

Monologue

Idle Hands

J. Dana Haynes
Editor In Chief

The first generation of Atomic bombs was the child of the famed Manhattan Project, and helped put an end to World War II. The second generation was the hydrogen bomb, which dwarfed its elder brother.

Now, scientists working with the Pentagon have developed, on paper anyway, the third wave of atomic bomb, called the electromagnetic pulse bomb.

I've often said it would be a cold day in Hades before I would endorse any instrument of destruction, especially a nuclear bomb of any sort. But the EMP warhead, if perfected, could well be the answer to the current suicidal arms race.

The EMP bomb is the exact opposite of the neutron bomb, which you may remember. The Pentagon actively encouraged the building of the neutron bomb because it would depend more on radiation than explosion. In other words, it kills the enemy (and the enemy's children, mothers, elderly and non-combatants) but leaves the buildings unscathed. The scenario is that we could kill off the Russians and later be able to inhabit their ghost cities.

Neat, huh?

The electromagnetic pulse bomb is the exact opposite. It would have no effect whatsoever on the citizens but would wipe out their technology.

The EMP bomb would be designed to explode in mid-air. A blast at that altitude would cause fairly little ground damage and the radiation would float harmlessly through the stratosphere.

However, the initial blast itself would release a magnetic wave of indescribable proportions, what physicists call a gravity wave. In laymen's terms, a ripple in the earth's magnetic field. While this would pass harmlessly through people and buildings with no effect, it would short circuit every electrical appliance in a designated area, from household toasters to the firing mechanisms of the enemy's intercontinental ballistic missiles.

The advantages of the EMP warhead over the conventional nuclear bomb are obvious. The real threat, many analysts believe, is in the possibility of an accidental war. The Pentagon will not release any exact information on the subject, but it is known that the Early Warning Defense computers at NORAD (North American Air Defense) headquarters have sent false alarms several times in the past few years. It is simply a matter of time until a false alarm is interpreted to be the real thing, and a half an hour later the world we know will cease to exist.

Those stakes are too high. If we launched an attack, even accidentally, there is no doubt but that the Russians would have to follow suit. The converse is also true.

However, if an accidental launching took place, and an EMP bomb was sent, then chances are the other side would respond in a like manner (Note: it has long been a rule of thumb for political analysts that whatever technology is possessed by one side is soon possessed by the other. If we developed an EMP bomb, the USSR would soon own one too).

The effects of this sort of exchange would be very bad. Both economies would grind to a halt. But there would be no total, world wide genocide.

It is currently foolish to push for a weapons freeze, since neither side can afford to trust the other. But steps should be taken immediately to develop and deploy the electromagnetic pulse bomb. One that is accomplished, the current store of nuclear missiles should be, one by one replaced by EMP missiles. The threat then would be to wipe out the enemy's economy, not its children.

It is a chance, a slim one to be sure, but a chance nonetheless. With the current nuclear threat, no chance whatsoever exists.

Portland Wrestling, shadow of its former, bizarre self

By Rob Conner
Sports Editor

What has happened to Portland Wrestling in recent years? A question I have asked myself hundreds of times, as I'm sure you have.

Sure, it's still on Saturday nights at 11 p.m., but who are we watching anyway? What happened to the glory days of Portland Wrestling (big time wrestling) that featured such stars as Jimmy Snuka, Dutch Savage, "Moondog" Lonny Maine, "Bull" Ramos, Jesse Ventura, and the Royal Kangaroos?

Is the ageless wonder, promoter Don Owen, holding out on us, the Northwest wrestling fans? Is Owen, who by the way still can't remember where Buddy Rose comes from, pinching his pennies trying to pawn off cheap imitations and old has-beens (namely Hack Sawyer and Stan "the man" Stasiak) in order to make a buck?

Don, you can't rely on guest appearances by Buddy Rose and Roddy Piper much longer. It was fine for the first couple of times, but for the past four years you have continued to use the same gimmick.

Let's face it, for the last five years Portland Wrestling hasn't been worth watching! We want blood, Don. For a while there, a few years ago, just about every week we got to see some legitimate matches. The great rivalry between tag teams, Snuka and Savage and the Royal Kangaroos, was always a sure bet for blood.

Now all we ever get is Stan Stasiak trying to land his "famous" heartpunch. Do you ever notice that he always misses on his first two attempts, then connects on his third try? And every match, like clockwork, he gets mad and circles the ring, pounding the mat. He climbs back inside and stalks his opponent with his fists

raised above him. How much longer can Stan keep this up, anyway? I'm not sure what's older, Stan or his show.

Some action needs to be stirred up in the Northwest or I'm just going to watch Georgia wrestling (Sat 3 p.m. Channel 17) from now on.

To start things off, why not send the Dutchman (Dutch Savage) back to the ring? Buddy Rose could beat him up on an interview then Savage could challenge him to a coalminer's glove match.

Secondly, pay Jimmy Snuka whatever it takes to get him back in the Northwest for a couple months. A series of matches between Snuka and, the one up-and-coming star in the Northwest, Billy Jack would surely pack arenas throughout the Washington/Oregon territory.

It actually wouldn't be a bad idea to throw Chris Colt into a few main events. Given the chance, Colt can put on a show as well as anyone. I can remember back about ten years ago watching Superstar Wrestling, out of Yakima, Washington, and never being disappointed with Chris Colt's performance.

Colt and his tag team partner were billed as the Hell's Angels. Now that was a tag team that put on a show! Blood every week! I'd like to see Colt given another chance in the limelight. He is more than just a preliminary match wrestler.

Speaking of preliminaries, they are worse than ever these days. I thought the likes of Haru Sasaki, Matti Suzuki, the Calipso Kid, and Johnnie Eagles were bad. You know the prelims are bad when you wake up at 3 a.m. and the television is still going. They should have the main event on first, then everyone could get to bed on time.

Right now the only reason I find to watch Portland Wrestling is to listen to the remarks of announcer Don Coss. Keep up the good work Don!

'Take Charge' nothing new for College

By Rick
Obritschkewitsch

(Rick Obritschkewitsch is a former Editor In Chief of The Print.)

The recent Take Charge Day at Clackamas Community College shows the community's concern with the troubles that have been dropped on its people throughout our tough economic times.

But for those who aren't aware of the College's activities, it may seem that Take Charge is standing alone in aid offered for those hurt, in some form or another, by unemployment.

This is not the first step, it is only the latest in a series of steps the College has undertaken to aid the financially needy. Located in the College's Community Center is a department whose job it is to not only help people find employment, but to teach them how to become employed. The Job Placement Center teaches everything from how to fill out an application form and where to look for a job, to writing a resume and how to act at an interview.

Take Charge Day focused on such things as acquiring work, working with unemployed people who do not have moneymaking skills, and families surviving on one income rather than two.

But the placement center is dealing with some of these same problems every day. With the economy in the state that it is currently in, more and more people are going back to school. Because the costs of going to a university are so high, many of the returning students are going to their local community colleges.

It's not that there has been a sudden desire for people to use their community colleges as a means to simply get better educated, but to get the necessary education to survive in today's society.

For instance, no matter what area a person wants to go into to make money, knowledge about computers is important. Even in personal life, computers are increasing in usefulness.

So this need for further education means an increase in enrollment, and an increase in the number of people needing employment help. So in effect, the Job Placement Center has become an important part of Clackamas Community College.

Take Charge Day was simply an extension of what the placement center offers students, because many of the things that took place on Take Charge Day were the type of things the people at the placement center deal with every day.

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