



Mt. Hood isn't quite as barren now as when this picture was taken last July, but scientists say that there is a very low snowpack on the mountain. It should have little effect on

Clackamas County, but farmers in Hood River and east of the Cascades may suffer this summer from a lack of irrigation water in local streams.

Low snowpack to hurt farmers

It is not only skiers and resort owners who bemoan the lack of winter snowfall; farmers are also affected, since moisture for the summer growing season originates in the winter snow pack.

But Tom George, snow survey supervisor for the federal Soil Conservation Services (SCS), says the hardest hit by this winter's snow drought will be Hood River fruit growers, not the farmers in Clackamas County or the Willamette Valley.

George acknowledged that the situation on Mt. Hood is serious. "We have an extremely low snow pack throughout the Cascades, including Mt. Hood," he said.

"At Still Creek near Government Camp, there is no snow at all," George said. "Even in the bad drought year of 1977, there was some snow there."

As of Jan. 1, the mountains in the Cascades all had less than 27 percent of their normal snowfall, with the ex-

ception of Mt. Bachelor, which had nearly half of its normal level.

George said the real effect of the situation will be on agriculture in the coming season. "Irrigators have to divert their water from streams," he said. "And streams derive their water from snow pack."

George said the snow pack on Mt. Hood is exceptionally poor. "The only snow is at Timberline Lodge and above, and that makes up a very small portion of the watershed. It doesn't contribute a whole lot to stream flow."

The Mt. Hood watersheds around Hood River are all bare, the supervisor said. "And that's going to affect a few acres of fruit trees this summer."

There is presently "not a whole lot of problem for Clackamas County," he said, although "the potential is there."

This is because most of the crops grown in Clackamas County depend upon groundwater rather than irrigation from stream flow, he ex-

plained.

"The groundwater is adequate right now because we got so much rain early in the season," he said. "And we could get a lot of rainfall in the next couple of months. It's a little early to say whether there'll be a problem in Clackamas County."

George said that "most of the problem (with water supply for agriculture) is outside the Willamette Valley."

Tom Bennett, from the SCS field office in Hood River, said that region's problems may stem from the poor quality of the water rather than inadequate quantity.

He said not only the sparse snow pack but the flooding which hit the Columbia Gorge earlier in the season had to be considered.

"We're unsure of the amount of water we'll end up with," he said, but the water quality would be affected by the high level of silt in the glacial runoff from Mt. Hood.

Hoodland happenings

Welches School sets concert

Thursday, Jan. 22

The Clackamas County "Well-Baby Clinic" and "WIC" programs will be held starting at 9:30 a.m. today at the Hoodland Women's Club on Salmon River Road. Call Patty Henniger, 622-3607, to make an appointment for immunizations or examinations of children, newborn to age 5.

A senior citizens lunch sponsored by "Loaves and Fishes" will be served at 11:30 a.m. in Welches School library. Transportation to the lunch can be arranged by calling the Senior Center at 622-3331.

Friday, Jan. 23

No school at Welches today. Teacher work day.

Monday, Jan. 26

At 9 a.m. today at the Courthouse Annex, 906 Main Street, Oregon City, the Board of County Commissioners will consider a review of the Clackamas County Hearings Officer's approval of a subdivision request to develop 192 subdivision-condominium in Zig Zag Village which has received prior conditional use approval. A waiver of the position of the Clackamas County Subdivision and Partitioning Ordinance which requires all public roads be county roads will also be considered.

A senior citizens lunch sponsored by "Loaves and Fishes" will be served at 11:30 a.m. in Welches School library. Transportation to the lunch can be arranged by calling the Senior Center at 622-3331.

The Welches School Annual Concert will be presented tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the school gymnasium. The program will feature vocal selections from students in grades kindergarten through 8.

Tuesday, Jan. 27

The Chamber of Commerce will meet this morning at 7 a.m. at the Red Lion Inn at Bowman's. Additional improvements for Highway 26 locally, and expansion of

the Gresham Community Hospital will be the topics for this meeting.

Wednesday, Jan. 28

Welches Community School "Tiny-Tots" group will meet from 10 a.m. to noon. Call Connie Westly, 622-3073, for information and meeting location.

At 8 p.m. the Mt. Hood Lions Club will hold a general meeting at the club building in Wemme on Highway 26.

Thursday, Jan. 29

Welches students will have a student assembly at 9:15 a.m. featuring the "Sandy Jazz Ensemble."

A "Babysitting Exchange," sponsored by Welches Community School, will meet today at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Charlotte

Stringer. Parents interested in trading babysitting on an occasional basis are welcome to attend. Call Charlotte at 622-3896 for further information.

A senior citizens lunch sponsored by "Loaves and Fishes" will be served at 11:30 a.m. in Welches School library. Transportation to the lunch can be arranged by calling the Senior Center at 622-3331.

The Welches Community Ski Program, sponsored by the Hoodland Women's Club, starts today. Welches students participating in this program will leave school at 2:30 p.m. and return to school at 8 p.m. The program is open to children, parents, and friends of all ages and ability. Carpools are being

organized at a minimal fee for the riders. Ski packages are available including lessons, lift tickets, and equipment. Call Suzanne Marter, 622-4476, or Muri Sivey, 622-4114, if you have any questions. Information and registration forms are also available at Welches School.

The Clackamas County Library Bookmobile will be at Hoodland Plaza this evening from 5 to 7 p.m. The phone number for information concerning the Bookmobile is 655-8542.

GUESS WHAT YOU CAN EAT ON THE NEW 1981 WEIGHT WATCHERS FOOD PLANS!

- | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| White Wine | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO |
| Peanut Butter | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Raisins | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sweet Potatoes | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Popcorn | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Red Wine | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Honey | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

On the new 1981 Weight Watchers food plans you're taught to eat them all—within limits of course—and still lose weight. Join a Weight Watchers class near you and find out about our new food plans and complete program for taking off the pounds, deliciously!

WEIGHT WATCHERS
The most successful weight loss program in the world.

SANDY ASSEMBLY OF GGD CHURCH
418 Mt. Hood Highway
Mon. 7:00 p.m.
Evening Class Opening Soon
Mt. Hood Community College area
©Weight Watchers Int'l Inc.
1981 owner of the Weight Watchers trademark

Firemen douse Hoodland blaze

Hoodland firefighters quickly brought a house fire under control last Thursday which turned out to be the first non-arson structural fire in a series of 11 blazes.

The fire occurred at approximately 7:30 p.m. in a cabin on East Barlow Trail Road owned by Norm Taylor of Portland and rented by Mark Loebe. The tenant was away from home when the fire occurred.

Fire Chief Don Armintrout said the fire originated in the wood stove pipe. The cabin, valued at \$28,000 was a total loss.

Armintrout said that the district has had 83 arson cases within the last three years, and none of the cases were solved.

Within the last month, however, two arrests were made which Armintrout said solved six of the 11 arson

cases which have occurred since December.

Both suspects were juveniles, and both confessed to several separate cases of arson. Armintrout said last week that the total fire loss attributable to the two juveniles was in excess of \$189,000.

A 13-year-old boy was linked with a structural fire on East Lookout Drive in Brightwood which caused a \$15,000 loss. The fire occurred Dec. 14.

During subsequent investigation, the boy confessed to two counts of first degree arson. He was remanded to the Clackamas County courts.

A 14-year-old girl confessed to first-degree arson involving a trailer fire which occurred near Brightwood Jan. 6. The girl was also involved in previous cases of

arson. She was made a ward of the court and placed in custody.

Armintrout pointed out that these cases have been cleared since Clackamas County Deputy Luther Ray Miller has joined the fire district as fire investigator. Miller completed a course in arson investigation last November.

The fire chief also said that both juveniles were interviewed in possible connection with the Nov. 21 arson fire at Welches School, and both were cleared of suspicion.

"We feel very confident that neither of them was responsible for the school fire," Armintrout said.

Prime Cuts seek funds

The Sandy Prime Cuts met for the third time this year last Saturday.

The group, which does beef, sheep and swine projects, is discussing various fund-raising methods, including selling pens. The Prime Cuts also made plans for a 4-H judging contest, scheduled for April

18. Dean Powers, 4-H leader, gave a talk on the most expensive cuts of meats and parasites that infect farm animals.

The next meeting for the Prime Cuts will be Saturday, Feb. 21. The group meets in the FFA room of Sandy High School.



FIRST ANNUAL GIANT STOREWIDE CLEARANCE SALE!

SALE ENDS FEB. 8TH - SO HURRY FOR BEST SELECTION!

End Tables from \$39⁹⁵

Cocktail Tables from \$49⁹⁵

Loveseats from \$199⁹⁵

Sofas from \$299⁹⁵



STUDIO 1

This sleek and sophisticated contemporary collection draws its imprint from magnificently crafted oak solids and veneers skillfully integrated in clean, architectural lines so wonderfully adaptable for today's casual living. (4 pieces).

JANUARY CLEARANCE PRICE

\$589⁹⁵ Nightstand Not Included
REG. \$689.95



Douglas 7-Piece

Dining Set

JANUARY CLEARANCE PRICE

\$549⁹⁵
Reg. \$647.95
5 PIECE SET AVAILABLE FOR \$449.95

ALL LAMPS 20% OFF
Beautiful Basset Mirrors & All Other Misc. Wall Hangings

25% OFF

BENSON'S gresham furniture

"Come In & Have A Cup of Coffee With Us"

We're Next to the New Heidis in Gresham; 1160 N.E. BURNSIDE, GRESHAM, PHONE 667-5800

WINTER HOURS: Monday-Thursday 10 AM-8 PM Friday 10 AM-9 PM, Saturday 10 AM-6 PM, Sunday 12-6 PM

WIN A NEW SWIVEL ROCKER!

2 Rockers to be Given Away Sunday, Feb. 8th at 5 PM!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Phone _____

COME IN & SIGN UP! NO PURCHASE NECESSARY



Similar to illus.

BENSON'S gresham furniture

Drill Now . . . Pay Later!

Why wait! With just a small down payment and your credit approval we can start now! We carry our own contracts - No finance companies or banks involved. You pay only 12% simple interest! No interest if paid off in 6 months.

for example typical 100 ft well

\$50 a mo.

Full Cash Price	\$1800.00
25% Down	450.00
36 Mo. Payments	44.85
Def. Paymt. Price	1614.00
Annual Percentage Rate	12%

for information call **KELLER Well Drilling**

18 Years of Experience Domestic and Irrigation

654-3370

6350 S.E. Brownlee Milwaukie