

# Weather Watch

## Cave Junction

	<b>Tuesday, Dec 31</b> Partly Cloudy High -- 49 Low -- 34
	<b>Wednesday, Jan 1</b> Mostly Cloudy High -- 50 Low -- 35
	<b>Thursday, Jan 2</b> Clear High -- 51 Low -- 38
	<b>Friday, Jan 3</b> Rain High -- 49 Low -- 35
	<b>Saturday, Jan 4</b> Mostly Cloudy High -- 47 Low -- 35
	<b>Sunday, Jan 5</b> Chance of Rain High -- 45 Low -- 31
	<b>Monday, Jan 6</b> Partly Cloudy High -- 42 Low -- 31

Following are the high & low temperatures, and rainfall recorded at The End of the Road in O'Brien by Cheryl & Harry Johnson:

Dec	High	Low
20	42.1	25.9
21	44.8	29.8
22	44.6	28.9
23	45.5	31.1
24	45.9	30.9
25	38.1	32.9
26	36.5	29.5

Dec Rain: 1.62" YTD Rain: 11.36"



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# History of Illinois River Forks State Park: by Roger Brandt

Part two, Formal recreation programs at the "forks":

The "forks" became increasingly important as a recreation site when the City of Cave Junction began its swim program in 1955. Publicity about swimming lessons began to appear in the Illinois Valley News and the "forks" was mentioned as one of the places where swimming was taught. Cleanup work was done along the beach as part of effort to provide recreation for the community.

After the second year of the swim program residents started calling the forks swimming hole the "swimming pool" as became evident in a 1957 article that said the Recreation Board had hired a bulldozer "to smooth out the road from the highway to the swimming pool". The article went on to say that in addition to the work on the road by the bulldozer "the parking area at the Forks has been enlarged for the summer season's activities" and the city

council had agreed to furnish a grader to work on the road "between the Redwood Highway and the swimming pool". They noted that this work was outside the city limits and was being done "as a contribution by the city for the summer recreation program".

The popular sentiment among local residents that the forks swimming hole was the city's "swimming pool" apparently resulted in confusion in swim lesson and life saving class schedules. The 1957 recreation schedule tried to clarify this by saying: "The morning swimming program will be at the Rauber pool at the Cave Park Motel [Lucky Clover Motel]. This is not to be confused with the swimming "hole" at the Forks, where the two branches of the Illinois River join".

In the first years of the swim program the primary place for swimming lessons was the pool at the Lucky Clover Motel south of Cave Junction. In 1962,

the entire swim program was moved to the "forks" because the swim program had "outgrown" the pool. About 25 children had participated in the program when it started in 1955 and in 1961 the class size had grown to 130 children.

The 1962 swimming schedule at the "forks" included swimming lessons for beginning, intermediate, and advanced swimmers as well as a swim period for mothers and infants and another time period for adults. On Wednesdays, a playday was scheduled and participants were encouraged to bring play equipment to include air mattresses, fins, balls, inner tubes, but no snorkels. The recreation director for the 1962 season was Mike Hanby, a qualified Red Cross Life Guard who was on hand to look after the swimmers.

The increased interest in using the "forks" for community recreation may have played a role in designating this area as an Oregon State Park.



Swimmers cool off at the "forks" swimming hole. July 8, 1965, *Illinois Valley News*.

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