

Development of Ball Park at Fairgrounds Discussed by County Court

"We've come to the crossroads," County Judge Earl Miller declared Thursday at a meeting at the courthouse called to discuss the proposed ball park development in the Cheney field area of the fairgrounds property at the south edge of Medford.

Supporters of the "American Legion" plan for a small multi-purpose facility, who had requested the session with the county court, brought figures concerning number of youths participating in summer baseball in the county. They gave comparisons of the costs of summer programs with those handling the cases of juveniles in trouble.

The court last fall announced its proposal of a "modest" ball park plan. It would cost about \$80,000 and would be the capital improvement project in the 1963-1964 county budget.

The development as proposed, would be geared to youth baseball. But, the park would be available for a variety of uses on a countywide basis. Seating for about 3,000 people is projected at first. Construction would permit future expansion as needed.

Consensus of Support
There was a consensus of support for the small park plan among some 12 men who sat in on the meeting with the court. They included Legionnaires, others interested in Legion and other summer youth baseball programs and representatives of the Medford park and recreation commission and news media.

Judge Miller asserted that something should be done now "to pick up the asset we have" and develop it, or something else should be done with the property.

He told the group that work on the county budget was to start Friday and that presentation of a complete and exact proposition on a ball park project needs to be done by March 7.

Has Been Used
The fairgrounds site has been used for baseball or softball many years. Dilapidated bleachers built 12 years ago to serve "temporary" use, were removed last year. There is no seating now.

However, through city-county effort the field has been kept in good shape and an underground sprinkling system is being installed. Lights are poor and have virtually outlived their usefulness at the site.

Granville Brittan, baseball chairman for Medford American Legion post, was spokesman for his organization at the Thursday meeting. His figures showed that 839 boys participated in summer junior baseball programs in Phoenix, Jacksonville, Ashland, Central Point and Medford last year.

Robert Haworth, Medford park and recreation director, reported that another 600 youths registered for playground ball. He also said that the entire Medford recreation program last year cost 13.7 cents per participant, not including capital investment.

This is inexpensive he remarked compared to law enforcement at the juvenile court level.

Cost of Handling Juveniles
Brittan presented information from Medford Police Chief Charles Champlin, listing \$18 as a rough minimum police cost of handling a juvenile delinquent. County Commissioner Edwin Taylor also brought out the value of a youth program in keeping youngsters out of trouble and pointed to the expense of caring for youths in the county juvenile home.

Haworth commented that all of the county is suffering from a lack of developed ball park facilities. Commissioner Don Faber spoke of the Ashland problem of no lights for night baseball and brought out that a county ball park must be available to the entire county. "We've got to look at it that way or not use county funds."

John North, vice president of the Medford park and recreation commission stated that a ball park should be built on the idea that everybody can get some good out of it. Judge Miller added that the multiple use factor would be intended so long as the baseball turf would not be hurt.

If a county ball park is maintained it must be used, Judge Miller stated, wondering about the possibility of it becoming a "white elephant," and Faber mentioned the possible problem of "getting stuck."

The 1962 baseball program figures were given as indication of the use a park could have. It was brought out that some night junior league games likely would be played in order that parents could see their youngsters in action, that some high school games could be played at night and that two or three junior League teams could utilize the facility. Much time given to junior programs is donated, the court was told.

The park could be used for special baseball and softball attractions and 4-H events, among a variety of activities.

It was pointed out that installation of the underground sprinkling system, cuts down maintenance costs.

Operate On Attendance
Claude Miles, who has done much research and fact gathering and has presented a stadium plan to the court, said the Medford Legion team could operate on attendance of 300 persons at games.

Miller said that "we can handle" an \$80,000 development out of county funds but not a \$750,000 big stadium one group has proposed. He stated that the court would not attempt the big plan without a vote of the people.

"What the people of Jackson county want is what we want them to have," the judge said. He remarked that football facility needs in the county were "pretty well" covered with the Crater and Medford High school developments. Baseball is the one segment of sports in the county which lacks facilities, he said.

Expresses Hope
Haworth expressed the hope of his department to be able to take care of softball at Jackson and Hawthorne parks this summer, leaving Cheney field for what the court plans to do with it.

He reminded the group that the city would like to get the present lights at Cheney field for use at Jackson park. The city reached an agreement with the county court in September for a sprinkling and drainage system at the park, he said.

Faber, a former high school and college coach, suggested that the court appoint a commission to administer a county baseball program. "You've got to have an organization," he maintained. He said programs in the county are still being operated like in the "old wagon days."

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Seniors Reminded To Apply for Fall Entrance at OSU

Corvallis - With the end of their first semester of studies, Oregon high school seniors have been reminded by Oregon State university that they may now apply for full admission to OSU if they have good grades, B minus or better.

The "early honors admission" plan was introduced by Oregon State two years ago and is now part of a state system of higher education program.

It has found wide favor with students and parents who are anxious to make definite college plans in advance. Applications are processed quickly and students notified that a place in the freshman class "has been reserved for you."

A total of 1,881 students were granted early honors admission in 1962 compared to 850 in 1961, the year the plan was announced.

Applications Available
Application blanks for OSU admission are available from high school principal offices, Dallas Norton, director of admissions, said. Students should fill out the necessary papers, return them to the principal, and request that they be forwarded to Oregon State.

Students whose high school grades do not qualify them for early honors admission but who want to attend OSU may apply for admission before graduation also. It was noted. They will be given tentative admission-or told what they need in order to qualify-with official admission delayed until the graduation record is received.

Students planning to attend OSU in the fall may make application for residence hall accommodations any time during their senior year of high school.

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Over 200 crisp cotton dresses in gay prints and solid tones. Everyone machine washable. Sizes 10 to 20 and 14 1/2 to 22 1/2.
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- SLACK SETS** 2.99
Smart new spring ankle tapers with matching tops. Over 100 to go at this price. Sizes 8 to 18.
- 15 Only Women's Better Uniforms, Soiled.....7.66
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- 8 Only Women's Cotton Dresses.....66c
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Fine 100% wool slacks in richly toned plaids and solid colors. Only 50 in the lot. Shop early.
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Only 120 of these fully lined fine imported wool flannel slacks. Sizes 10 to 18.
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- 10 Only Women's Haggy Hats.....5c
- 10 Only Women's Cabretta Leather Jackets.....18.88
- 100 Only Wo's Better Dresses, Jr., Misses, 1/2.....8.00
- 48 Only Nylon Pajamas and Gowns.....1.99

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Out they go regardless of former price. Assorted styles and broken sizes in casual fabrics.
- 20 Pr. Women's Slippers, Corduroy and Satin.....1.50
- 25 Pr. Women's Slippers, Fur Trim Scuffs.....1.50
- 20 Pr. Women's Slippers, Novelty Scuff, etc.....2.00
- 15 Pr. Women's Warm Type Elec. Shearlings.....2.00
- 30 Pr. Girls' Fabric Slippers, Crepe Soles.....1.00
- 18 Pr. Men's Leather Slippers.....3.00
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- 15 Pr. Men's Plain Toe, Br. 6" Work Shoes.....5.44
- 19 Pr. Men's Moc. Toe 8" Leather Boots.....9.00
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Hurry. Only 6 of these higher priced beautiful cotton acetate quilted spreads.
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- 20 Only Jr. Girls' Corduroy Ankle Taper.....1.50
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- 4 Only Jr. Girls' Wool Skirts.....1.99
- 7 Only Girls' Better Wool Reversible Skirts.....7.66
- 1 Only Girls' Wool-n-Orlon Skirt, Size 12.....99c
- SLACK SETS** 2.44
36 only of these fine quality ankle tapers with matching tops. Broken sizes and colors.
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- 200 Only Girls Rayon/Cotton Panties.....25c
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- 24 Only Jr. Girls' 2-Pc. Slack Sets.....1.77
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Only 50 of these pretty little easy-care cottons in sizes 4 to 6X.
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Tricot knit brief styles in fine acetate rayon. White and pastels. 4 to 14.
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