

NEW MOVIES

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City council discuss firehall plans

Allen Rieke, Anderson Perry & Associates project engineer for the proposed Heppner sewage treatment facility, said at the Monday night city council meeting that the project is moving ahead. "I think things are on track," said Rieke. "It (the project) looks a lot better." Construction is expected to begin around July of 1993.

The city has been negotiating with the Department of Environmental Quality and landowners for over two years over plans to satisfy DEQ requirements. DEQ had told the city that they must find an alternative to dumping effluent into Willow Creek during times of low stream flow, or face large financial penalties.

The city earlier outlined several plans, but landowners opposition stymied the city's project. The final project entails pumping the treated effluent out to Willow Creek Country Club and spraying it on the course.

Because of the delays and additional legal and engineering fees, however, the project has run over budget. Rieke says that an additional Environmental Protection Agency grant of \$241,000

will be sought to make up the shortfall for an EPA total of \$983,293. The total cost of the project is now estimated at \$1,715,500. The original EPA grant was \$742,000. The city's portion of the project is now \$732,207.

The city originally sold \$625,000 in bonds to fund the project. Since the bonds were sold, \$97,000 has been earned in interest and another \$38,000 in interest is expected.

Heppner Fire Chief Forrie Burkenbine, at the city council meeting Monday night said that he recommends metal, rather than cinderblock construction of the new fire hall.

Citing financial reasons, Burkenbine said that estimates indicated that a metal building would be only two thirds the cost of a cinderblock construction.

Plans are to tear down half of the present building located on Willow Street, which formerly housed the Christian Life Center church, but leave up the two ex-

isting bays. The new portion of the fire hall would house four additional bays, two to the rear and two to the front and would also have two exit doors, office space and two restrooms with showers. Burkenbine said that the showers are required by law. Upon completion, the facility would have six bays.

Council member Dave Allstott said that it may be possible to put a metal facade on the two bays that will remain to tie them into the newly constructed portion of the building. Council members agreed to have Burkenbine and city administrator Gary Marks proceed with specifications for the building.

In June voters approved a \$390,000 capital bond levy, which includes building and remodeling of the fire hall, a new fire engine and police and city vehicles and equipment. Heppner city attorney Bill Kuhn said that he expects that the city bonds will be sold by November and then the bidding process may begin.

Off the Wall By Meryn Robinson

Perhaps it's called Olympic "burn-out" or a pain in the sacroiliac from too much watching supple bodies perform beyond the limits of the average person's ability.

In younger days I held a record for running, without covering any distance. And only with persistence did this drylander accomplish the best of belly flops from a homemade diving board into a murky stockpond.

While watching the Olympic competition it was frustrating to be bombarded with repetitious commercials—a necessity, I guess. It did give time to sneak in other activities instead of flexing one's fingers. A quick pass with a broom, gathering up the remains of TV snacks or tossing clothes in a washer didn't take up too much time. And without missing any of the action, I found I didn't need eyes to snap fresh beans from the garden.

Much more aggravating was the time that the network spent on theatrics and hype. Sometimes only the top contenders got coverage, but more often featured were those that registered the most pain. For more in-depth coverage one was supposed to buy each daily unedited coverage to help offset the network expense.

But was it really necessary to delve into some of the athletes' personal tragedies or repeatedly replay costly errors? It seems the media's human interest angle has no limits anymore.

The spectacular closing ceremony of the Olympics must have cost thousands of dollars. I wondered if athletes from struggling underprivileged countries gave thought to a better use of that money for people coping with everyday existence. The next Olympics, in four years, in the United States will be an all out effort to upstage the recent one in Spain—the way of worldly affairs it seems.

Perhaps that's why I appreciate the homespun efforts that result in our annual county fair and rodeo. To be successful it takes a lot of creative, everyday people. And the exhibits show off the many talents of diverse, talented exhibitors. From cookies to flowers, crafts and animals a lot of hard work goes into these efforts. "Hats Off" to our citizens in Morrow County. Whatever you grow, sew, create or raise, bring it to the fair. And then you can sit back and watch some of the best PRCA athletes in action—not unlike the Olympic contenders.

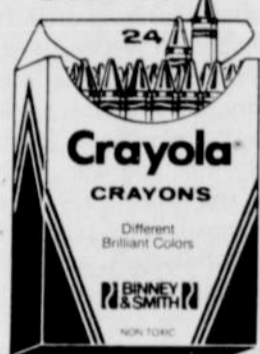
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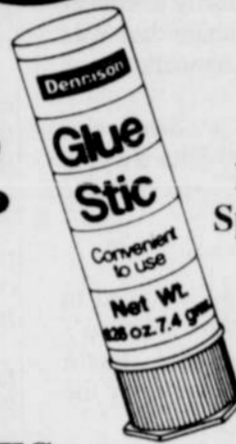
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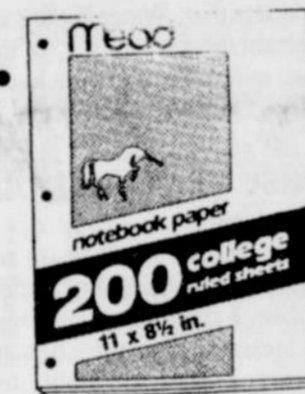
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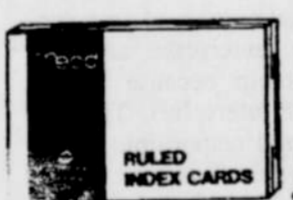
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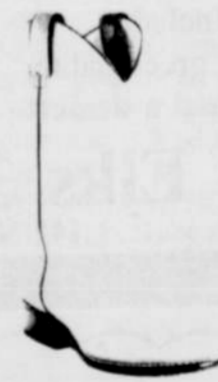
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