

Former MHCC board chairman sees credibility gap

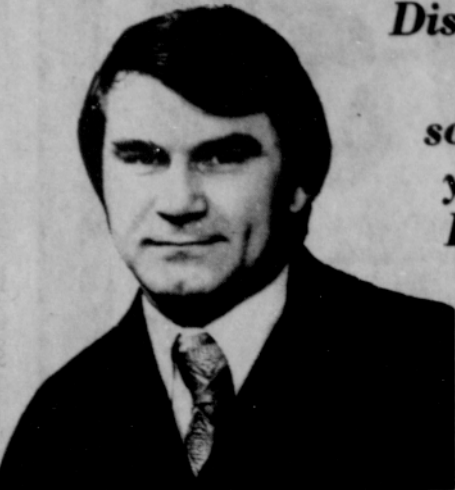
Has success spoiled Mt. Hood Community College? Has the college become "the big house on the hill" which doesn't need our help any more?

W. R. (Bill) Beall
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These questions were posed last week by Dr. Malcolm MacGregor, recently retired MHCC board chairman. MacGregor told the board that since his term expired, he has talked to a lot of people trying to find out where the college's problems lie. He was referring, of course, to election losses... four of them this

year. "A credibility gap has developed," MacGregor told the board. "People think our physical plant is almost too beautiful. We're looked upon as the 'big house on the hill'." He said the college must do a better job of explaining how it can continue to lose levy elections and still continue to operate. He said much greater effort should be made to meet with opponents of the college, instead of with proponents. "There are pockets of real bitterness," MacGregor said, "and you must reach these." He also said a great many people perceive teachers as "overworked and underpaid"

and said this was symptomatic of a growing rejection of higher education. MacGregor suggested that the College might emphasize more strongly the vocational-technical opportunities it offers and put less emphasis on relationships with higher education. Finally, he said that doing away with the college's sports program, as recently suggested by Board Chairman Rick Gustafson, "would be a terrible mistake and would be totally demoralizing to the school." MacGregor served a four year-term on the board, retiring as board chairman last spring.



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Commissioners won't apply for federal grant

Clackamas County Commissioners have announced that they will not seek Public Works Title I funds to construct a \$3 million administrative and emergency services building. The board's decision was based on the short time lines set by the grant. Lack of time to assess the needs and priorities for future development of the county's governmental complex without citizens participation was a strong factor that led to the decision, according to the commissioners.

The board will apply for two smaller grants to expand overcrowded juvenile and dog control facilities presently situated at the complex. Grants will also be submitted for construction and renovation of a building by the public works department, historical society and the fair board. The applications will total \$1.5 million. "It is unfortunate that this once-in-a-lifetime grant places the heaviest burden upon those who could benefit most from a totally funded project," said Commissioner Rober Schumacher. "Areas suffering from tight budgets can't afford to develop construction plans at sizeable cost to the taxpayer in hopes that funding might be available," he continued. "At a time when we closed our library and parks, I feel it is not in the best interest of our citizens to gamble needed funds in hopes that an application would be funded."



Up, up and away (as far as the line would allow) was the cry last week-end at Babe's Big Boy Pizza parlor offered hot air balloon rides to their customers. (Post photo)

College to apply for recreation funds

According to the Atlas of Oregon, homestead claims in Oregon, which peaked from 1911 to 1920, practically ceased in the state after 1945.

Mt. Hood Community College plans to apply for roughly \$2.3 million in federal funds to develop a recreational complex just east of the main campus. The MHCC board at its Wednesday evening meeting authorized President Stephen

Nicholson to prepare the necessary papers. Some \$10 million in federal funds are available to Multnomah County under the Public Works Employment Program, recently signed into law by President Ford.

The college has roughly 40 acres of undeveloped property just east of the main campus and bounded on the east by Troutdale Road. Various plans have been suggested for the property over the years but no definite decision made.

The funds are 100 per cent, with no matching money required.

A so-called "Canyon committee" has been meeting for nearly a year to develop plans for a 10-acre canyon which cuts through the heart of the property. It was not immediately clear how the proposed recreational development would fit with plans for the canyon.

The MHCC plan envisions a 35,000 sq. ft. recreation center with additional developments for outdoor recreation on 10 adjoining acres.

The only expense to the college if federal funds were granted would be for architectural planning.

Training offered

The Oregon State University Extension Service, including the Clackamas County Office, is tooled up to offer farmers, golf course operators and others a training program for handling and applying restricted use pesticides. Extension Agent Clayton Willis reports that letters have

been sent to all commercial farmers in the county with details of a TV course being offered for those who wish to become certified. If you want further information concerning the program, contact the Clackamas County Extension Office, 655-8631.

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We need Ralph Groener's "dazzling energy" - *Community Press*
 He's served as chairman of the Clackamas Community College Board of Education, state president of the Day Care and Child Development Council of Oregon, a member of both the Governor's Committee on Aging and the Governor's Commission on Youth - and much, much more!

We need Ralph Groener's "competence in office and concern for the people" - *Oregon Journal*
 He's helped thousands of local people solve their problems during his four years as a Clackamas County legislator - and he's ready to keep his "energy for people" working for you!

We need Ralph Groener's "diverse insight and detailed experience" - *The Oregonian*
 He's earned a national reputation as a leader in developing innovative programs for the elderly and the handicapped - and he'll put his creative talents to the test in finding ways to cut the high cost of government without sacrificing vital services!

We need Ralph Groener's enthusiasm, hard work
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energy for people!


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