



VISIT AIRPORT—Forty-five first grade pupils from Patrick Elementary School in Gold Hill visited the Medford Airport Tuesday afternoon. First grade teachers Mrs. Wilda Franks and Mrs. Barbara Toner accompanied the children. The educational field trip was arranged because of interest the children had developed in readiness preparation, a program in con-

Regional Roundup

by Cleve Twitchell
Mail Tribune Regional Editor

From time to time around the Rogue valley one hears a tale about how news, both sports and general, of the Medford schools is "always" played up in the local newspaper while there is almost "never" anything printed about certain of the schools in the outlying communities.

This is a tale that has success written all over it. It evokes the sympathy which people naturally feel for an underdog, and it has a logical sound to it. In fact, there's only one thing wrong with this story — it just doesn't happen to be true.

We have found the story quite intriguing each time we've heard it, for two reasons. First, we reside in District 6, whose high school, Crater High, is frequently cited as one of the schools given a back seat in news coverage. And second inasmuch as we work rather closely with the general news coverage of the regional area communities and also substitute on the sports desk one day a week, we have somewhat more than a passing interest in the subject.

Magnifying Glass Was Needed
One of the more recent versions of this bit of mythology came to our attention in the form of a letter in the communications section three or four weeks ago. The author claimed that sports coverage of Crater High was so underplayed that it was almost necessary for him to use a magnifying glass to find a word about the school. Armed with our magnifying glass and a ruler, we set out last week to see what we could find about Crater High School on the sports pages. We picked the month of September and measured the stories, headlines and photographs that were published concerning the respective efforts of the Medford and Crater varsity football teams.

We determined that during September a total of 297 column inches was devoted to Medford High and 212 to Crater. In other words, Medford received about 40 per cent more coverage than Crater.

If there were approximately the same number of Mail Tribune readers in School District 549 as District 6, one could possibly argue that Medford High was receiving "played up" news coverage.

But in actuality there are between three and four times as many Mail Tribune readers in District 549 as there are in District 6. As a matter of fact, there are as many Mail Tribune readers in District 549 as there are in all the other school districts of the Rogue Valley put together. And so if we figured the news coverage strictly on a per-reader basis, we would find that the coverage of Medford High is possibly being played down rather than up.

A Curious Aspect
One of the curious aspects of the letter to which we referred above, was that it bore a Gold Hill address. When it comes to general news coverage, Gold Hill is perhaps the best covered regional community in the valley. It is, in fact, somewhat over-covered. Gold Hill ranks fifth among the regional communities in terms of number of Mail Tribune readers. But in column inches of news coverage (we've kept figures month-by-month over the last two years) it has almost always been among the top three, occasionally first, and frequently second.

It's a strange but true circumstance that the persons who complain most frequently about lack of news coverage are often the ones who are actually getting the best coverage. A parallel situation exists in the communications section of the paper. The letter writers who shout the loudest about the "slanted press" are often the same ones who have been granted hundreds of column inches of free letter space in which to express their views.

Special Election Slated In Rogue River on Nov. 20

ROGUE RIVER—Voters here will go to the polls for a special election Wednesday, Nov. 20 to express their views on two issues.

The matters were placed on the ballot by vote of the Rogue River City Council at a special meeting last Monday. Voting will take place at the city hall from 2 to 8 p.m.

The first is a proposal to amend the charter of city of Rogue River so as to provide that if a person charged with offense wishes trial by jury, he shall pay in advance to police judge the sum of \$30 for jury fees. This arrangement would raise the pay of the jury from \$1 to \$5 per day, with the person charged paying the salary of the jury for the first day.

The second proposal is to annex city of Rogue River to the Rural Fire Protective District. It seemed to be the feeling of the council present that the city would not be losing a fire department but with the combined efforts of both city and rural, would have a much stronger and better equipped fire department.

Regional Calendar

BUTTE FALLS — Monday evening, Butte Falls Parent-Teacher Association will meet instead of on Nov. 11. Meeting date changed because Nov. 11 is Veterans Day holiday.

GOLD HILL — Tuesday, 1 p.m., Gold Hill Health unit. At Mrs. Melvin Burnett's home on Upper River Road.

GOLD HILL — Tuesday, 8 p.m., Odd Fellows lodge No. 129 at the IOOF Hall.

PROSPECT — Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Prospect Home Extension Unit will meet at home of Mrs. Bill (Donna) Butler. Communications in the family is the project, to be given by Mrs. Lloyd Hale and Mrs. Harry Sanford.

BUTTE FALLS—Wednesday, school pictures will be taken, grade school in the morning and high school in the afternoon.

GOLD HILL — Wednesday, 8 p.m., Amethyst Rebekah lodge No. 97 will meet in the Wilbur Martin home on Second Avenue in Gold Hill. Second nominations of officers will be held.

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Adult Education Starts Tonight In Butte Falls School District

BUTTE FALLS — Adult education at Butte Falls High School will begin its first fall session tonight with three courses being offered.

James Yule will begin instructing a 10-week general shop and crafts course which will meet each Monday at 7 p.m. in the high school shop. Registration fee for this course is \$10.

James Powers, formerly with the Phoenix, Ariz., Vocational Program, will instruct a course in basic radio and electronics which will also meet Monday night for 10 weeks in Room 5 of the high school building. This will be from 7 until 10 p.m. There will be a \$10 registration fee.

The judo course will be instructed by trained personnel from the Medford Judo Academy and is open to both men and women and young people over the age of 15.

The courses will be interrupted during the Christmas vacation, since many families make holiday plans, but then the remaining sessions will be finished out until Jan. 20.

Advance registration may be made for these courses at the high school office. People in the community who would be interested in other types of adult courses are asked to contact the high school office and make their wishes known. If interest is shown by enough people in

a particular course every effort will be made to provide the course if a qualified instructor is available.

The continuance of the program will depend upon the number of people registering for each course. It is, therefore, important for those who plan to enroll to be at the first session or register in advance, school officials said.

Regional News

Darwin Moore, who will be

Stop Bad Breath

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Public Invited To Gold Hill PTA 'Coffee' on Thursday

GOLD HILL — The general public is invited to attend a "coffee" to be given by Gold Hill Parent-Teacher Association on Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Paul Molloy, Second Avenue, in Gold Hill, according to Mrs. Clayton Netzel, PTA ways and means chairman. Lunch will be served. All proceeds will be earmarked for the PTA budget expenses.

Committee chairman other than Mrs. Netzel for the 1963-64 PTA school year include: Mrs. H. S. Deuel, program; Mrs. Byron Brown, hospitality; Mrs. Kenneth Fluck, room mothers; Mrs. Ivy Doherty, publicity; Mrs. Howard Hvall, historian; Mrs. Ogden Kellogg, legislation; Gilbert A. Mack,

Conferences Set At Sams Valley

SAMS VALLEY — Commencing Monday and continuing through Friday, Nov. 8, the parent-teacher conference method of reporting will be used for the first time at Sams Valley Elementary School in grades one through the sixth, according to Allen W. Hill, principal.

This method will be used instead of the usual report card system for the first nine weeks period. Grades one through six will be represented in these conferences for which 118 appointments of 20 minutes each have been set up, the principal said.

The conferences have been scheduled from 2 p.m. to 4:20 p.m. he said.

Among October highlights at the school were the annual masquerade costume parade and room parties in observance of Halloween.

On Monday, Nov. 11 there will be no school due to the Veterans' holiday.

Open house has been set for Thursday, Nov. 21 at 7 p.m. for which plans are being made by the teachers and students. It will be held in conjunction with the Sams Valley PTA meeting.

in Gold Hill, the following mothers have been named by Mrs. Fluck, room-mother chairman:

At Hanby Elementary room mothers for Norman Holden's fifth grade are Mrs. Terry Clement and Mrs. Hamilton Ecker; Mrs. Lois Hickerman's fifth and sixth grades are Mrs. Gerald Reaves and Mrs. Kenneth Fluck; Paul McBeth's sixth grade, Mrs. Gerald Martin and Mrs. Luther Gann; Mrs. Mildred Black's seventh grade, Mrs. Donald Aarseth and Mrs. E. W. Despain; Jack Parker's seventh grade, Mrs. Bob Morris and Mrs. James Wheeler; Walter Doherty's eighth grade, Mrs. Arthur Boye and Mrs. John Childers; Leon Myers's eighth grade, Mrs. Roland Washburn and Mrs. Norman Olson.

At Patrick elementary school room mothers are: Mrs. Barbara Toner's first grade, Mrs. Leonard McMahan, Mrs. Kendall Dufur and Mrs. Orin B. Wallace; Mrs. Wilda Franks, first grade, Mrs. Howard Hvall, and Mrs. Lyle McGrady; Mrs. Marie Brannock's second grade, Mrs. Herman Kamping and Mrs. Leonard Kell; Mrs. Mary Howell's second grade, Mrs. Clayton Netzel and Mrs. Melvin Williams; Mrs. Mildred Mack's third grade, Mrs. Donald Morrow and Mrs. Richard Straus; Mrs. Alice Beneka's third grade, Mrs. Lee Curry and Mrs. John Roberts; Mrs. Barbara Elbertson's fourth grade, Mrs. Wilbur Eicher and Mrs. Joseph Dotson; and Mrs. Ida von Buskirk's fourth grade, Mrs. Gene Holderness and Mrs. James Kenney.

The Gold Hill principal announced that the Lions club will sponsor a sausage breakfast to be served from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 10 in the multipurpose room at Patrick Elementary school. The public is invited. Proceeds will be used to finance a community Christmas party for all children in the area, Mack said.

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Montague PTA Hears About Civil Air Patrol

MONTAGUE — In the restings talks and reports highlighted the meeting of the Montague Parent-Teachers Association last month, held in the multi-purpose room of the Montague Elementary School, with the president, Ward Foster, conducting the session.

The evening's program was opened by program chairman, Mrs. Gene Breceda, who introduced Mrs. Arnold Paul, who is the personnel officer of Skiyou Squadron No. 116, Civil Air Patrol. Mrs. Paul introduced Major Clifford Stone, the squadron commander, who addressed the group relative to the cadet program, which the local squadron is currently conducting.

Crater, Eagle Point Youths in Contest

Don Gail, Crater High school and Mike Charley, Eagle Point High, were winning speakers in the Soil Conservation District sectional speech contest on "Woodland Management" held Wednesday night at Grants Pass.

They will participate in the state semi-finals tonight at 6:30 p.m. at Omar's in Ashland. Gail is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Gail, Rte. 1, Gold Hill, and Charley is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Charley, Crater Lake Hwy., Eagle Point. Chairman was Bert Easterbrook, Illinois Valley.

Runaway Tiller Fire Is Controlled

TILLER — Fire fighters from the Cow Creek District of the Forest Service were called out Thursday afternoon to stop a runaway fire on the Willis Owens property.

Since the fall rains Mrs. Owens had been clearing and burning brush on their recently purchased place. The fire got away when a breeze came up about noon blowing sparks into tinder dry grass.

Mrs. Richard Bonney, a neighbor, was informed of the fire by Mrs. Cliff Hughes who was at the Owens place at the time. Mrs. Bonney immediately drove the five miles to the Forest Service Station for help.

The fire had spread to the Harry Downey adjoining property before being brought under control. However, the Forest Service had stopped the fire before much damage had been done.

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