

School News

Hedrick Junior High

Edited by Sara Madden, Vicki Hall and Karen Meadows
A special award assembly was held Tuesday, March 7, to award letters and certificates to seventh, eighth and ninth grade basketball players and wrestlers.

Elected "most valuable player" by the seventh grade Red and White teams was Bruce Bertrand. Tim Watrud was elected "most valuable player" by the eighth grade team and also was awarded the David Dunn Memorial trophy. Larry Vowell was elected "most valuable player" by the ninth grade team.

"Outstanding wrestler" awards went to Bob Gresham, seventh grade; George Way, eighth and Greg Gandy, ninth.

The public is invited to hear Medford's all school band festival on Thursday, March 23, at 8 p.m. at Hedrick Junior High school. Six hundred and forty band students will take part from 14 grade schools, two junior high schools and the senior high school.

Damage from the heavy wind storm Friday, March 3, resulted in the loss of the large skylight over the main stairs.

Claude Haggard, safety engineer of the California Oregon Power company, gave a demonstration of closed heart massage to the eighth grade homerooms, Tuesday, March 7.

March 3, 4 and 5, Mary Beth Lockington and Sally Wakefield represented Hedrick at the FHA state meeting at Oregon State college. They stayed at Azalia hall which was located about a block from the college. During their stay they listened to several talks by different organizations, one of which was "Understanding Ourselves" given by Mrs. Avery H. Steinmetz.

At the end of their trip to the rest of the group in FHA, they thanked all of the girls who voted to send them.

Barbara Meyers, former Hedrick student, is now the treasurer of the FHA state officers.

The Faculty Sandblowers, played the ninth grade Mississippi Suckers, Wednesday, March 8. The undefeated faculty team averaging 203 on the line and 200 in the backfield, with a height advantage of eight inches per man played, and lost, to the small, but

speedy ninth grade team of sharpshooters. The score was 53-40 in favor of the Suckers who led all the way.

Jewett School

Mrs. Zelma Foote, first grade teacher at Jewett school and president of the Jackson County Oregon Education association, announced that two teachers of school district 6 have been elected to offices in the Jackson County OEA. For the 1961-1962 school year, Bill Russell was elected secretary and Don Lacy was elected treasurer.

An assembly program was provided for the student body of Jewett school by three of the first grade classes last week.

Miss Ila Mae Higginbotham's class presented a play in which the children characterized a spring garden complete with plants, bugs, rain, sun and all.

Mrs. Ethel Morrison's class did a choral reading and a number of rhythmic activities. Mrs. Foote's boys and girls set to music some ball bouncing and rope jumping routines.

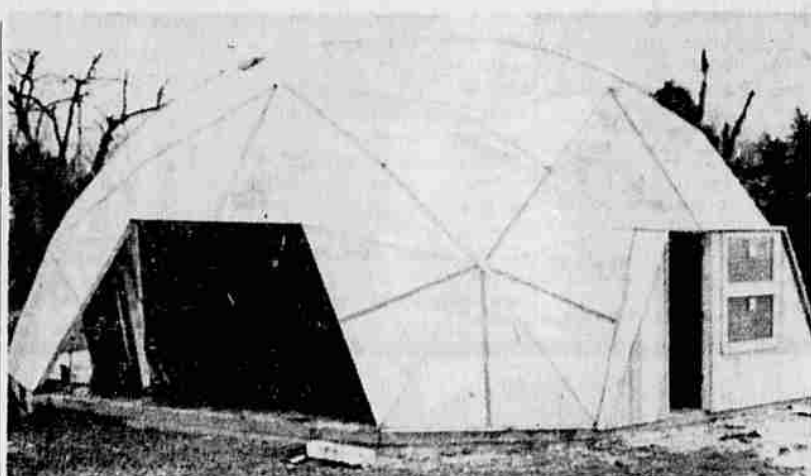
Hearing tests will be given to pupils of Jewett school the last part of this month. As state audiometrists will check the hearing of all first, third, and fourth grade pupils March 30 and 31.

Spring vacation falls during the week of March 13 to 17 this year. Report cards will be given out Wednesday, March 22. Pupils of Jewett school completed all their six weeks tests the week before spring vacation and so this year the teachers will have extra time available to work on the grades.

Plans for the annual Jewett Spring Music program call for two performances this year. Because of the large increase in enrollment from last year (a jump from approximately 300 to 500), the program will have to be presented on two different evenings.

An estimated 600 parents, and friends turned out to see the program a year ago and a number were unable to secure even standing room within sight of the performance. Dates selected for the programs this year are March 25, and March 27.

The annual open house at Jewett school, in which parents are invited to see samples of children's work in all rooms, has been scheduled for Thursday, April 20.



UNIVERSITY STUDIO - This geodesic dome, based on the architectural design of Buckminster Fuller, is being erected on the University of Oregon campus just off the Pacific highway. The building will be used as a sculpturing studio by university students. It is constructed of plywood and Douglas fir with a concrete floor. (UPI Telephoto)

U.S. Claims Court Called Government's Conscience

Washington - (UPI) - Did you know the U. S. government has a conscience?

Its voice is neither still nor small, but loud and insistent. It is lodged in the U. S. Court of Claims. The court's job is to right the financial wrongs - legal and moral - suffered at the hands of the federal government by individuals and businesses at home and abroad.

The court relies on the principle laid down by President Abraham Lincoln in whose administration the tribunal got its real authority. Lincoln said, "It is as much the duty of government to render prompt justice against itself in favor of its citizens as it is to administer the same between private individuals."

Members of the court have voiced this philosophy with some dexterity down through the years. Their jurisdiction follows the flag.

Jurists who now point the finger of duty at the U. S. Treasury are Chief Judge Marvin Jones of Texas, former member of Congress, and Judges Samuel E. Whitaker, Tennessee lawyer who was once city attorney of Chattanooga and later mayor of Riverview; J. Warren Madden of Illinois, law professor and former chairman of the National Labor Relations board; Don N. Laramore, one-time Indiana state judge; and James R. Durfee of Wisconsin, former chairman of the Civil Aeronautics board.

Judge Benjamin H. Little

of Tennessee, former chairman of the Board of Tax Appeals, still sits on cases quite often, although he retired from the court in 1953.

For years the Claims Court has been housed in a museum-like red brick structure, formerly the Corcoran Art Gallery, located a stone's throw from the White House. It served during the Civil War as a storage place for ammunition.

Plans now are under way for construction of a new home, which also will accommodate other federal courts.

Aggrieved parties may file their own cases with the Claims Court, and Congress can refer claims there for fact-finding and recommendation. No claim is too small and no subject matter too bizarre for consideration.

For instance, there was the 1924 suit by Herbert S. Ward, an Agriculture department inspector, for \$150 lunch money which the comptroller general had disallowed. Ward won, arguing his own case.

In 1918 and 1920 came a federal tax on candy. The court had to decide if the tax applied to the pop corn delicacy known as Cracker Jack. It did.

In 1937 an elderly couple who operated a silver fox farm in Alaska sought damages because of the enlargement of Mount McKinley National park. The advent of horses, rangers, dogs and tourists created so much confusion the foxes stopped mating. Duke Stubbs and his wife won a \$50,000 judgment.

About the same time one of the court's most celebrated cases was brought by T. N. Belcher, a Central City, Ky., dealer who supplied \$200 worth of coal to the local post office. He borrowed this money at the bank while waiting for the government to pay but was never able to collect.

Belcher died while trying to convince the comptroller general that the debt had not been "paid in full" by the bank. His widow finally sued and got the money.

"This method of settling government obligations is so novel that it should be patentable," the court said in its opinion. "But that a just government would pursue such a course . . . is almost incredible."

One more recent case that set a legal precedent was brought by Thomas Lee Causby, who operated a chicken farm near the Greensboro, N. C., city airport. The government leased the field and began flying heavy military planes at low altitudes.

Causby's hens stopped laying eggs. The court, upheld in 1946 by the U. S. Supreme Court, ruled that the government had taken an easement over his property and was liable for just compensation.

Not all cases are so folksy. Many involve damages caused by war, allegedly unfair discharges from civil service, Indian claims, government contracts and the like.

Now scheduled for argument before the U. S. Supreme Court is an appeal by three Army privates who defected to the Communist Chinese after the Korean War but returned home later. They sued for \$9,256 in prisoner-of-war pay, although while held in Korean prison camps they had fraternized with their captors and informed on fellow prisoners.

Court Split
This case split the Claims Court. Speaking for the majority, Jones said, "It is almost incredible that these men would ask for pay in the light of the conduct disclosed in the record."

However, Madden thought the Army had no legal right to refuse the money, regard-

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Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins
(Register and Tribune Syndicate 1961)



He Listened In On Bird Conversation

Always they gathered there on the mudflat when the tide was out, all facing the same way, all apparently satisfied with the food they had eaten earlier in the day.

Close by the sea gulls was a group of black skimmers; solemn looking birds with orange colored bills and shiny black, streamlined bodies.

The sandflat, always in evidence at low tide, was a few yards from shore, but far enough out to offer a cushion of safety to the shore birds that always rested on its gooey surface. Any human passing along the shore was in direct view of the birds.

The man who now stood there alerted the birds, but they only watched. The man measured with his eyes the distance from the shore to the mudflat. He marked, in his mind's eye, the exact spot where the birds always gathered.

Ready With Equipment

Before the ebbing tide uncovered the mudflat the following morning the man had been out there, carrying with him a microphone, a length of insulated wire, and a small canvas sack. With extreme

care he placed the microphone wrapped in the canvas sack on the mudflat.

He anchored it with a loop of wire pushed down into the mud. Unwinding the wire as he walked he waded back to the shore and carried the wire into a clump of bushes.

By the time the ebb tide liberated the mudflat from its blanket of water the man was comfortably seated in the screen of trees, a pair of headphones on his ears, a tape recorder at his elbow. The mudbank glistened in the sun. By ones and twos the sea birds came winging in to rest on the wet sand, all facing into the gentle wind. The man waited for the birds to examine the wet canvas sack. Evidently it didn't frighten them. They accepted it as a part of the mudflat.

The man switched on the tape recorder, adjusted the earphones. The "conversation" among the assembled birds began. Plainly, over the hidden wire came the "voices."

Talked At Same Time

There were intervals when several birds "talked" at the same time; other times when only a single bird-voice came over the wire. With the aid of

Hearing Set on Water Rate Bill

Salem - (UPI) - The Senate Commerce and Utilities committee Wednesday ordered a public hearing on SB449 which would allow the public utility commissioner to intervene and settle water rate disputes between customers and a parent district.

Chairman Thomas R. Mahoney (D-Portland) said the hearing probably will be held next Monday.

Sen. Richard Groener (D-Milwaukie) sponsored the bill and complained that the City of Portland is charging high water rates to outlying districts and customers can do nothing about it.

The committee voted out two bills "do pass." One was HB1238 requested by the Port of Portland which would delete the requirement that material dredged from rivers be

located not more than half a mile from shore.
The other was SB311 which would authorize people's utility district to make purchases without competitive bids when the purchase is for technical equipment.

Traffic Congestion In Space Forecast

Washington, (Science Service) - Traffic congestion may be one of the most serious problems man may have to face when he starts commuting regularly from earth to outer space.

This new frontier gradually is becoming cluttered with earth-launched orbiting vehicles and other debris. The successful launch of SAMOS II, the U.S. Air Force's new "watchdog" satellite, has increased to 35 the number of objects now orbiting the earth.

These include 16 U.S. satellites, one of the Soviet Union, several dead rocket bodies and other space "junk."

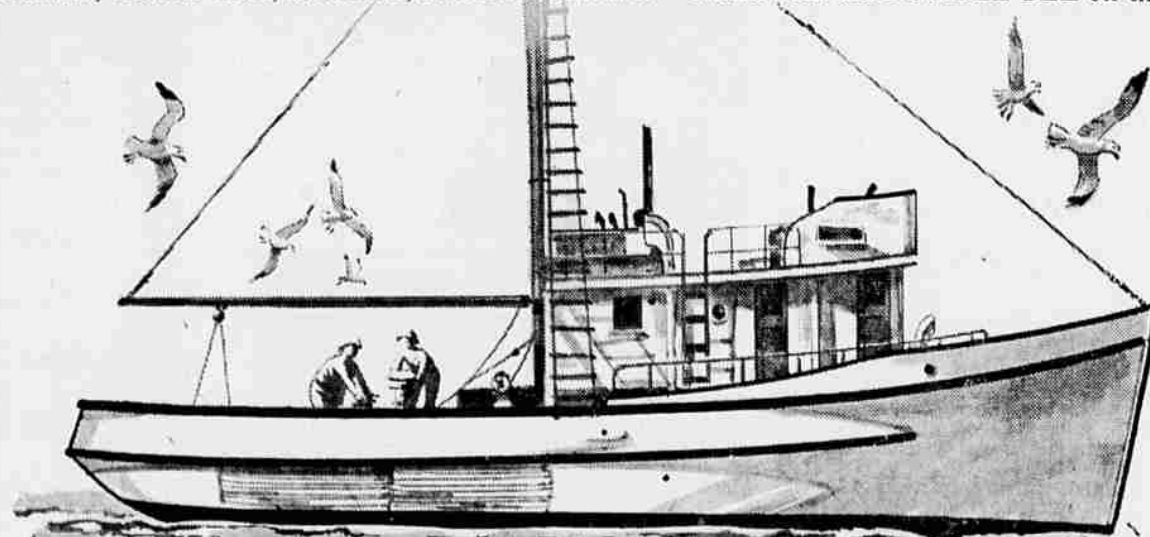
They will soon be joined by French and English built satellites, probably of the smaller "sports-car" variety, as well as vehicles to be launched by the joint efforts of 12 Western European nations now meeting in Strasbourg, France, to establish a joint space research program.



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