

Don't pollute say speakers

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Contending the DEQ's climatological information is inadequate, Rick Gustavson showed slides of the area with 7 feet of snow on the ground. He also pointed out that 5½ inches of rain fell, in 18 hours, on Feb. 1.

Fire danger at Bacona was compared by Washington County Firefighter Mike Jamieson to the Oxbow fire near Eugene, which burned 43,368 acres before it was contained.

Sandy Mikalow of the Northwest Astronomy Group read a letter from Dr. David Crawford of Kitt Peak Observatory in Arizona, who offered to send research projects to NWAG's proposed Hamill Observatory in Vernonia when it is completed. The dump-caused light and air pollution would cause the loss of the observatory, Mikalow said.

Several representatives from Vernonia also spoke in opposition to the dump, for various reasons. Mayor Wallace Vaughn expressed the city's opposition because of the loss of potential tourist based income. Noni Andersen spoke for the



Ken Enneberg presented testimony for the Izaak Walton League at the Environmental Quality Commission meeting in Banks.

Chamber of Commerce, pointing out that the dump would impose on people who have no voice in the operations of MSD.

Ken Enneberg spoke for the Izaak Walton League, Bob Stackley for West Oregon Electric Cooperative and Boyd Ruby for the Vernonia Development Corporation.

Former Senator Charles Hanlon, Columbia County Commissioner Mike Sykes and Washington County Commissioner John Meek also opposed the dump.

Bob Naron, a senior at Vernonia High School, said "It shocks me that DEQ could stoop to such a narrow minded level, rushing to the very last option even before studying the others. Why isn't the DEQ, of all agencies, welcoming the observatory and frowning on the dump?"

"If the Bacona dump is sited, I will have lost complete faith in this agency, and in the government of the people, by the people, and for the people!" Naron added.

Many of the citizens at the meeting appeared to share those feelings.

Hanlon bill will change forest camp inmate list

A bill sponsored by Rep. Tom Hanlon changing the criteria used in determining which convicts will be housed in the state's Tillamook forest work camp, easily cleared the Judiciary Committee and was sent to the House with a recommendation for passage.

The bill specifies what crimes would prohibit an inmate of the state penitentiary system from being assigned to the work camp, and eliminates those who have been convicted of the most serious violent crimes.

Hanlon sponsored the bill in response to concerns of citizens in the Elsie, Jewell and Birkenfeld areas, after an inmate was charged with murder following an escape from the camp. A study done last summer showed that many inmates with violent crime backgrounds were being sent to the forest camp even though it was designated for only "minimum security" prisoners.

"This is the kind of protec-

tion that residents of Jewell and the surrounding area need, and I'll be working to get it passed by the full body," Hanlon said. Once the bill is passed by the House it goes to the Senate for final approval, then to the Governor for signature.

City budget at 5½ % increase

The City of Vernonia adopted a budget of \$270,586, a 5.5% increase over last year's budget, for the 1987-88 fiscal year starting on July 1. Modest increases ranging from 1.9% in the fire department to 5.5% for the library were offset by an 11.4% increase for the police department.

Police department increases were attributable to a \$5,000 increase in the charge for services provided by the central communications agency, \$5600 in salary and related costs, and a \$2,825 appropriation for radios.

The remainder of the departments remained substantially unchanged.

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