

Bob's Corner

Recently watched several episodes of an older black-and-white TV series about a railroad detective.

They were interesting in an Old West sort of way. Except that the hero was beaten in three episodes by the bad guys, and in each case his wounds were exactly the same. I thought that was a cheap-out way of saving money. Then, despite his bleeding wounds, they disappeared about two minutes later, and he was OK again. Weird.

And, speaking of Westerns, what about those in which the cowpokes ride into town after being on the trail for a year or two. Apparently they stopped at the town coin-operated laundry before entering the nearest saloon, because their clothes are neither dirty nor dusty. Plus, their hair and faces are clean too. Can't figure that one out. Maybe they fell in a river?

All this reminds me of when I used to see movies in theaters instead of in the comfort of our home. And it brings to mind a cartoon wherein a guy complains to the refreshment stand worker that it's outrageous to have to pay \$4.50 for a small sack of popcorn. The worker replies, "Hey, look. The movie you're going to see cost \$150 million, and you only paid 5 bucks for a ticket."

Moving right along: Although not of Vulcan extract, my ears still function well, but I find that many of the movies we rent have nearly indecipherable dialogue. In fact, we've reversed and rerun scenes in an attempt to hear what was said, only to discover that the actors are mumbling or swallowing their words.

Of course, having subtitles, preferably in English, helps immeasurably. But not all movies have them, especially older films. Which brings up a few thoughts about a World War II British-made war story we watched not long ago. It's a good movie, although at first I was worried it would be X-rated because I misread the title as, "The Immortal Battalion." Then I discovered the real title, "The Immortal Battalion."

It's a good story about common men becoming uncommon in the defense of their country. Although we enjoyed the film, some of the dialogue is, well, just too British to understand. Some examples:

*Five soldiers are in a living room, when their commander enters. The commander says, "Hello men, pansy greeting bleed fear." And one of the men replies, "Bloody swill mumble shower grim reaper." I think that's what they said.

*Several soldiers are at a railroad station, and one says, "Ribbon trimmin' cobbler by George, scepter beastly riptide." A companion adds, "Fiddle riddle cramping dog nose, witch hazel plausible stone with marmosets." Something like that.

If anyone has a British translation, I'd be grateful. Also, there was a battle scene in which the same building was blown up at least four times. I guess the movie budget was tight, and so the same structure had to serve. Either that, or there was a town with a whole bunch of identical buildings.

Anyone for poppycock brandishing hot flash?

Letters to the Editor

(Editor's Note: Views and commentary expressed in letters to the editor are strictly those of the letter-writers.

Typed, double-spaced letters are acceptable for consideration. Handwritten letters that are double-spaced and highly legible also can be considered for publication.

Cards of thanks are not accepted as letters.)

Moore recognition
From Dulcie Moore, secretary, I.V. Little League Cave Junction

On behalf of the Illinois Valley Little League (IVLL) Board of Directors and the children of Illinois Valley, we want to express our appreciation to Sonny Moore for his leadership, vision and dedication to IVLL.

Sonny has stepped down as president of IVLL, having served in this capacity for the past four years.

His vision and efforts for the safety of our children have brought many changes. The infield at Jubilee Park ball field has been completely renovated, and construction of the two new dugouts is near completion.

He can be seen early Saturday mornings dragging the field for the day of games, and he is still there after the last out is made; putting away the bases and equipment. If he is not umpiring games, you will find him working in the snack shack.

Sonny has brought recognition to our valley by working to host the Southern Oregon Junior & Senior All-Star Tournament at Jubilee Park. This year, we have fielded five All-Star teams.

We also congratulate Sonny for having been honored as the 2004 Volunteer of the Year for the state of Oregon.

Peace?
From Charles Jacobs Selma

I guess I will never understand Christians, even though I used to be one. How can followers of the Prince of Peace endorse and support those who advocate war and violence?

What is it about, "Thou shall not kill," that is so confusing? Did not Jesus say in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5:9, "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God?" Did not Jesus also state in Matthew 26:52, "For they that take up the sword shall perish by the sword?"

If the Bible is the word of God, then it should take prominence over what anyone else says. Why does our country, which avows to be Christian, follow these warmongers when the Prince of Peace tells us not to?

Does it not seem strange that so many Christians would condemn Bill Clinton for lying, then follow a president who condones killing tens of thousands of people in a war based on a lie - or follow Arnold, who openly brags about his affairs?

It seems rather confusing to me how a group of people can be so concerned about the right to life of the unborn, and then believe in the death penalty: the taking of a life.

I guess a person will believe what they want to regardless of what Jesus tried to teach them. As my

grandma taught me, "A man convinced against his will is of the same opinion still." So let all the Christians follow their clerics. Is this not what Islam does?

'ELF fanatics'
From Lynne Vanderlinden Cave Junction

Most people do realize, I hope, that ELF (Eco-Lunatic Fanatics) is basically a phantom entity comprised of a website master who keeps his personal hands clean when it comes to torching or otherwise destroying property and livelihoods in the name of (what else?) saving the Earth.

He doesn't seek donations or membership, although I have no doubt many enviro groups tithe to maintain the site and stroke this geek's ego.

The purpose of ELF is to take the heat off those groups which do whine for donations and wish to keep their acts of terrorism a secret from those who would not otherwise financially support them.

Actually, a brilliant ploy: "Gee, you can't blame XYZ Project, because the spray paint says 'ELF.' We certainly don't condone those types of actions."

Greenpeace's omnipotent presence in our backyard obviously emboldened some of our local trash to strut their Earth First! stuff by recently vandalizing logging equipment on Grayback. Kind of like a kid showing off to his big brother.

By the way, the recent diarrhea of "no salvage" letters-by-rote are precipi-

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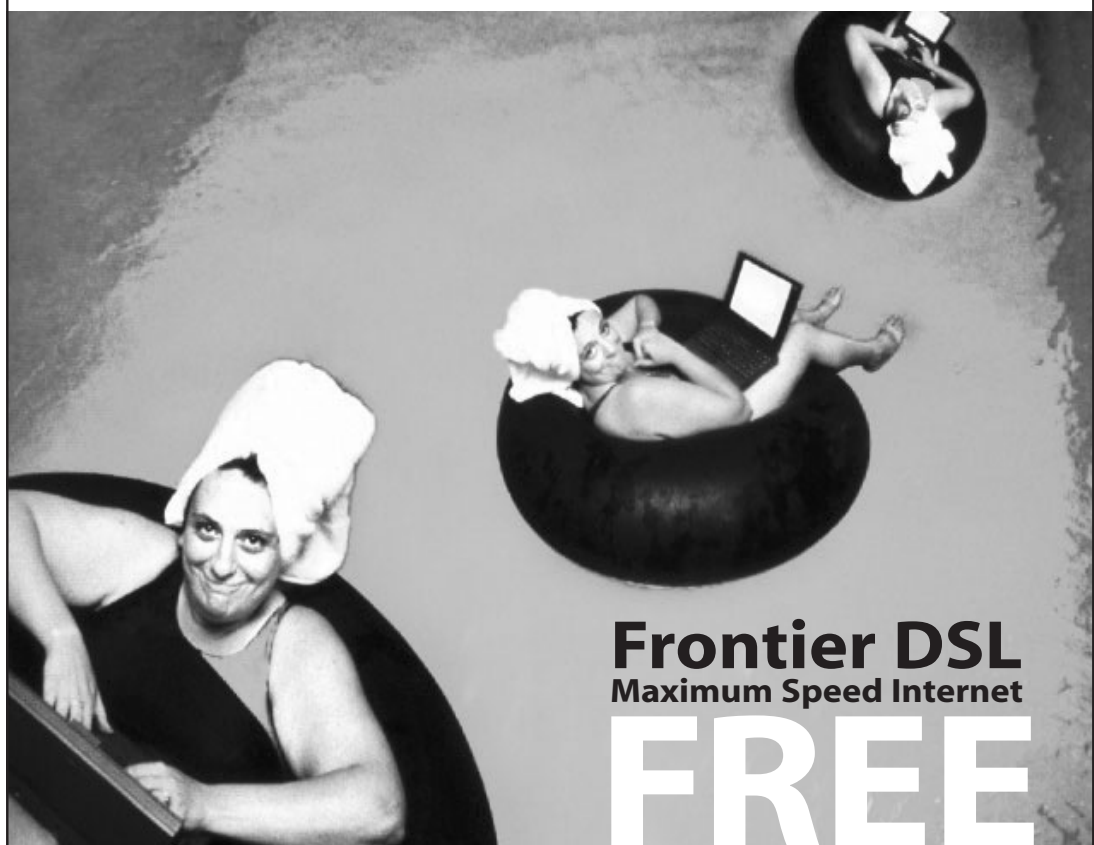
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