

Separator considered for Salmon River bridge

by MICHAEL P. JONES
Post Correspondent

There is a chance the funding will be found to correct possible engineering problems associated with the Salmon River bridge, located on Highway 26 near Brightwood.

Region Traffic Operations Supervisor Ronald W. Failmesger said that his office is currently exploring the feasibility of obtaining Title II money, which is provided for by the U.S. National Safety Act.

Four traffic accidents occurred on the bridge between Jan. 1, 1977, and Dec. 30, 1981.

The Dec. 30 accident resulted in two deaths.

The mishap occurred when a van lost control on the ice and slid into the path of a pickup-camper. The propane tank on the camper exploded upon impact, and both vehicles' gas tanks also caught fire.

Failmesger began checking into the possible engineering problems associated with the 450-foot structure in January.

The highway division's investiga-

tion revealed considerable that hazardous conditions exist on the structure during the winter season when ice is prevalent on the bridge.

Failmesger said that when the bridge ices over eastbound traffic can slide into the other lane, resulting in a head-on collision.

The highway division is proposing to secure funds to construct concrete barricades down the middle of the bridge. They are designed to take the impact of a vehicle if struck, according to Failmesger.

He said that because vehicles will no longer be able to slide into the westbound lane, that any accident that might occur would be less serious than if it were a "head-on."

Failmesger said that at the ends of this barrier, some type of cushioning will be added. Most likely the padding will be barrels, or containers filled with water. This would prevent a vehicle from striking the barrier's ends, which would also be serious.

Another option being explored would be to have the concrete barrier graded, coming up from the ground and curving into the main span of the

new protection railing. Failmesger said that this problem will be dealt with when the project reaches the "design stage determinations."

Excluding the installation of the concrete traffic separator, Failmesger said that the only other alternative to the ice problem would be "putting heaters on the structure itself." He said that although this has been done elsewhere, it would be expensive.

During the next two weeks Failmesger said that his office would be writing a formal report to justify the bridge project. He said that it will be reviewed by personnel at the traffic section at the State Department of Transportation. They will evaluate it on a cost-benefit basis.

Failmesger said that, in his opinion, the "high-hazard fund is one of the most effective uses of our federal money." He also said that he did not believe any of President Ronald Reagan's budget cuts will the program because of its effectiveness.

To date, Failmesger said that no

such funds have been used in the Sandy-Mt. Hood area.

A little over a year ago, new concrete barriers were installed around

"Map Curve" in conjunction with the runaway truck ramp project.

Failmesger said that the next two weeks will be spent writing a

justification for the project.

If everything proceeds as planned, the traffic separator could be installed before next winter.



Brad Carter, a Sandy Union High School freshman, jumps a bicycle in a dirt pit on Gary Street. Also pictured is Chris Conley, a friend from Parkrose. Photo by Scott Newton

3 vie for Welches School board

by MICHAEL P. JONES
Post Correspondent

Three Mt. Hood residents have announced their candidacy for the Welches School board.

Tom Morrison of Zigzag, Carl Ostergren of Welches, and Carol Harmon of Brightwood, are seeking the seat to be vacated by Leah Beham of Rhododendron.

Morrison, who lives in Zig Zag Village, is a safety engineer for Sentry. He does inspections for markets, restaurants, manufacturing plants, schools or other places of business requiring site safety analysis.

A former aerospace engineer for Lockheed and Bendix, he was born and raised in Pittsburgh, Pa.

In 1966 he graduated with an engineering degree from the University of Pittsburgh. He earned a law degree in 1973 from the University of San Fernando Valley in California.

Morrison, 37, is vice chairperson of the recently-formed Mt. Hood cor-

ridor Citizens Planning Organization.

Morrison and his wife, Dawn, have three children. Two attend Welches Grade School.

Morrison said that he does not envision any major changes in the school board if he is elected.

He said that he would encourage communication so that the board would spend tax dollars the way the taxpayers want them spent.

"We need new faces on the school board in order to get a balanced representation, which I can help to build," Morrison said.

Carl Ostergren, 46, is a retired salesman and until two years ago he operated a laundromat at Rhododendron.

Ostergren said that he is running for the board because he has the time to invest and believes that he can help to encourage a better dialogue between the board and the rest of the community.

He is a member of the local PTA,

and is that organization's liaison to the board.

Ostergren said he would like to see a re-emphasis on "lifetime" sports, such as tennis and golf, rather than the traditional competitive ones.

Ostergren said that he would also be for putting money into a soccer program rather than a football program, based on both participation and cost to the district.

He said that he would also work toward keeping funds budgeted for field trips and cultural events.

Ostergren and his wife Susan have two children. They have a son who is an eighth grader at Welches.

Carol Harmon, who works at Hoodland Thriftway, said that if she's elected to the board "it'll be a whole new thing for me."

She said that she decided to run because she feels it is a way she could contribute to the community.

Harmon, and her husband Don, have three daughters. The youngest is a seventh grader at Welches.

More you.

8 mg. "tar", 0.7 mg. nicotine
av. per cigarette by FTC method.

More Lights 100s It's beige.



Box
8mg

FILTER - LOW TAR 8 mg

Warning: The Surgeon General Has Determined
That Cigarette Smoking Is Dangerous to Your Health.