

Letters

From page 3

about a half-truth?

2. At WOEC's regular meeting May 21, it took several questions from members to get the president of WOEC, also a legislative lobbyist, to say he travels to Washington, D.C., to lobby at the federal level against deregulation of utility companies and organizations. I asked him, "And when they get to the state level, you will lobby against them there, will you not?" He answered, "Yes." At the next WOEC meeting, June 17, he spoke favorably of the deregulation bills, saying we must choose exactly the right one from the many bills now being processed. Right for whom? A change of mind? A half-truth?

3. In May, and again on June 12, we requested WOEC to allow members to sit in on interviews with prospective managers. We were told at the subcommittee meeting (WOEC boardroom, July 2), "The Board hasn't voted on it yet." Do they really mean RUS hasn't given permission for us to have some say in selecting our co-op manager? (See Ruralite, page 4, bottom right column.) the true owner of WOEC is RUS. Do they perhaps even decide the number of employees to be hired?

4. And don't forget the hubbub over WOEC hiring a PR man in April 1996, when WORA expected this man to come to our first public meeting on May 5, 1996. This was subsequently denied by both

WOEC and the gentleman.

Do we have some slippery eels in our WOEC management?

J.I. Gomes
Vernonia

Thanks to many for the Service Memorial

To The Editor:

I would like to express thanks to the following people for their help on behalf of the Vernonia Service Memorial:

The Bronleewe family, Vernonia residents and owners of Oregon Memorial Company, where we purchased the monument. They gave us a very good price and a very beautiful monument.

Russell Green, acting manager of West Oregon Electric Cooperative, who,

with Delbert McGinnis, WOEC operational manager, sent a crew to place the monument on its base.

To Mike and Marcella Seager, who advertised the dedication ceremony on Vernonia CATV Channel 7 at no cost to us.

To Vernonia Public Works Director Robyn Bassett and her crew for all the help they provided; it was beyond measure.

To Vernonia Pride for their help and the flowers they placed at the base of the monument.

To the bugler, Bob Isted, and Boy Scout Troup 860, who presented the flag.

To Dirk and Noni Andersen, editors of *The INDEPENDENT*, who spread the word of our project, at no cost to us.

To Sharon Parrow, director of Vernonia Parks who picked Shay Park for the monument's resting place.

To all the businesses in Vernonia that gave prizes for the fund-raising raffle and to those who gave of their services.

To all the people who donated money and all those who bought tickets. If it hadn't been for all of you, the monument would not be in its rightful place.

And last, but by no means least, my committee, who

worked with me from the beginning to the end: Robb Wilson, Bill Horn, Gerald Russell and Floyd Ragner.

If I have omitted anyone, please forgive me, it was not done intentionally.

Larry Doppke
Vernonia Service
Memorial Committee

Many drivers rude to bike riders

To the Editor:

"Damned if you do,
Damned if you don't."

I have spoken with many youths in our community regarding "Bicycle Riding on sidewalks." It appears to be a confusing, ongoing problem.

Understanding the dangers of sidewalk riding, our children and teens are forced to ride on the city streets. I have observed on many occasions drivers honking, threatening and screaming profanities at bicycle riders. They (the children) are following the directions of our police department.

I believe our adult drivers need to become familiar with our city laws, learn patience and, most of all, work on becoming positive role models for our town's kids.

Holly Vaughn
Vernonia

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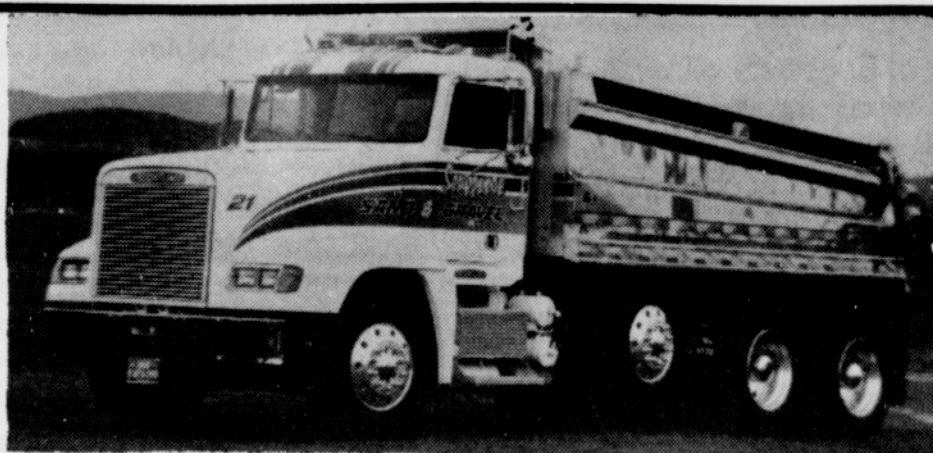
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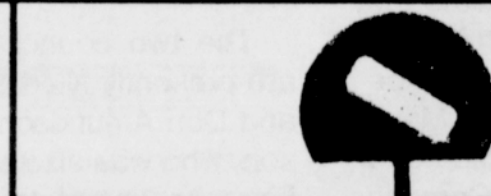
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