

## Suit dismissal pondered

The final chapter in a class action lawsuit on behalf of Bull Run water users may be written Jan. 30 in the Portland chambers of U.S. District Judge James M. Burns.

Burns will hold the 9 a.m. hearing so Portland resident users of Bull Run water will have an opportunity to present their objections, if any, to the dismissal of remaining claims in the lawsuit involving the Bull Run Reserve and watershed.

"From now on, my involvement in Bull Run is not going to have any leadership involved," said Sandy resident Joe Miller, who instigated the class action lawsuit with his wife, Amy, in 1973. Miller favors continuation of the suit.

The Forest Service and other defendants to the lawsuit have proposed that the remaining claims in the lawsuit be dismissed because the changes in federal laws since the filing of the lawsuit have made the claims moot.

Also apparently in favor of dismissing the remaining claims is Charles Merten, lawyer for Miller and the class during the lengthy legal proceedings.

In a letter dated Dec. 15 and addressed to Miller, the Oregon Environmental Council and the Northwest Environmental Defense Center at Lewis and Clark College, Merten noted that the Bull Run Trespass Act no longer exists since President Carter signed a new bill outlining management of the watershed on Nov. 23, 1977.

Judge Burns, in closing the Bull Run Reserve last year, ruled only on the first claim involving the Trespass Act. The four remaining claims include:

—The Public Trust claim, a derivative of the Trespass Act claim. This said if the Trespass Act does not

ban logging altogether, then nonetheless the Forest Service is still logging too much and thereby endangering the quality of Bull Run water.

—The clearcutting claim. Merten said the statute that served as the basis of the claim has been amended by Congress so as to allow clearcutting.

—The Multiple Use and Sustained Yield claim. Merten said this was a contention that the Sustained Yield Act was being violated because the Forest Service was not maintaining the 300-year-old timber growth in Bull Run.

—The National Environmental Protection Act, which Merten said claimed that nothing should be done in the Bull Run Reserve pending the filing of an environmental impact statement.

"The sustained yield and NEPA claims are not, in my opinion, mooted by the repeal of the Trespass Act," wrote Merten. "The question is: shall we continue to press them?"

"I suggest that we voluntarily dismiss our remaining claims without prejudice to our right to reinstate them later," Merten said.

Miller expressed concern for the wording of the new law which removes what he said was "previous legal protection for the Little Sandy River as a future water source." He said the new law "opens a large part of it to recreation and multiple use without completing an environmental impact statement."

"If this is to be challenged under other laws, this should happen before people get used to using the area for recreation, hunting and fishing," wrote Miller in the Bull Run newsletter. "We have seen how difficult it was in the Lolo Pass area to exclude people once they have become accustomed (even though illegally) to enjoying it."

## Curved spine talk due

"Stand up straight. Do you want to grow up with a curved spine?"

If you've said that to your daughter or son, it may have been a waste of breath.

If your child slouches, holds one shoulder lower than the other or stands with a hip jutting out, the child may have scoliosis, not merely some bad postural habits.

Joyce Kramer, nurse for the feeder schools in the Sandy Union High School District, will hold a meeting and show a film concerning the problems of scoliosis at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24, in the high school reference library.

The meeting is part of a program the area schools have participated in

during the past three years to check for the condition.

Mrs. Kramer said scoliosis is a condition, not a disease. It affects 80 percent more girls than boys and gets started during adolescence. Although its cause is unknown, Mrs. Kramer said science has determined that it tends to have a genetic nature.

If caught early, Mrs. Kramer said most sufferers have the condition corrected through a brace or exercises. Surgery is a final resort.

Mrs. Kramer said parents are invited to attend the Tuesday session or contact her through one of the school districts.

# Hobnobbing with the stars

by Lori Varosh  
staff reporter

Starry, starry night. The rare site in East County this time of year is a regular feature at the Mt. Hood Community College planetarium.

Bob G. Anderson, director of planetarium programs, regularly hobnobs with the stars. "Astronomy is the Cosmic Journey," is the message plastered on his office wall. The decor consists of a floor to ceiling photograph of the moon.

His preoccupation continues to be in evidence in a box of Converse All-Star basketball shoes in the corner.

It is the doomed room 30 feet across that inspires Anderson's continual fraternization with space.

"It excites the imagination," the astronomy instructor explained. "The sky in the planetarium is so close to the real thing." Sky theater programs tour the heavens from sunset to sunrise any day of the year.

Vivid oranges, pinks and purples melt with background music into night. The pinpoint of light appear more realistic in the planetarium, in fact, than they do outside near the pollution and lights of Portland.

Arc lamps help the planetarium projector reproduce the stars accurately.

"Normally, they make the blob on the ceiling bigger to connote brightness," Anderson said. "The arc lamps can really give us a brighter light."

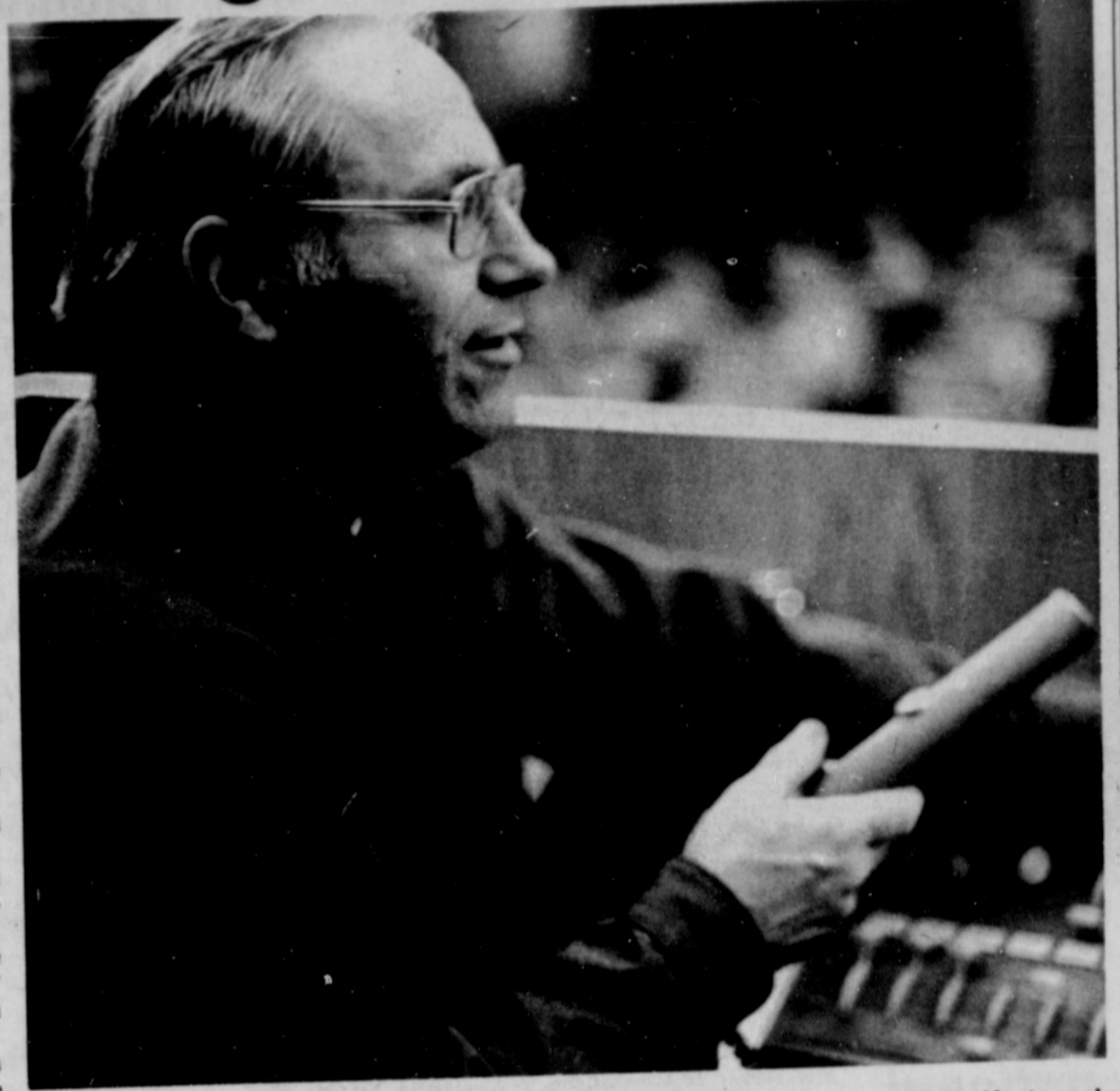
The Spitz A-4 projector looming like a Star Wars weapon in the center of the theater is the best instrument in its price class, he figured. "It has a two-fold function: to show the positions and the motions of the sky accurately."

Stars are illuminated through holes in the projector bulb. Planets, however, are each mounted on a separate drive aided by mirrors to accurately depict the different orbits.

The collection of pinpoints of light on the ceiling are designed to give children and adults a sense of familiarity with the sky.

Programs for school children can be arranged at the teacher's convenience. "We try hard to relate the program to what the teacher is doing in class," Anderson explained. "Then students come with the attitude that this is going to make sense. They won't just come to sleep."

Anderson is well-equipped to discuss



AT THE CONTROLS Bob Anderson prepares to manipulate the night sky. The Mt. Hood Community College planetarium programs director uses the star projector, slides and other visual aids to make children and adults more familiar with all facets of astronomy.

(Post photo)

anything space-related, with help from the projector, slides and other visual aid. A ninth-grade class will be treated to a "bucketful of Mars slides that'll knock their eyes out."

"It's amazing to see how inquisitive these kids are," the director said. "The distances in space are so huge, the sizes are so big, kids love to trip on it. There's a natural awesomeness to the sky."

Adults are equally fascinated and inquisitive, according to Anderson, but they ask questions only when children are not around.

"I really enjoy talking to retired folks who saw Haley's comet in 1910. If you

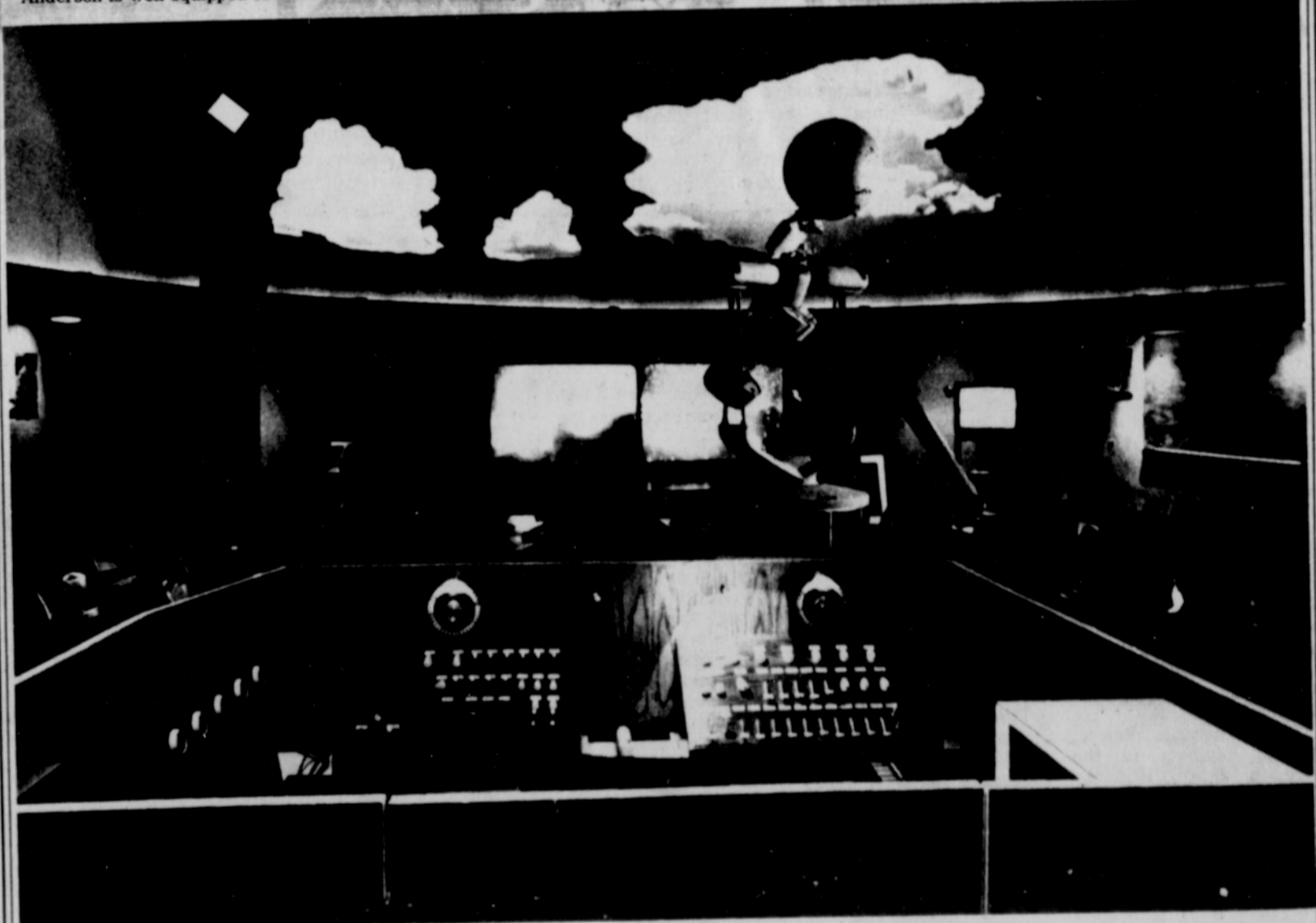
see something like that, you never forget it."

Schools tend to neglect astronomy in today's tightened curriculum. The MHCC planetarium can fill the void.

A Wednesday class, "Planets and Stars for Adults Who Wonder About Them," will be from 7 to 9 p.m. for three weeks beginning Feb. 8.

"Stars and Planets for Parents and Kids" will be Saturdays, Jan. 21 to Feb. 11 from 10 a.m. to noon.

A sack lunch program for adults will highlight each planet during the winter quarter at 12:15 p.m. Thursdays. All classes are in the MHCC planetarium.



A PRECISION INSTRUMENT, the planetarium projector is designed to accurately duplicate not only positions of the stars, but also motion of the planets. Other visual aids in the Mt. Hood Community College planetarium bring the outside in.

(Photo courtesy MHCC)

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**Fraud found**

Fraud control activity in the fourth quarter of 1977 (October through December) through the Oregon Employment Division's Unemployment Insurance Benefits section, brought recommendations for the prosecution of nine new cases.

This brought the total number of cases to be prosecuted during the fourth quarter to 40. Six cases were completed during the quarter leaving 34 cases pending, said a spokesman for the employment division.

The completed cases brought two convictions in Clackamas County; one conviction and one declination in Multnomah County and one conviction each in Linn and Jackson counties.

In these cases the courts ordered restitution of monies paid in four cases; suspended sentences in three cases; imposed sentences to be continued in two cases and set probationary periods in five cases ranging from 18 months to three years.

During the fourth quarter, a total of 370 determinations were written in which 4,764 calendar weeks of unemployment insurance benefits were disqualified for willful, false statements or misrepresentation. A total of \$155,956 was recovered in overpayments of benefits during the quarter.

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**Management plan reduces timber sales**

The Mt. Hood National Forest will implement the preferred alternative for the Timber Management Plan, as outlined in the final statement, said Forest Supervisor Dale Robertson this week. The decision was made in conference with Regional Forester Dick Worthington.

The preferred alternative will become the timber management plan for the next ten years. It describes an annual sell level of 364.1 million board feet a year.

"Although the Mt. Hood Forest contains about 1 million acres," said timber staff member Wendall Jones. "Only about 824,000 acres included in the commercial forest land base. Of this, timber harvest is only prescribed on about 662,000 acres."

Jones went on to add that there was significant public input on the draft environment statement. He said concerns expressed in the input were considered and many changes occurred in the final statement as a result.

"An example," said Jones, "is that the final reflects a 29 percent reduction of number of acres harvested, while at the same time reflecting only a 2.5 percent reduction in the annual harvest levels."

The timber management plan indicates no harvest levels for the 142,000 acre Bull Run Reserve. Management directives for the recently legislated 95,000 acre Bull Run Watershed Management Unit will be developed in continued cooperation with the City of Portland.

A final environmental statement will be issued for this area. Management prescriptions for the remainder of the 142,000 acres are contained in the Mt. Hood Planning Unit Final Environmental Statement.

**MacGregor enlists**

Mark A. MacGregor, husband of Shannon MacGregor, 56161 East Highway 26, Sandy, recently enlisted in the United States Air Force, according to SSgt. David H. Masuo, the local Air Force recruiter.

MacGregor departed Jan. 10 for Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Upon successfully completing the Air Force's six-week basic training course, he will receive further training in his chosen career field as a security specialist.

MacGregor will be earning credits toward an associate degree in applied sciences through the Community College of the Air Force while attending basic and other Air Force technical training schools.