



Around the horn, baseball fans. Here we go!

The University of Oregon reports that professor Mervin John Moldovan is trying to make white rats into alcoholics. There is a very serious aspect to this study. We will pass that up to note that the only animal, other than man, in which alcohol induced liver injury has been produced is the baboon.

From the March issue of Oregon Wildlife comes this story: "The metal strips used to band birds are inscribed: 'Notify Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C.' They used to read, 'Washington Biological Survey,' abbreviated to 'Wash. Biol. Surv.' This was changed after an Arkansas farmer shot a crow and disgustedly wrote the U.S. Government: 'Dear Sirs: I shot one of your pet crows the other day. My wife followed the instructions attached and I want to tell you it was terrible.'"

From the Heppner Grade School paper, Pony Express, comes this gem. Ray Miller reports: "Health instead of P.E., is being taught by Mr. Deford. His class is learning to prevent tooth decay, athlete's foot, acne, and the basic run around."

I don't know what basic run around is under study. I do know I would be better off if I had learned to prevent it when I was in the eighth grade.

According to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare's National Center for Education Statistics, there will be plenty of work in store for persons with new teaching credentials.

The report says that 70,000 persons are expected to graduate this spring with teaching credentials, but without teaching positions available.

It won't be long before I am past the wonderful age of 40. I wasn't writing when I hit the magic marker. For me, it is that point where I have almost convinced myself that the body is no longer a marketable commodity. Can my brain be far behind?

Too old to be trusted by the young. Not quite old enough to be trusted by the untrustworthy. What is it like to be 40? Depends on who you are. You can be sure that the proverb, "Too soon old, too late smart," applies in most cases.

For some people, growing old is something like being trapped in a sinking ship—which brings us back to the rats. I don't know what all the battle against age is about, except it be the loss of a very limited means of transportation.

**Letters**

**Savings asked**

To the editor:

I have sent an invitation to Columbia Basin Electric Co-op to come to the Heppner Laundromat and to effect "a 100 per cent saving in my energy bill," as they advertised in last week's paper they have done for Kinzua.

Sincerely,  
W.W. Weatherford

**Thanks expressed**

Mr. Tom Franks, Editor

Kinzua Corporation wishes to express its thanks to the many merchants that sponsored the "Kinzua Story" last week. We were pleased to supply our employees with copies and to mail the special edition to all the customers of our firm.

Sincerely,  
Allen Nistad  
General Manager

**Potluck dinner to be held**

The Christian Life Center will hold a potluck Sunday, Mar. 27, at 1 p.m. in honor of Brother Duane Geyer's recent ordination. The potluck will be held at the Christian Church, according to Florence Nolan. An invitation to the potluck is extended to all friends and to members of the Christian Life Center.

## Eight file for posts on school committees

Voters in Morrow County will go to polling places Apr. 19 to elect eight persons to school advisory committees and one district director. The only races for positions will be in the Ione-Lexington and Boardman-Irrigon committees.

In the Boardman-Irrigon Advisory Committee, Kayrn Peck and Zoe Billings, both of Boardman, have filed as candidates in Position 2. Bob Byrd, of Irrigon, has filed for Position 5. Byrd, the incumbent, is unopposed.

On the Ione-Lexington Advisory Committee, Wilma Cheney of the Cecil area has filed for Position 5. Pat Wright of Lexington has filed for Position 4. Wright is incumbent and unopposed for a one year term.

A race has developed for Position 1. Lawrence McElligott and Paul Tews, both of Ione, have filed for three year terms in Position 1.

No races developed in the Heppner-Lexington School

Advisory Committee. Incumbent Jim Wishart of Heppner will be on the ballot in Position 1. Other single filings include Sharon Harrison, of Lexington, seeking Position 3 and Gale Hughes, of Heppner, seeking a committee seat in Position 5, rural Heppner.

Dr. Wallace Wolff of Heppner has filed for election as district director from Zone

VII, Heppner. Wolff, the incumbent, is unopposed.

Polling places in the county will be at the Heppner Elementary School, the District Office at Lexington, Ione High School, A.C. Houghton Elementary School at Irrigon and Riverside High School at Boardman. The polls will be open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. Tuesday, Apr. 19.

## College budget heads for April election

The Blue Mountain Community College Board of Education Mar. 16 approved the college's 1977-78 operating budget, clearing the way for a budget election Apr. 19.

The budget, approved following a public hearing, is 7.77 per cent over the current year's figure. The amount approved by the board is \$3,318,707. Total amount to be collected from taxes in Uma-

tilla and Morrow counties is \$1,858,367.

The tax increase is expected to be less than 26 cents per \$1,000 true cash value.

Gaylord Madison, Buttercreek, appeared before the board to ask that the increase be kept to six per cent. He complimented President Ron Daniels for keeping the current figure as low as he did, then asked that it be reduced further.

Daniels explained that the increase in existing programs was 6.6 per cent, but that a proposed Associate Degree Nursing program added another 1.1 per cent, bringing the total increase to 7.77 per cent. Madison expressed strong support for a good nursing program at the college, then asked the board to reduce the increase to six per cent.

Board member Malachi Campbell, Hermiston, said: "We've been through this budget thoroughly and we've cut it every place we know where to cut it without being detrimental to the college. I wouldn't know where to cut it further without being detrimental to our program."

BMCC has no tax base, therefore the full amount of the tax levy must be taken to the voters Apr. 19.

## Summer reports on basic school support

The Joint Ways and Means Committee approved HB 5009 and unanimously agreed on how much state money will be provided for basic school support. The Committee approved an appropriation of \$269 million for the 1977-78 school year, about 34 per cent state support. At the present time, basic support is about 30 per cent. While I did support this increase in Basic School Support, I feel we could have funded the program at \$25 million higher for the first year. It is my feeling that this is a refund of tax monies paid and will result in direct property tax decreases.

This measure will now go to the House floor where it will be voted upon sometime next week. Favorable action is expected in both the House and the Senate, since the leadership in both houses support the increase.

Funding for only one year of the biennium is a new approach in funding of the basic school support. The second-year funding will be taken up by the Legislature later in this session. Even though I am prepared now to vote on higher increases for both the first and second year, this is the best resolution that could be arrived at at this time.

I am hopeful that a higher per cent of first year funding will be still available later on in the session. Also, funding for the second year may approach 38-40 per cent of the operating costs for public schools.

This would be a welcome addition to property tax relief. This level could result in about \$360 million in the second year beginning July 1, 1978 for Basic School Support and subsequent property tax relief.

This increase in basic school support would mean the following funds:

(1) For counties in my district	
Gilliam	264,481
Jefferson	1,072,505
Morrow	739,634
Sherman	267,886

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G.M. Reed, Publisher  
Dolores Reed, Co-publisher

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