plant director at St. Andrews College in Laurinburg, N.C., for five years and at North Montana College in Havre, Mont., for 14 years.

The association he will head has members from 1,500 schools of higher education in all 50 states and 20 foreign countries. The organization's goal is to provide continuing professional education for its members.

## Italian pros contract Bev Smith

Former University basketball star Bev Smith has signed a two-year contract with Vicenza Basketball Club near Venice, Italy. Vicenza is the current Italian national championship club team. She reports to the club Sept. 1.

A 6-1 guard from Salmon Arm, B.C., Smith totalled 2,063 points in 110 games (18.8 average) and 1,362 rebounds (12.4 average).

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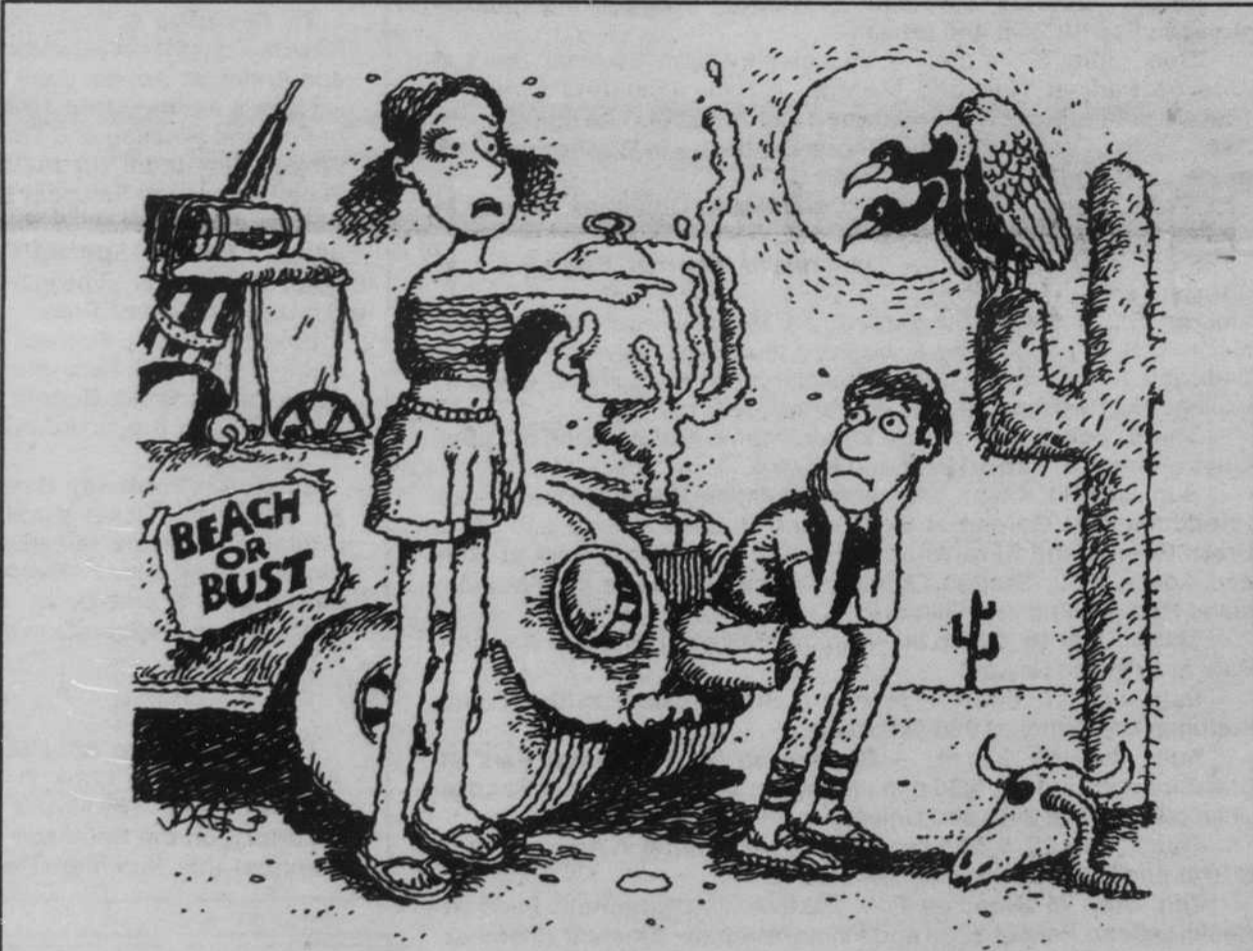
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