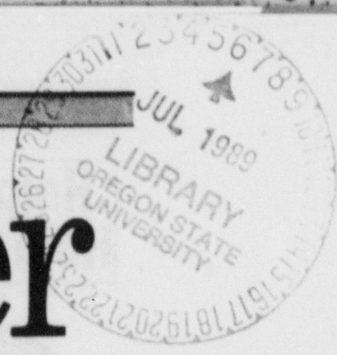


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The Summer Barometer



OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY, CORVALLIS, OREGON

VOL. XCIV NO. 3

THURSDAY, JULY 6, 1989



Log rolling for dollars

GEORGE PETROCCIONE/The Summer Barometer

Defending women's log rolling champion Jenny Janke Owen (left) catches another competitor off-balance during the 45th World Championship Timber Carnival in Albany. Owen failed to repeat as champion this year, with the title going to her sister Julie Janke Hughes. A tally of the crowd Tuesday afternoon showed 18,651 for the finals.

Alternatives explored on hot issue of field burning

By PATRICIA SHEPARD
of the Summer Barometer

Since the tragic auto accident caused by smoke blowing across Interstate 5 near Albany last Aug. 3, the number of field burning complaints has soared.

The complaints average 61 per day compared with 11 prior to the accident, according to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

Even though complaints about field burning reached a record high of 3,783 in 1988 and two groups have proposed initiatives this year to either ban or drastically cut back field burning, Sharon Miller, DEQ information representative, said 312,855 acres are registered to be open-field burned this year. Since 1980, the law has limited burning to only 250,000 acres per year, she said. But many growers have turned to alternative methods to open field burning.

Propane burning, one alternative to open field burning, is expensive. So is the other, mechanical straw removal combined with chemical treatments and shorter crop rotation. The alternative methods were developed in the mid-1970s.

Both cost approximately four times more than open field burning, according to Field Sanitation Costs For Willamette Valley Grass Seed Producers, an April 1989 study by Tim Cross, OSU Extension Service economist, and Robert Mason, OSU Survey Research Center director.

Chris Hanson, an Albany resident who last year formed Oregonians Against Field Burning with Corvallis residents, Barbara Swain, Jay Thiele and others, said their organization represents the public's interest in limiting field burning.

"Growers need to solve their own problems; the public pays the price for the grower's garbage," Hanson said.

An opposing coalition of support from the Oregon Seed Council is also in place in the form of paid lobbyists for the grass seed

industry, according to William Young, assistant professor of crop science and OSU Extension Service agronomist.

"Those who are siding against field burning need to be educated that the growers are paying the bills," said Young, who coauthored "The Search For Solutions: Burning Grass Seed Fields In Oregon's Willamette Valley," for the OSU Extension Service.

Last week Hanson announced that lawyers for the Legislature are drafting a new initiative that would phase down field burning over the next three to four years. Sen. Grattan Kerans, D-Eugene, supports the effort, Hanson said.

Hanson expects the measure to be ready for the Legislative Committee within the next two weeks and that it could be signed by Gov. Goldschmidt, the Oregon Environment Council, the Sierra Club and the League of Women Voters. A similar measure, Senate Bill 425, failed to pass the House.

If Hanson's group collects the 63,578 voters' signatures by July 6, 1990, the public would decide in the Nov. 6, 1990 general election whether grass seed producers will be forced to use alternative methods for sanitizing grass seed fields.

Hanson said he would expect growers to practice crew-cutting, a close clipping machine method, apply chemicals and rotate crops every year on some fields, if open burning is reduced.

The Oregon Seed Council refused to negotiate with Oregonians Against Field Burning in drafting the initiative to phase down open field burning, he said.

"Over seven traffic accidents every year are caused by smoke from field burning," Hanson said. "It would be worth putting some growers out of business to protect innocent people."

Open field burning, while an effective and low cost method of removing grass residue from fields, discharges smoke into the air, resulting in deadly traffic hazards and complaints of eye ir-

ritation, aggravation of asthma and respiratory illness. But both propane burning and non-burning alternative methods of field sanitation require straw removal.

The speed at which growers can make the transition from open field burning to the alternative methods depends on the market for straw, according to Glen Koehrsen, leader of the governor's Regional Strategy Group on straw utilization and Albany city councilman. Straw utilization also divides the two citizens groups who are taking different approaches to ending field burning.

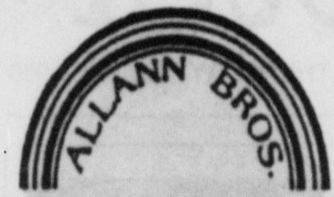
William "Bill" Johnson, Foster, Ore., founder of End Noxious Unhealthy Fumes (ENUF), sponsors another initiative that would ban field burning starting in 1991 and is also collecting voters' signatures. Johnson said he believes most growers want the ban. But Hanson, who once worked with ENUF disagrees. Hanson said he wants to give the growers four to five years to make the transition.

Burning usually begins in early July and continues through September or until the fall rains begin, but there are no official beginning or ending dates, according to the DEQ. Since last year's traffic accident new rules have established a one-half mile wide fire safety buffer zone along each side of I-5, and a one-quarter mile wide zone along each side of other major highways in the Willamette Valley.

The DEQ limits the number of acres that can be burned each day, Miller said. "Burning is not allowed when temperatures are above 90 and winds above 25 mph," she said. Growers pay a \$1 per acre fee to register fields and \$2.50 per acre to burn. From the fees collected, the DEQ spent nearly \$600,000 during the 1987-89 biennium on research and development of alternatives, including crops, field sanitation methods and straw utilization. Since the 237,551 acres burned in 1984, the number of

See BURNING, pg. 8

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Book Store remodeling

By KRIS ABEL

of the Summer Barometer

The OSU Book Store Inc. recently began a \$225,000 joint remodeling and fixturing project with the Memorial Union which is scheduled to be completed by Sept. 15, according to Bruce Lulow, general manager of the OSU Book Store.

"The objective is to remodel the merchandise floor to give it a look for the 1990s," Lulow said.

The book store was constructed in 1960 with the last major remodeling done in 1975, he said. The original flooring still remained.

In the 1985 Book Store lease renewal, money was put aside for capital improvements to be available after 1988.

"The project has been planned for several years," Lulow said.

One major addition to the bookstore will be a sound listening room for the stereo equipment.

Changes will include updated wall graphics, "Y" shaped aisles between carpeted floors and color-coordinated sections. The apparel department will be moved to the current supplies location. All clothing, gifts, cards, posters and prints will be located on the north side of the store. This change will allow supplies to be merchandised in the electronics section. Checkout stands will remain at the north, east and west sides, with an additional stand added to the south end of the store.

Although the designer is from California, all of the construction, fixtures and engineering comes from Corvallis.

All departments will remain open this summer, but in four smaller stores. The current Balcony will have art, engineering, school and office supplies, typewriters, calculators, gifts and jewelry. The Corner Junction will sell OSU clothing, souvenirs and Oregon foods. The Special Events Room will have stereo and video equipment along with photos and accessories. Finally, the Convenience Store will sell food, beverages, magazines and toiletries.

Summer Book Store hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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Court gives abortion decision

United Press International

Abortion foes in state capitals across the nation wasted little time promising to take advantage of the Supreme Court's decision on the issue with new efforts to further restrict abortions in their states.

At the same time, supporters of legal abortion, recognizing that the next major battles on the matter will be fought in state legislatures, promised bitter fights. They said the next major state fight could come in Pennsylvania, where the legislature is to resume its session in September and anti-abortion forces are strong.

The Supreme Court, ruling Monday on a Missouri case, made it easier for states to impose new and tougher limits on a woman's right to abortion, although the justices stopped short of overturning the historic 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision that made most abortions legal.

Immediately after the decision, abortion foes across the country vowed to take advantage of the court's action. However, many were cautious and said they wanted to be sure that any new state legislation was in line with the new ruling.

"I believe the court made the right decision. Abortion is wrong. I believe in the sanctity of life and we will take legal steps to restrict abortion in Alabama to the extent that the Supreme Court allows," said Alabama Gov. Guy Hunt, a Republican who is also a Baptist preacher.

In Pennsylvania, state Rep. Stephen Freind, the chief anti-abortion force in the legislature, said the court's decision "gives us an awful lot of room to be creative" in drafting an abortion control bill he plans to introduce in September.

Freind, a Republican, said he intended to pursue further restrictions on use of state money to fund abortions, including cutting off state money to any abortion provider and any place that offers abortion referrals and counseling.

In Wisconsin, Republican state Rep. Robert Weich called the court ruling "a vic-

tory for our most defenseless citizens, our unborn children" and said he would develop legislation enabling his state to enforce it.

Nebraska Gov. Kay Orr, a Republican opponent of abortion, said it was premature to say exactly what steps would be taken in her state, but stressed that she would "take immediate advantage of what we have gained through this decision."

In Utah, House of Representative Majority Leader Craig Moody, a Republican, said he would be "shocked" if legislation was not proposed at the next session of the legislature and added: "I think you'll see a very strong attitude ... that in the state of Utah, legislators overall have preferred adoption over abortion."

Because numerous state legislatures have recessed for the year, many of the battles will have to wait until next year. At the same time, the Supreme Court agreed Monday to hear three more abortion cases next term that could even further restrict abortions.

While the court's ruling clearly was a boost for the anti-abortion forces, supporters of legal abortions promised they would not automatically surrender and national organizations said they would direct their resources to the state fights.

"In light of this new ruling, I will not support any effort in Maine to restrict a woman's right of choice beyond those limits established in the Roe vs. Wade decision," said Maine Gov. John McKernan, a Republican. "I continue to believe that this very difficult and personal issue is best left as a matter between a woman and her physician."

In some states where the governor and legislature are divided on the issue, the upcoming abortion battle is likely to be fierce.

For example, in Iowa, Gov. Terry Branstad, a Republican, opposes abortion, while the legislature is led by forces who favor abortion. The situation is reversed in Michigan, which has never repealed its ban on abortions, passed before the 1973 Roe decision.

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POETS, from page 8

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captures the core of life and contains it for all to engross themselves. It is an inspiring film that illustrates the vigor of youth and shocking realities of life, yet does not conclude with the "happily ever after" scenario. It is a film that awakens that senses to what is beyond our inhibitions; an involving film that provokes the mind and stimulates our emotions.

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Champions dominate logging events



Mel Lentz pauses briefly after competing in the single bucking competition Monday. Lentz went on to claim the title of All-Around Logger for the ninth consecutive year.



Mel Lentz (left) and Rolin Eslinger of McCloud, Calif., chop their way through a Monday evening heat of the springboard competition. Lentz went on to take second overall in the event.

GEORGE PETROCIONE/The Summer Barometer



Guy German of Sitka, Alaska, breaks his own world record in Tree Topping Tuesday afternoon with a time of 53.35 seconds. German has broken his own record the last three years.

Yellow ribbons fly at timber carnival

By BILL BRADFORD
of the Summer Barometer

Albany's 45th annual World Championship Timber Carnival ended Tuesday night with a spectacular fireworks display and the traditional yell of "timber!" as the spar poles used for climbing events were felled into the lake at Timber-Linn Memorial Park.

In the midst of the old growth logging controversy, loggers from around the Northwest came to Albany to celebrate their profession and compete in various events to demonstrate physical prowess and logging techniques.

However, amidst all the revelry, the old growth controversy was not forgotten. In the opening day parade on Saturday, yellow ribbons adorned the statue of Paul Bunyan as a reminder of the problems the timber industry faces today. And, at the carnival grounds, T-shirts proclaiming "Save a logger, eat an owl" sold briskly to the partisan crowd on hand to watch the festivities.

Controversy aside, it was another year of exciting competition, as world records were broken and family traditions were carried on.

Guy German, from Sitka, Alaska, not only defeated his opponents in the tree topping competition, but broke his own world record with a time of 57.59 seconds. In last year's competition, German, a fifth-year competitor, set the world record with a time of 58.95 seconds.

According to German, a different approach to climbing enabled him to win the event. "I tied myself real close to the tree this year," German said. "We usually climb with a lot more slack than that."

Although his climb was slower and tiring, with the short slack German saved time at the top of the tree because he was able to cut without having to tie himself in. In addition, Ger-

man used a lighter weight saw than the other competitors, easing his climb to the top.

Timber Carnival President Dennis Topp presented German with a check for \$250 and a certificate from the Guinness Book of World Records for last year's record breaking effort.

In the All-Around Logger competition, Melvin Lentz, Creswell, claimed the title for the ninth consecutive year, after winning a majority of the logging events in three days of competition. Lentz broke a record set by his father, Mervin, for consecutive All-Around Logger titles. Mervin won eight dating back to 1962.

In another event, Julie Janke Hughes, Albany, defeated Jennifer Lang in the women's log rolling competition to claim the title for the second straight year.

Although things ran smoothly this year, officials of the carnival are worried that next year's festivities may be hampered by a log shortage. According to Topp, the trees used for the spar poles may have to be reused for several years in a row, instead of the traditional felling into the lake. Also, timber used in other events will be recycled.

"We definitely will see some changes next year," Topp said. "Some of our organizers felt that the timber carnival shouldn't get political. They were worried about the yellow ribbons displayed and the things on sale in the booths. But I felt that since the timber industry has supported us for the past 45 years, we should show our support to them."

One tradition that didn't change, however, was the coronation of the Timber Carnival Queen. Andi Smith, 18, daughter of Don and Vinni Smith of Albany, received the crown from last year's queen, Angie Radford. Smith will wear the crown until the 1990 Timber Carnival.

Search narrows for VP of relations

By JASON W. MOORE
of the Summer Barometer

The search to fill OSU's vice president for university relations spot is nearing completion, with a final decision expected by the end of July.

Two candidates visited OSU last week, Victor L. Atchison, vice president for development at Claremont University and Graduate School in California, and Harry L. Peterson, executive assistant to the chancellor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The vice president is responsible for university publications, the department of information and other communications programs, alumni affairs, fundraising, public relations, conference services, special events and OSU's Portland Center.

Atchison has recently completed a \$50 million fundraising campaign for Claremont's Graduate School. Fundraising priorities, Atchison said, should be "worked out with the central administration Priorities are established by the academic programs ... my job is to try to find ways to market them If you tell me what you want to do, I'll do it."

While meeting with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Peterson stressed his ex-

perience in working with university faculty. "I come from a university where the role of the faculty is very, very important," he said.

Peterson has dealt extensively in legislative and governmental relations, not only through work in higher education but in government as well. He served as executive assistant to the secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations from 1977-78 and in the same capacity to the secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation from 1975-77. He was the home office assistant to Wisconsin Congressman Robert J. Cornell in 1975.

The vice president for university relations position has been vacant since Dr. William D. Slater left in spring 1988. It has remained unfilled for over a year because the university is facing hard times, Sylvia Moore, chairwoman of the search committee, said.

"The university relations units were assigned to other vice presidents during the period of time," she said.

"It became apparent that we really needed to fill that position," Moore said. After a report conducted by Bornstein, Bolger, and Associates of Madison, Wis., in January found the

See VP OF RELATIONS, pg. 5

Strep throat vaccine developed

By BILL BRADFORD
of the Summer Barometer

In what may be a medical breakthrough, Dr. Dennis Hruby, a microbiologist at OSU, in conjunction with researchers at Rockefeller University in New York City, has made significant advances in the creation of a genetically engineered vaccine against strep throat.

In the professional journal *Science*, Hruby and Dr. Vincent Fischetti, a microbiologist at Rockefeller University, announced the discovery of the vaccine created by using recombinant DNA technology.

In tests with animals, the vaccine has shown to be effective in offering rapid, complete and strong immunity to at least two forms of strep throat and may be cross protective against many "serotypes" of the streptococcus bacteria, any one of which can cause the illness.

According to Fischetti and Hruby, a protein on the cell surface of the streptococcus bacterium, called the "M" protein, determines whether or not the bacterium will be virulent and cause an infection. Unfortunately, about half of this protein is variable, having many forms or serotypes that are slightly different.

With more than 80 identified serotypes of strep throat, if a person were to become infected, they would only gain immunity to the particular serotype that infected them and would be vulnerable to any other serotype of the bacterium. The challenge, according to Hruby, has been to find a vaccine that offers "across the board" immunity to all the various serotypes of the bacterium.

Utilizing the tools of genetic engineering, Hruby and Fischetti have overcome that challenge by identifying a portion of the "M" protein that is not variable in at least 30 different serotypes. They then "clipped out" the variable portion of the protein, and using the vaccinia virus as an engineering vector, developed a hybrid vaccine.

"What we have done is make an artificial gene that encodes the portion of the protein that is not variable," Hruby said. "So we have actually put the genetic information in the virus, and the virus is actually a live vaccine that will go into the inoculated animal and express that gene."

Using this approach allows for the expression of the non-variable surface protein of the bacteria in such a way that it is readily recognizable by the immune system of the host. Thus antibodies are formed against the non-variable portion of the protein.

The vaccinia virus, used as vaccine for smallpox, has attracted interest from the scientific community for its usefulness in genetic engineering. In some laboratories, it has been used to construct experimental vaccines against a variety of viral diseases, including one being tested against AIDS.

According to Hruby, this is the first and only vaccine against a bacterial infection that has been engineered using the vaccinia virus, however, similar vaccines have been developed for viral infections.

"Something that we didn't think was possible five years ago now seems feasible in terms of the prevention of streptococcal pharyngitis," Fischetti said. "The streptococcus changes its M protein significantly, so we didn't think we would be able to find a conserved region of the molecule that could be used for protection."

According to Hruby, the real breakthrough was the discovery that mammalian cells will develop immunity to variable portions of the infectious protein in preference to the constant portions.

"No one could have predicted that the construction we put together would have worked as a vaccine," Hruby said. "Researchers have been trying to put together a vaccine for streptococcus for 50 or 60 years with no success."

The progress toward a strep throat vaccine is particularly important because of medical complications to which the illness can lead. In developing nations like India, where modern medical care is not widely available, as many as six million children may be afflicted with rheumatic heart disease that began as an untreated strep throat infection.

"I'm optimistic about potential for progress in this area," Hruby said. "Based on these results, I would not be surprised if we're not within the time frame of a couple of years before something along the lines of clinical trials take place."

Hruby and Fischetti's research has been supported by grants from the National Institute of Health.



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THURSDAY Meeting

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FRIDAY Meetings

OSU Toastmasters, 12:30, Crop Science 119. Coed club for public speaking practice. Guests welcome.

TUESDAY Meetings

OSU Gay and Lesbian Assoc., 7:00 p.m., Women's Building. Bi-monthly meeting and social. For info call 757-1980.

WEDNESDAY Meeting

Canterbury House (Episcopal Church), Corner of 26th and Monroe. Service with dinner after.

VP OF RELATIONS, from page 4

vice president for university relations to be a needed position at OSU, a search committee was established. Of the 150 applications received over a two-month period, there are now five finalists.

University relations units strive to improve OSU's image, Moore said. "Some of the marketing research and tests that have been done has determined that it (OSU's image) is a little fuzzy," she said.

A primary reason why fundraising and marketing have become so important, according to Moore, is the lack of strong state support. Approximately one-third of OSU's budget is provided by the state the remainder must be raised from tuition and fees, grants and donations, she said.

Karla Chambers, associate director of the development office, is looking forward to the arrival of the new vice president. "As with any organization, we need help in really maximizing the talents and resources that we have in a number of areas in the university ... (we need) someone who can help us coordinate our activities so that we're really utilizing each other's talents," she said.

Candidate Paul E. Wisdom, vice president for public affairs at Colorado State University is visiting OSU July 5-7. July 17-19 M. Lynn Spruill, dean of OSU's College of Business will be interviewed and on July 24-26, Carla M. Cooper, assistant to the president and director of university relations at the University of Iowa will visit OSU.



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Opinion

EDITORIAL

No end in sight on abortion issue

Now that the court has decided to give the states the right to make rulings on abortion, there is sure to be a lot of noise and protesting going on at each state capitol.

Once each state passes its own abortion laws, the states that remain pro-choice will become havens for abortion clinics and medical personnel specializing in abortions. They will also be places that women will travel to to have an abortion, much like the state of Nevada and its legalized gambling laws.

The issue of abortion is complex,

and most of the factors involve personal moral convictions and values. But try to imagine for a moment what the nation will be like with the many states having their own individual abortion laws. The states that are pro-choice are bound to become battle grounds on the issue when pro-life supporters descend upon them to attempt to change the laws.

In short, the battle over whether or not a woman has the right to control her body and whether an unborn baby has the right to live will go on for a very long time.

Gun lobbyists should examine priorities

The Oregon House of Representatives recently passed a bill that finally makes sense in the fight over gun control. The bill lengthens the waiting time for buying a handgun from five days to 15 days to give law enforcement officials more time to do

background checks. The bill also prohibits people with histories of violent behavior or mental illness from buying guns and those with felony convictions from possessing any firearms.

In a concession to gun lobbyists, the bill also makes obtaining permits to



carry concealed weapons easier. This one part of the legislation seems to work against all the other points. For the most part the gun bill moves toward the goal of safety and protection from criminals possessing guns, but it also allows those who have them to conceal them.

Gun lobbyists, such as the NRA, claim that any legislation on gun con-

trol infringes on a citizen's right to bear arms. A citizen does not need automatic rifles and machine gun-like weapons to protect himself or use for hunting. There are plenty of guns on the market that will fill this need, and the laws should be making it more difficult for criminals to have guns at all — not easier to conceal them. (DR)

COLUMNS

Alexander Cockburn disappointing on China issue

My favorite procommunist writer is Alexander Cockburn, a witty, erudite, British-born columnist who writes for a number of American publications, including the conservative *Wall Street Journal*. I suspect that the *Journal* carries his column just to give its capitalist readers a jolt of terror and get them going in the morning.

Cockburn frequently writes about despotic, right-wing governments and criticizes our government for giving them aid and comfort. And I agree with him. We have often played footsy with military-junta thugs who employ death squads to stay in power.

MIKE ROYKO



But now Cockburn has disappointed me. For almost two weeks, I've been waiting for him to shed light on the events in China.

Finally, Cockburn got around to it. And to my amazement, I was briefly mentioned in his column.

It turned out that the theme of the column was how the American press — myself included — distorted the reaction of Cuba and other communist countries to the crushing of the student-worker demonstrations in China.

He noted that I had written that the government-run press in Cuba had basically echoed the official Chinese position that the students and workers were counterrevolutionaries, reactionaries, traitors and hooligans while the soldiers were heroes, patriots and defenders of the faith.

This, Cockburn charged, was not true. He asserted that the Cuban press, as well as the media in many other communist countries, gave a fair, unbiased and complete account of the conflict.

It's possible that he's right. I based my column on dispatches from Reuters News Service, which quoted news reports it heard

on Cuban broadcasts. Maybe Reuters was wrong, or these were early broadcasts and Cuba expanded on them later.

However, I still haven't heard Fidel Castro, who Cockburn admires, work up much of a lather over the clobbering of the Chinese students and workers.

But what puzzles me about Cockburn's column is why he would bother with something that is basically a trivial byproduct of the Chinese uprising. Is it really of any great importance what I and a few other commentators wrote, whether or not it was accurate?

I would have thought that Cockburn would have written something that explained why the Chinese People's Army and China's communist leaders thought it appropriate to slaughter thousands of Chinese citizens.

I try to have an open mind. And if Cockburn could offer a rational justification for using tanks to turn nonviolent human beings into waffles, I'm willing to listen.

Besides my mind being open, it is kind of simple. So when I turn on my TV and see soldiers blazing away at unarmed civilians, including children, my reaction is: "That's a lousy way to treat people." And maybe that's simplistic.

But Cockburn is an intellectual. So there may be a profound, deep and justifiable reason for the slaughter of peacefully protesting civilians. Although I can't think of any reason why, maybe killing them will make this a kinder and gentler world.

If that's so, Cockburn should explain it to us. And if anyone can, he's the guy. In the past, he has almost convinced me that sweeping a gutter in Moscow is more fun than a round of golf in Palm Springs.

But there is still time. Maybe Cockburn will reveal that we, the American TV viewers, were victims of a hoax and that all the mangled people we saw in the Chinese streets and hospitals were just faking it. It might have been the old throw-some-ketchup-on-yourself-and-hold-your-breath trick.

And maybe he will explain that the Chinese secret police and soldiers are not rounding up student leaders, workers and other mischief-makers for the purpose of throwing them into tiny, cold cells and torturing them into confessing that they are counterrevolutionary, reactionary, capitalist, running-dog traitors. No, it could be that they're being rounded up to play in

a big table tennis tournament.

I do hope that Cockburn enlightens us. But until he does, I'll have to make do with the explanation of old Gus Hall, chairman of the American Communist Party. Hall wrote: "The upheaval in China is a very complicated situation, difficult to examine scientifically because we not only lack many of the facts but also have been deluged with misinformation, rumors and gossip. ... The mass media here give the worst possible interpretation of events. They report everything from an anti-Chinese, anti-socialist viewpoint."

(He has a point. Nobody has given the bright side of running people over with tanks: You can stack 10 flat bodies in one coffin.)

"...It seems clear that no one — students, government or Communist Party leaders — had any inkling that the protests would lead to bloodshed. It is not a struggle between two enemies. But such struggles have their own inner logic; actions lead to counteraction and the conflict keeps escalating in scope and intensity. It finally reaches a point where the initial issue that caused the struggle gets lost and a challenge for power takes over."

Do you know what that sounds like? An unhappy marriage. So maybe that's why they're rounding up all the Chinese troublemakers. They're taking them to divorce court.

Mike Royko is a columnist for the *Chicago Tribune*

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Mother knew best in William Hurt vs. Sandra Jennings case

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Sandra Jennings: A former ballet dancer and mother of six-year-old Alex Hurt. She claims that she was as-good-as-married to the father of their child. Five years post-split, she wants half of the \$7 million he has earned since 1982.

William Hurt: Father of Alex, but now husband of Heidi Henderson. He admits he was more than an accidental tourist to the relationship, but says they were never as-good-as-married. He claims the money is all his, except for \$65,000 a year in child support.

ELLEN
GOODMAN



Now for the plot. As unraveled in court, it reveals all the traditional themes of Western drama: love, sex and money. It also reveals some nontraditional themes: When is a relationship as-good-as-married?

According to the highly emotional testimony, Hurt met Jennings while he was still married to wife number one. In 1982, they took their love show on the road to South Carolina. On location in that state, Jennings worked to produce Alex, while Hurt worked to produce "The Big Chill."

In retrospect, this movie setting must seem particularly ironic to the actor on the witness stand. For one thing, Hurt was playing a burnout who had lost his reproductive organs in the Vietnam War.

For another, "The Big Chill" was destined to be the quintessential movie about the counterculture trying to grow up. It's the story of a bittersweet reunion of 1960s souls and 1960s attitudes in the 1980s. Furthermore, in the course of the movie, one friend loans her husband to another friend for the purposes of a highly nontraditional breeding.

Back to the courtroom plot. Jennings dates her as-good-as-marriage to the ten weeks she spent with Hurt on this location. South Carolina, at least off-screen, is no hotbed of counterculture or of liberal living arrangements, but it recognizes common-law marriage.

So Jennings, who was freely loving Hurt and consciously having a child out of wedlock, now says their unwedded bliss in South Carolina made them married in the eyes of the law. Hurt, on the other hand, who once allegedly proclaimed "a spiritual marriage in the eyes of God," now has affidavits from "The Big Chill" cast saying that things weren't so cozy in the state.

Before this story line gets far too intricate (I haven't even introduced Jennings flamboyant lawyer or his valet in the pink turban), a word about what's going on. We have here enough clashing cultures, flashbacks and fast forwards to confuse even the most devoted fan of relationship history.

It appears that Sandra Jennings entered into the relationship and motherhood in nontraditional 1980s style and left it in the same style. Freely. It was a choice she made. Just like in the movies.

Now she is reaching back into the past to use the most hide-bound traditional statutes, those in which the state declares the unwed to be wed. Furthermore, she wants to use traditional law to get what's only available under the most modern divorce laws: a half-share of the marital take. Going from one time zone to another, it's enough to give you relationship whiplash.

In a recent column from San Francisco, I wrote about Domestic Partnerships and the new semi-official categories of re-

lationships. About five million Americans live together without being married. Most states no longer join these couples by the fiat on common-law marriage statutes.

We assume that modern couples who live together chose the state of unmatrimony. Surely Sandra Jennings of Manhattan and Big Chilldom understood the choices. They were written in the script.

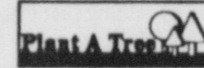
It seems to this member of the audience a bit late to call for a rewrite. Remember this closing line. On the day Jennings was packing her bags to leave Hurt, she testified, "He said we were more married than married people. I said my mother had trouble with that."

Well, guess what. Mother knew best.

Ellen Goodman is a columnist for the *Boston Globe*

Timely

"I think that we shall never see a pollution solution more lovely than a tree." Malcolm S. Forbes April 17 1989



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BURNING, from page 1

acres sanitized by open field burning has steadily decreased each year to 168,530 acres in 1988, according to the DEQ. Propane burning was used in 1988 by about 17 percent of the 282 growers surveyed in the Cross/Mason study; about 38 percent of the growers used non-burning methods. Both the DEQ report and the OSU study concur in showing that in 1988 growers did not use open field burning on over half of the total grass seed acreage in the Willamette Valley.

"Johnson's measure is too abrupt," Koehrsen said. "Growers want to harvest and sell straw, but we need to find the right combination of uses for straw and investment in production."

The strategy group, funded by the Oregon Lottery through the Oregon Comeback Program is looking for ways to improve, stimulate and diversify the Oregon economy, Koehrsen said. Three potential uses for straw have been identified: to make structural material such as boards and logs, to generate electricity and to produce chemicals such as methanol.

Keeping the straw dry is a key issue in marketing it, Koehrsen said. "Growers are building storage sheds for straw," Koehrsen said. Hanson's measure would also give growers more time to develop export markets for straw, which is growing, he said.

An estimated 140,000 tons of straw were exported in 1988, according to the DEQ. Japan used the straw as a source of fiber in animal feed by adding fish emulsion for protein.

While the OSU Extension Service report (The Search For Solutions...) stated that "straw utilization or disposal is essential to the economic viability of alternatives to open field burning," Koehrsen said growers like Dean Schrock, Tangent, are frustrated by the lack of progress at the university in straw utilization research.

"One of the purposes of the strategy group is technology transfer," Koehrsen said. "We want to get new ideas for straw utilization into the Oregon economy — implemented in the private sector."

Another incentive for growers to switch to propane burning or non-burning methods is provided by Oregon law in the form of tax credits for installation of buildings or equipment that control pollution. The DEQ reported a dramatic increase in interest in tax credits over the last two years as growers shifted to the use of alternatives, including straw utilization and propane burning.

The number of applications for use of propane burners went from three last year to over 75 this year, according to Hanson, who estimates the grower's net profit per acre to be \$100 to \$200 on a five year average. The OSU Extension Service reported the gross value of 1987 Oregon grass seed production at \$156 million — the number one field crop by value in Oregon. The DEQ reports that 80 percent of the world's grass seed is produced in the Willamette Valley.

Proponents of both ballot measures said growers can afford to take a cut in profits to pay for the alternatives to open field burning.

But Koehrsen said grass seed growers all want to use alternatives. "OSU needs to solve the problem of seed quality on non-burned acreage," he said. Weed control and blind seed disease have not yet been effectively managed without burning, he said.

A chemical treatment called Enquik, manufactured by Unocal, reportedly reduces weeds, increases the effectiveness

Marathon session results in OPEU contract

By GERALD VAN ZANDT
of the Summer Barometer

After a marathon 22-hour bargaining session last Sunday, representatives of the state of Oregon and the Oregon Public Employees Union (OPEU) reached a tentative two-year contract.

The union was able to achieve its primary goal — full-family health insurance with no out-of-paycheck premiums. The workers health benefits will remain with minimal changes. Part-time workers will have their benefits prorated by the amount of hours worked beginning Nov. 1, 1989, according to the new contract.

A 3 percent pay increase for all OSU classified workers will take effect July 1, with an additional 4.5 percent increase to take place on Jan. 1, 1991, according to a fact sheet released Monday by the OPEU.

"I think it's a good settlement, and we are recommending to the union members that it be ratified," said OSU employee Ann Montague. Ratification ballots will be handed out today and will be due by July 15.

Montague, a member of the OPEU's higher education bargaining team, said the new contract will have many effects on OSU, including a new classification system in April 1990. Eighty-five percent of the workers will move into new salary ranges at that time.

"Oregon is one of the states where the workers are notoriously low-paid — we're 12 percent below the surrounding states," Montague said of the 1,600 workers in OSU's OPEU bargaining unit.

Montague said the OSU workers were very active, along with many other OPEU workers statewide, in letting the state know that as a group they were concerned about the contract. "We were prepared to go on strike," she said.

The OSU workers held a strike preparation vote June 15, which authorized the union to set up funds for the strike and formation of a strike headquarters. They also held informational pickets four Wednesdays in a row in front of the Administrative Services building to make the public aware of the workers' concerns, Montague said.

A "work-in" — refusal to leave the workplace at quitting time — was held by the workers at the Adult Family Services office downtown to illustrate their claim that they are overworked.

About 50 OSU workers marched downtown to First Interstate Bank to let banker Bob Ames — a good friend of Governor Goldschmidt — know of the situation. "I don't know if he talked to the governor, but he sure got the message from us," Mon-

of certain herbicides and helps decompose leftover straw. If used with a non-burning method such as removing straw by close-clipping and baling, the chemical could be an alternative, Hanson said.

Although, reports from both the DEQ and OSU Extension Service conclude that evidence is insufficient to connect a health risk with field burning smoke, Johnson said it is a costly medical problem for Oregonians. He estimated that about 30,000 asthmatics are effected by the smoke.

tagne said.

All of these actions put pressure on the state "to convince the state that we were willing to walk out," Montague said. "It wasn't bargaining so much as it was the pressure that came from workers around the state."

For those workers who are getting reclassified in April and are unhappy with the decision regarding their new status, there will be an appeals board made up of two union representatives and two management people to hear their cases.

Montague expressed a cautious but positive attitude toward the new contract. "The bottom line was that we had to show the state what we were prepared to do. The settlement came about because of the pressure exerted on the state by the workers. For now, we have to get organized so that in two years (when the current contract expires) the workers can get a better wage package."

Movie Review

'Dead Poets' an experience

By ANNIE BROWN

of the Summer Barometer

The Dead Poets Society, a film produced by Peter Weir, combines the themes of the Romantic Period of "Carpe Diem: Seize the day for tomorrow we may die" and the conflict between the established adult authority and the developing adolescent mind in the 1950's.

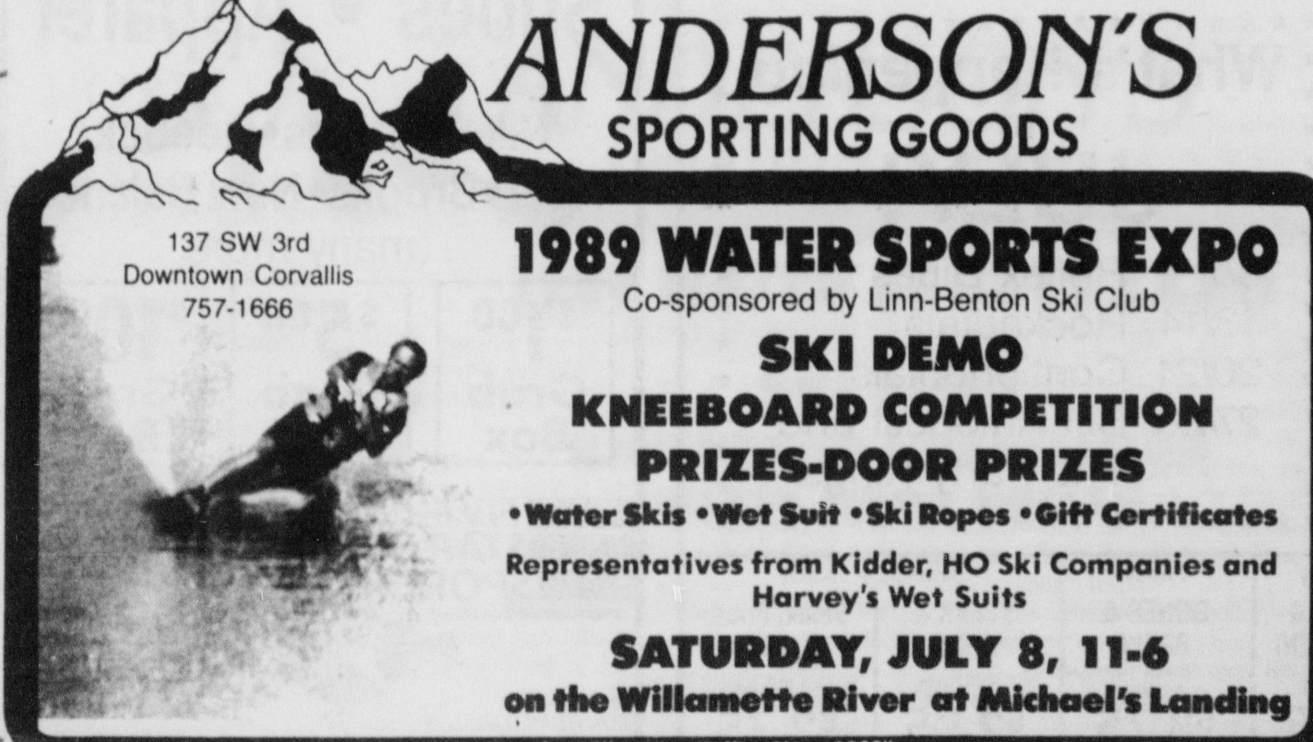
The film is set at Welton Preparatory School for young men, an atmosphere that incorporates the structural aspect of education and authority with the eagerness of youth for the experiences of romance, beauty and life.

Comedian Robin Williams plays a serious role as John Keating, the young English teacher at Welton. Williams, combining his talents as a celebrity impressionist and serious dramatist, inspires the young students through his unorthodox teaching methods, urging the boys to become free thinkers in an atmosphere of realists. Although an unusual role for Williams, he uses his excitement and energy to his benefit and portrays Keating as an understanding, inspirational educator with a passion for life and learning.

The headmaster of Welton represents the barrier for Keating's theology. Nolan, the stiff sexagenarian who emphasizes realism, refuses to accept the teaching methods of Keating because of their emphasis on nonconformity and unstructured learning. Nolan believes that the four walls of the classroom and strict etiquette are adequate for education and give the youths a solid base from which to become successful, obedient members of society. Conformity, he believes, is the key to academic excellence.

The Dead Poets Society, the secret club started by Keating himself when he attended Welton as a youth is revived by characters Neal Perry, Todd Anderson, Charley Dalton and Knox Overstreet. Together, they uphold the tradition of the

See POETS, pg. 2



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