

Off the Wall

By Merlyn Robinson

We've lost it—the democratic process designed to protect us against unfair taxation, one of the principles on which this country was founded. No matter how heinous the crime, convicted prisoners without monetary means can file suits for protection of civil rights. Meanwhile law-abiding taxpayers submit to unjustified surcharges imposed by tax-supported agencies that seem to have unlimited powers.

The state Environmental Quality Commission under the auspices of the legislature is about to impose a surcharge on out-of-state solid wastes deposited in Oregon beginning January 1, 1991. That fee was originally proposed at \$3 per ton.

Affected are two regional landfills in Eastern Oregon operated by Waste Management and Tidewater Associates. Millions of dollars were spent to construct these two landfills in areas that have little value for business or agricultural development. And these state-of-the-art landfills meet all DEQ requirements to prevent soil contamination, visible eyesores or environmental hazards. Built-in systems constantly monitor these operations.

Now the DEQ wants further kick-backs they say are necessary to monitor this industry that will generate many dollars into Morrow and Gilliam counties' economies. And that action may thwart a newly-founded industry that will help declining county revenues.

There has already been appropriated from the general fund federal funds and fees, nearly \$27 million for hazardous and solid waste program management. That represents a 16 percent increase in those charges during the last biennium that have been imposed by the DEQ. That figure is hardly in line with so-called cost of living increases.

Even though the DEQ already assesses a substantial fee for permits for solid waste disposal sites, environmental and ground water monitoring, site closure activities, etc., the breakdown of a proposed additional \$2.75 per ton fee seems counter-productive to interstate commerce beneficial to Columbia River bordering states.

This proposed fee has been broken down into hypothetical costs. Of that total amount nearly one dollar per ton is supposed to cover reduction of environmental risk and improved solid waste management—just for out-of-state garbage.

If Oregon-manufactured products are disposed of in Washington are they more hazardous than if they had been utilized in Oregon? Just be careful which side of the river that you choose to empty your car litter bag, the DEQ may have to trace those contents back to the source of origin.

Further breakdown of this charge includes a ten cent assessment for unfunded environmental liability. If the DEQ does their job in addition to creating office paperwork, there should be no liability.

Then there is a proposed charge for "lost disposal capacity." These two counties have already granted franchises to landfill companies for development in areas where a jack rabbit needs to pack a canteen.

Stop and think about the thousands of set-aside acres in these counties that are not producing a commodity. And because a well is required to be drilled on landfill sites, there exists a potential for golf course-type enhancement at closed landfill sites. These could be oases in desert-like regions. That recourse already has proven feasible in other states.

And think of the increased potential usage that could be developed at closed landfill sites, including tree farms, wildlife refuges, livestock forage, etc. The most controversial breakdown of proposed costs is called "lost tourism or business development revenues due to the stigma of accepting out-of-state wastes." Is garbage from another state dirtier than Oregon's? Or is it only Oregon's garbage so spotless that it can all be recycled?

City sewer systems' effluent water disposal methods are used to create golf courses, parks, tree nurseries and agricultural crops for livestock. Solid waste disposal site requirements could lead to topographical enhancement that might increase the land value.

If anyone considers this last category an "iffy" charge they have the chance to respond by contacting the DEQ by December 13. Written comments may be sent to the Solid Waste Permits and Compliance Section, Hazardous and Solid Waste Division, 811 S.W. 6th Avenue, Portland, 98204, or they may call the DEQ toll-free 1-800-452-4011.

While the legislature has made this surcharge into a law again ignoring the welfare of the eastern part of the state, let's hope that enough people locally care enough about our economy to field responses on this issue that could help to reduce the proposed surcharge rate from \$2.75 per ton to \$2.25.

OSU livestock conference Friday

The OSU Livestock Conference will start at 1 p.m. Friday, December 7, at the Elks Club. The conference will focus on heifer development and bull fertility. The speakers for this portion of the program are Dr. Garth Boyd, C.S.U. cow-calf specialist, heifer development-heifer tract scores, and bull fertility; Dr. Don Briskley, veterinarian, MSD ag-vet, MSD ag-vet H.E.R.D. program; Dr. Bill Zollinger will cover condition scores. A Umatilla National Forest panel discussion will feature Lyle Jensen, forest land management planning staff, and Alan Scott, resource assistant, USDA Forest

Service. 'Cattle Free by 93' will hurt all livestock producers. 'Come see how the National Forest Service and the livestock growers can work together to sustain grazing plans,' said Extension agent Bill Broderick.

Following the cattle conference will be the Cattlewomen's annual meeting at 4 p.m., and the Livestock Growers annual meeting at 5 p.m.

The banquet will start at 7 p.m. with New York steak with all the trimmings. The banquet program will start about 8, with Henry Krebs showing slides of the Krebs sheep operation. Mike Gangwer will close out the evening with some cowboy poetry.

SWCD to meet

The Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District December board meeting has been rescheduled for Monday, Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m. because of scheduling conflicts. The meeting will be held at the ASCS office in the Pettyjohn building.

A budget committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 7 at 9 a.m. in the conference room.

Mustangs split in season openers

The Heppner Mustang boys' varsity basketball team finished in second place in the Morrow County Invitational Tournament over the weekend. They lost the championship game to the host Riverside Pirates, 73-70, Saturday night after beating the Lone Cardinals Friday afternoon, 75-65.

The Mustangs opened the boys' bracket of the tournament facing the Lone Cardinals. Despite being the opening game of the season, it was a fairly well played game. The Mustangs pulled away late in the game for the victory in a seesaw battle.

Heppner put on a 9-2 run at the end of the first quarter and led, 21-13, at the break. Ione stormed back in the second quarter behind Ryan Halvorsen and Gabe Garcia, who each had eight in the quarter to lead 37-36 at halftime.

Rick Osmin, who topped the Mustangs' scoring with 24 for the night, caught fire in the third quarter and scored 18 points on a combination of short jumpers and lay ins. The Mustangs led, 60-48, and it looked like the Mustangs would run away from the younger Cardinals.

Ione, who starts two juniors and three sophomores and doesn't have a senior on the roster, scratched back into the game and trailed only 65-63 with 2:56 remaining in the game.

The Mustangs closed out the Cardinals down the stretch, with Doug Devin, a 5'10" senior, getting two buckets along with Osmin, for a final score of 75-65.

Both Devin and Jason Britt tallied 13 points to support Osmin's game-high 24 points.

Ione had four players in double figures. Garcia led them with 21 points including 3-three pointers. Mike Garrett, a 6'5" junior, added 16 points, Halvorsen had 14 and point guard David Wagenblast added 12.

Brandon Pedro, a 6'1" senior had eight rebounds and seven steals to lead the Mustangs in those categories.

The Mustangs faced the cross-county rival Riverside Pirates Saturday for the tournament championship. The game was a contrast of the Mustangs' pressing, fast breaking game against a more deliberate style of the Pirates.

It was another seesaw battle decided in the last seconds of the game.

The Mustangs started quickly again, jumping to a 10-4 lead with 5:07 left in the opening period. Riverside scored the next 11 points to lead at the quarter, 15-10.

The Pirates extended their lead to 35-28 at the half. The Mustangs were turning the ball over a lot. They had 29 for the game. They were also plagued by fouls. The Pirates scored 12 of their 20 points in the second quarter at the foul line and were 25-36 for the game at the charity stripe.

Heppner got back into the game in the third quarter with Brandon Pedro scoring eight points and Jason Britt

Neighborhood center rummage sale set

The Neighborhood Center annual rummage sale will be held Wednesday, December 12 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the center.

The sale will feature clothing and household items. Donations are always welcome, says center director Joyce Breeding.

Wendy Anderson presented awards

By Anne Morter
Ione volleyball coach Jocelyn Jones announced the following awards at the Fall Sports Desert held recently.

Ione senior hitter, Wendy Anderson, was presented both the senior award and the most improved player, by coach Jocelyn Jones.

Team captains, Kristine Bedortha and Brandi Ball, were given a special commendation by coach Jones. Anderson, Bedortha, Amy Pointer, Chisana Warren, Danielle Stefani, Crystal Minster and Janie Cupps were all awarded letters. Kari Morgan, Nancy Morter and Brandi Ball were repeat lettermen.

Fillies beat Ione, lose to Riverside

By Lisa Willman

Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 the Fillies traveled to Boardman for the Morrow County Invitational Tournament.

Their first game was against the Lone Cardinals and, after a tough game with double overtime, the Fillies won, 40-37.

The first half was very one-sided with Ione walking all over the Fillies and outscoring them at the half, 19-9. In the second half the Fillies

came back onto the court like a completely different team. They played better defense, holding Ione to 15 points while the Fillies rallied together to score 25 points to tie the game up at the end of the fourth quarter, 34-34. It took two overtimes before the Fillies could finally pull it off, outscoring Ione and winning 40-37 by baskets from Nikki Brisbois and Amy Greenup and two free throws from Christy Corwin.

High scorers were Brisbois at a

season-high 16 points and Greenup with 10 points. Nancy Morter led the Lone Cardinals team with 19 points.

Saturday was the Morrow County championship game against the Riverside Pirates. Heppner Fillies tried hard but just couldn't pull it off losing 28-51.

The Fillies started out good in the first half pulling down rebounds and keeping the score close and went into half-time leading 19-17. The second half was another situation though. Riverside, led by April Morgan, hit a hot streak and scored 13 points in the third quarter and outscored Heppner all by herself. The fourth quarter fell apart with the Fillies unable to hit their foul shots. The Pirates could do no wrong and won 51-28.

Nikki Brisbois led the Fillies with 12 rebounds, four steals and six points. Amy Greenup and junior Kim Johnston each tossed in five points.

Coach Mark Dowdy said, "right now they are learning to play with each other as a team. We have some tough games back to back and I'm not disappointed with their playing. It will come after time."

scoring seven, to cut the lead to 48-46 for the Pirates.

The fourth quarter was back and forth and Britt tied the game at 68 with 39 seconds left. David Barrick hit a lay in for the Pirates and Bill Byrd hit one free throw and Tim Hill two more with 12 seconds left and the Pirates walked away with the 73-70 win.

Britt, with 17 points, led the Mustangs. Pedro had 16 points and led the Mustangs with nine rebounds. Rick Osmin and Rick Koffler each chipped in 10 points in a losing cause.

Hill topped the Pirates with 21 points and Byrd and sophomore Marc Andreason each had 14 for the winners.

The Mustangs will continue non-league action this weekend as they face the Union Bobcats of the Wapiti league in a home and home series. Union will travel to Heppner Friday for four games including both JV and Varsity teams. Heppner will return the favor on Saturday night.

Heppner 21 15 24 15 75
Ione 13 24 11 17 65

Heppner: Currin 0-3-4; Pettyjohn 0-0-1; Mahen, Krein 3-6; Britt 4-2-3; Osmin 11-2-3-24; Pedro 3-6; Johnston, Grabel, Rathbun 0-1; Devin 5-3-6-13; Bond 2-4; Koffler 2-1-6; Totals 30 11-19 75.

Ione: Garcia 8-2-4-21; Miller, Wagenblast

3-6-7-12; D. Heideman 2-2-2; Halvorsen 8-9-14; A. Heideman, Lovett, Garrett 8 16, Totals 22 18-22 65.

Three point goals Heppner-Britt 3, Koffler; Ione-Garcia 3.

Total fouls Heppner 19 Ione 13.
Heppner 10 18 18 24 70
Riverside 15 20 13 25 73

Heppner: Currin, Pettyjohn, Krein 3 1-3-7; Britt 7 3-3-17; Osmin 5 10; Pedro 8 0-2-16; Grabel, Rathbun 2-2-2; Devin 3 2-5-8; Bond 0-1-0; Koffler 3 1-2-10; Totals 29 9-18 70.

Riverside: Garcia 0-1-0; Andreason 2 10-10-14; Hill 6 9-12-21; Hyder 4 1-2-9; Barrick 4 1-2-9; Murray 1 2; Byrd 5 4-7-14; Ceton 2 0-2-4; Totals 24 25-36 73.

Three point goals Heppner-Koffler 3.

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The faults of our E rothers we write upon the sands, th eir virtues upon the tablets of love and memory.

MEMORIAL SERVICES WILL BE HELD ON

Thursday, December 6th, 1990
at 8:00 p.m.
HEPPNER ELKS LODGE

For the following Brothers who passed away this past year.

Eltwyn W. Hale	William Sowell
Adon Hamlett	Arthur A. Stefani
James Lovgren	Wayne Snyder
Vernon Madden	Wilbur Steagall
H. D. McCurdy, Jr.	J. F. Sweeney

Claude Buschke

Family, friends and the general public are invited to attend the services.

(Ladies Night Dinner — Thurs. 6th — 6:00 p.m.)

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