

Experts study fire response

Residents angered

TREVA ZELLER
Staff writer

With only the scars from the 3,500-acre Fredericksburg fire remaining, experts this week will begin to analyze just what happened in the first critical minutes of the blaze and how well agencies responded.

In a debriefing scheduled for today, key officials from regional agencies that battled the brush and timber fire will try to answer questions about what was done, what could have been done and what can be done better the next time.

It may answer some questions about how soon Douglas County volunteer fire departments were called by authorities to help protect homes threatened in the blaze. The Alpine County site where the fire began is within 15 minutes of the Minden-Gardnerville area.

Douglas County was asked to stand by in the initial minutes of the fire, although the exact time-frame has not been confirmed. Some have questioned whether the few minutes would have made a difference, including rancher Chris Gansberg Sr., who watched his one large barn and several haystacks burn to the ground Wednesday (July 16) afternoon.

Although Gansberg said last Thursday he was grateful for the aid of all the firefighting crews that saved his home, he added that he wished Douglas County

had been involved a little earlier.

"There was too much time lost preparing for action," Gansberg recalled. "BLM and the Forest Service told Douglas County to stand by at state line when there were lives to be lost and everything we have was at stake."

Gansberg credited the Douglas County volunteers with saving two of his other barns when they did arrive to aid Alpine County crews already on the scene.

The Douglas County Engine Co. sent seven pieces of equipment to the ranch, which reaches to the Nevada border, according to Chief Dan Hellwinkel. He said the local crew missed saving the 50-year-old Fredericksburg School by just minutes.

"The fire was just too close and too hot, and we didn't have a chance to save it," Hellwinkel said. The Douglas crew waited on standby 20-30 minutes before they were called to the scene, according to Hellwinkel.

"If we had gotten there about 20 minutes earlier, I think it would have made a difference," Hellwinkel said.

Bill Driscoll, East Fork Fire Protection District chief, recalled that the time was only about 10-15 minutes, but he said it is difficult to tell whether an earlier arrival would have changed anything.

He said some fires are so intense with so many changing factors that firefighters can not hold them back despite the amount of equipment and manpower.

The first priority on the hot, windy day last week was to pro-

Continued to page 10

Study: To look at response

Record-Courier
7/24/86

Continued from page 1

tect Douglas County, he said. And because local authorities had no idea at first what the intensity of the fire was, they had to await information from units already at the scene, he added.

"I had asked our units to stand by at state line until I could determine from the Forest Service where they wanted us and what they wanted," Driscoll said, adding that the first indication was that the U.S. Forest Service wasn't calling for help "yet."

"First of all the fire was completely out of our jurisdiction," Driscoll said. "It was out of our county and out of our state."

"People have to remember that the first unit on the fire can be so overwhelmed with the work that has to be done it may take them a minute or two to call for help or it may take them a minute or two to determine if they need help."

Driscoll added that if there had been no units on the scene when Douglas County was first informed about the fire, there would have been no question that local units would have gone immediately to the site.

One U.S. Forest Service official at the scene within the first hour was Gary Helsel. He said his agency and Alpine County volunteers were the first to arrive at the fire.

He recalled that Douglas County volunteers were told to standby at the state line in case the fire continued to spread north into the Sheridan Acres homes.

"Douglas County was told to hold at Fredericksburg and Foothill Road because there were several ranches where the fire would go if it continued and they would need protection," Helsel said.

"Our biggest fear was that the fire was going to roll on down through Fay Canyon and into where the ranches were (in Douglas County). That's why we pre-stationed equipment there."

However, several local volunteer crews from the valley and the lake were soon called to the fire site along Fredericksburg Road where homes were immediately threatened. Air tankers dropping fire retardant eventually

helped direct the fire west to higher slopes and away from Douglas County.

Helsel added that during the height of the fire last Wednesday, safety was also a factor.

"The fire behavior was some of the worst, intense, erratic fire behavior we've seen recently," he said. "We came very close to losing some lives."

"There were at least five different fire storms — you would see a whirlwind but actually it's a whirlwind of fire — a very rapid rise of hot air that would take and did take fire up to 300 feet."

One of the fire storms — with winds actually created by the fire — destroyed the large barn within seconds and smashed the windows of at least two nearby vehicles, according to witnesses. Some people near the barn have reported that the building actually exploded and then caught on fire.

The fire was so intense — fueled by low humidity, low moisture and erratic winds more than 40 miles per hour — that firefighters were lucky to save the eight Fredericksburg homes that did survived the flames, Helsel said.

State and federal firefighting agencies received some criticism from Alpine County residents following the Indian Creek fire of two years ago that burned 17,000 acres there and in Douglas County. No structures were lost in that fire.

Residents complained about insensitivity from federal officials while one of the most vocal, property owner Clarence Burr, has accused the "bureaucracy" of keeping locals out when fires start.

However, others have suggested that last week's fire went more smoothly for this area because of what was learned from the Indian Creek fire.

Driscoll said agencies learned from the Indian Creek fire how to best use local resources and work more in concert with one another. The group included state and federal forest services, county volunteer groups, BLM and regional crews.

Some control has to be established by the first crews without other agencies barging in, Driscoll said. However, he

added that a constructive look at the response time always allows groups involved to make great strides, and more will be learned from the evaluation.

"I'm sure the local volunteers didn't like being held back," he said. "They're like race horses ready to get going."

"I don't know if the bureaucracy is a good thing, but until we get something better," it works the best, Driscoll added.

By Wednesday night the blaze had turned into a forest fire, which eventually spread to three mountain canyons. Four days were spent trying to surround the blaze, which was brought under control Sunday morning.

The human-caused Fredericksburg fire cost an estimated \$800,000, and the exact cause is still under investigation. Soon after the fire started the Forest Service called in four air tankers to dump fire retardant on the blaze, which Driscoll said helped turned the fire away from Douglas County.

Firefighters were flown in by helicopter or hiked up the steep, rough terrain to reach the fire at higher elevations. Night and day crews with an estimated 1,200 firefighters worked to secure a line around the blaze, clearing away brush and timber.

The main objective was to keep the fire from spreading further north into Douglas County and Fay Canyon, a primary watershed for Carson Valley ranchers.

The fire came within half a mile of the Nevada border Wednesday, sending a blanket of smoke over Carson Valley. Although homes beyond the Douglas County border were not immediately threatened, crews from the Sheridan Volunteer Fire Department and the Douglas County road department cleared a fire line on the valley floor north of Fay Canyon Wednesday to prevent sparks from spreading to Sheridan Acres.

Although final estimates are not in, Douglas County lost at least \$2,000 worth of fire hose and nozzles. The Forest Service, which has jurisdiction in the area, is expected to reimburse costs.

from spreading
photo by Treva

ather

TUES.

DUJRE

You Said it!



How does the Fredericksbur



PETER BARTHOLF
Bureau of Land
Management
Susanville District
Firefighter

"The fire is not real dangerous, but the terrain is rugged, and it's tough to fight. It's mostly hand crews, and there's a lot of fatigue before you get to work. We hiked four hours before we started cutting a line, and it was very, very difficult to stay in shape. It wasn't that grueling, it was just a long hike up there and it made it difficult to build line, and it was kind of slow. The terrain is very, very difficult. That would be the main problem on this fire, getting hand crews in and out. They do have a helicopter, but we hiked, and it took us four hours before we could get to the spot where we had to tie into another line."



LARRY KANE
U.S. Forest Service
Almador District
Firefighter

"It's not really that hard, but it's really rocky up there and it's really steep. We usually work off the engines, but because of the terrain, it's impossible, and they turn us into hand crews, and we walk up there. It's really rough and we had a lot of rock slides last night, a lot of high winds this morning. It's really not that out of control, but it's really irregular, and there are certain things like the high winds and the rocky terrain that make it really hard to fight. Doing a hand line in rock makes it a little difficult to do."



BOB MARTIN
U.S. Forest Service
Salmon National Forest
Operations Chief

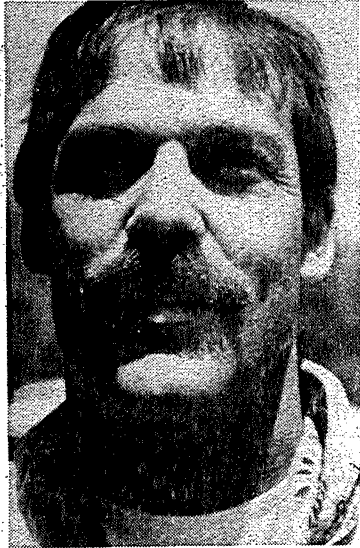
"It's probably average. We've had more difficult fires. This has got the potential to where it can be pretty nasty, as far as fire behavior and the loss of property. We've had tougher fires. This team has had tougher fires. I'd call it an average fire."



BILL HENNING
National Weather Service
Sacramento Office
Fire Weather
Meteorologist

"First off, in size it's a rather small fire. It's 3,300 acres and some of the other bigger fires last year, for example the Lo Pilatas fire, was almost 100,000 acres. That was down by San Luis Obispo. In terms of weather, this also is an easy fire, other than the day that it started. There was a bit of problem that day. After that, it pretty well slowed down. This is Friday, and I believe the fire started Wednesday. It's only taken a little over a couple of days to really corral the thing and if you've been out there today, it's getting pretty darn quiet. We're really not having any problems with it, and some of these fires you hear about go on for days, and at times a couple of weeks. There's not an awful lot of fuel out there. The weather has been rather kind, other than the first day, so it's really a minor fire."

Fire compare to others?



DAN LOOMIS
Carson City
National Guard
1st Main Company
Truck driver

KIM ZAGARIS
Bureau of Land
Management
Carson City District
Division Supervisor

"So far, this fire here has been a lot easier than any other that I've been on. I was on one two years ago, and this one is a lot better. It's more organized, and they've got everything a guy could need around here (command center) to get by with."

"We've got some steep terrain and it's rocky in some areas which makes it extremely dangerous at times, especially at night. We've got a lot of timber up there that's burning, and a lot of snags falling down. As they burn, they're rolling down the line so we've got to watch that and make sure they don't roll into the unburned areas. We keep everything inside the burn area so we don't get any new fires burning below us or anything. We've got some winds the last couple of days that have been pretty high and have made controlling a little difficult, but other than that, it's been a hot fire that's been difficult to control."

on

No miracle

Editor:

I wish to make a few comments on the recent Fredericksburg fire. First, I would like to correct a statement supposedly made by me. We lost one hundred tons of hay, and not the larger figure of 250 or more.

Some of the federal agencies have been condemned for the way they handled the fire. This is at least the fifth fire in this general area with which I have been involved, though this was by far the worst. This one had traveled so far and spread so fast that nothing could have stopped it after the first 10 minutes because of the severe

Letters to the editor

wind. The only reason that the other fires did not do as much damage to private property was the direction and velocity of the wind.

It was not a miracle that no homes were lost this time, but rather it was the valiant efforts of the many agencies involved and the willingness of some of the men to work and to expose themselves to danger far beyond the call of duty. In our case it was primarily the Alpine County Volunteer Fire Department with the help of some other agencies and many individuals that saved our home and barns. The Alpine County Fire Department also spread themselves thin enough to protect other homes and property that were in danger at the same time.

As a result of this fire we suffered a tremendous loss, not only in hay but in fences, corrals, chutes, forest products and other buildings. We believe absolutely no one can be blamed for what was lost, but we are very thankful for what was saved. There is no way enough credit can be given to the men and women who did save our home and all of the other homes and other valuable property in the area.

HUBERT BRUNS
Markleeville
July 28

Forgotten

Editor:

After reading the articles in the last Record-Courier relating to the Fredericksburg fire, I found no mention of the Alpine County fire departments. They, along with many others, put their lives on the line and deserve a lot of credit. All three engines stayed all night at the three ranches watching for spot fires.

Without the aid of the Alpine County units, at least five houses would have burned.

This fire was a fine example of the cooperative effort of all the responding fire departments, and should be recognized as such.

We only hope that people realize how much we appreciate the concern shown by everyone during this crisis.

CHRIS GANSBERG JR.
July 23

The first

Editor:

Your paper did an admirable job of covering the Fredericksburg fire, yet there are two things which bother me greatly about that coverage.

First, nowhere was any credit given to the Alpine volunteer firemen. This is both hard to believe and inexcusable. They were the first people on the scene, the first to pump water, the first to cut lines around the houses. They fought the fire very aggressively from the outset and took risks they probably shouldn't have taken to save the homes and other structures. No reporter from the R-C ever talked to either of our fire chiefs, Dave Zellmer and Gary Coyan. I believe

Continued to page 5

Letters: First

Continued from page 4

that you owe our firemen an apology for that oversight.

Secondly, I do not know how Sandi Wright managed to get as close to the fire as she did, but she had no business in there, reporter or not. Nor do I have any sympathy for the fact that she got hurt, burned, scared and lost her shoes. She is darn lucky she didn't lose her life. What happened to her is a prime example of why they put up roadblocks and keep "non-combatants" away. Had she been hurt worse than she was, other people would have had to take time away from the fire fighting to take care of her, and that would have further endangered other people and property.

I am a newspaper reporter and photographer, also, and I believe strongly that one of the aspects of being responsible journalists is that we should use our heads in crisis situations like this one was, follow directions from those in charge, and not get in the way or be a potential problem. We can still get good stories and photos. I hope that what she did is not condoned by the R-C management.

NANCY C. THORNBURG
Markleeville
July 23

Road block misused

Editor:

As a resident and property owner of the south Foothill area, a special thanks to the aerial tankers, Hellwinkel Construction Co., Crockett Enterprises and Nevada Division of Forestry for their bulldozers and supporting ground crews in the construction of a fire line from the mouth of Fay Canyon to the Fredericksburg Road, which controlled the fast moving blaze.

It is a shame that the roadblock was not meant the way it should as a lot of people got through it who were not residents of the Foothill area and those of us who are residents were told we could

not go through. There were people who live in the outlying areas who were out for a ride and they got through.

Also, why was there so much concern for Sheridan Acres, over three miles away from the fire, and not much for the residences between the fire and Centerville Lane? No answer was available from the fire chief.

Again, special thanks to all the crews and personnel who worked so hard and long to control the fire.

VICKIE HELLWINKEL
July 29

*Record
Courier
1986*

*Paper?
Date?*

END OF DOCUMENT.

ENTER QUERY (SB6)

bill / rancher

YOUR SEARCH IS PROCEEDING.

RANK 1 OF 1, PAGE 1 OF 2, DOCUMENT NUMBER 38749
THE SACRAMENTO BEE

DATE: TUESDAY July 29, 1986

PAGE: B3

EDITION: STATE FINAL

SECTION: SUPERIOR CALIFORNIA

LENGTH: SHORT

SOURCE: Metro Staff

US MAY*BILL*RANCHER*IN FIRE

U.S. Forest Service officials said Monday that charges against an Alpine County man for allegedly Sparking a 3,400-acre forest and Brush fire near the Nevada state line Could lead to an \$800,000*bill*to cover the costs of fighting the blaze.

The officials said the fire, the largest so far this year in the Sierra Nevada, began July 16, shortly after John Lynn Cassidy began operating A tractor on his Alpine County ranch.

Investigators said the tractor had No spark arrester, a violation of federal law.

If convicted, Cassidy could be Forced to pay the cost of fighting the Fire -- calculated in excess of \$800,000. He also would be liable to Six months in jail and a \$500 fine, the Forest Service said.

Fanned by 30 mph gusts of wind, The two-day fire swept through brush And

RANK 1 OF 1, PAGE 2 OF 2, DOCUMENT NUMBER 38749
forest land just west of the California-Nevada border, charring Barns, fences and hay, and destroying a schoolhouse and several ranch Outbuildings.

Before the blaze was extinguished, Officials called in four air tankers And 750 firefighters from four federal and state agencies. The fire closed California Highway 88 for part of a Day.

END OF DOCUMENT.

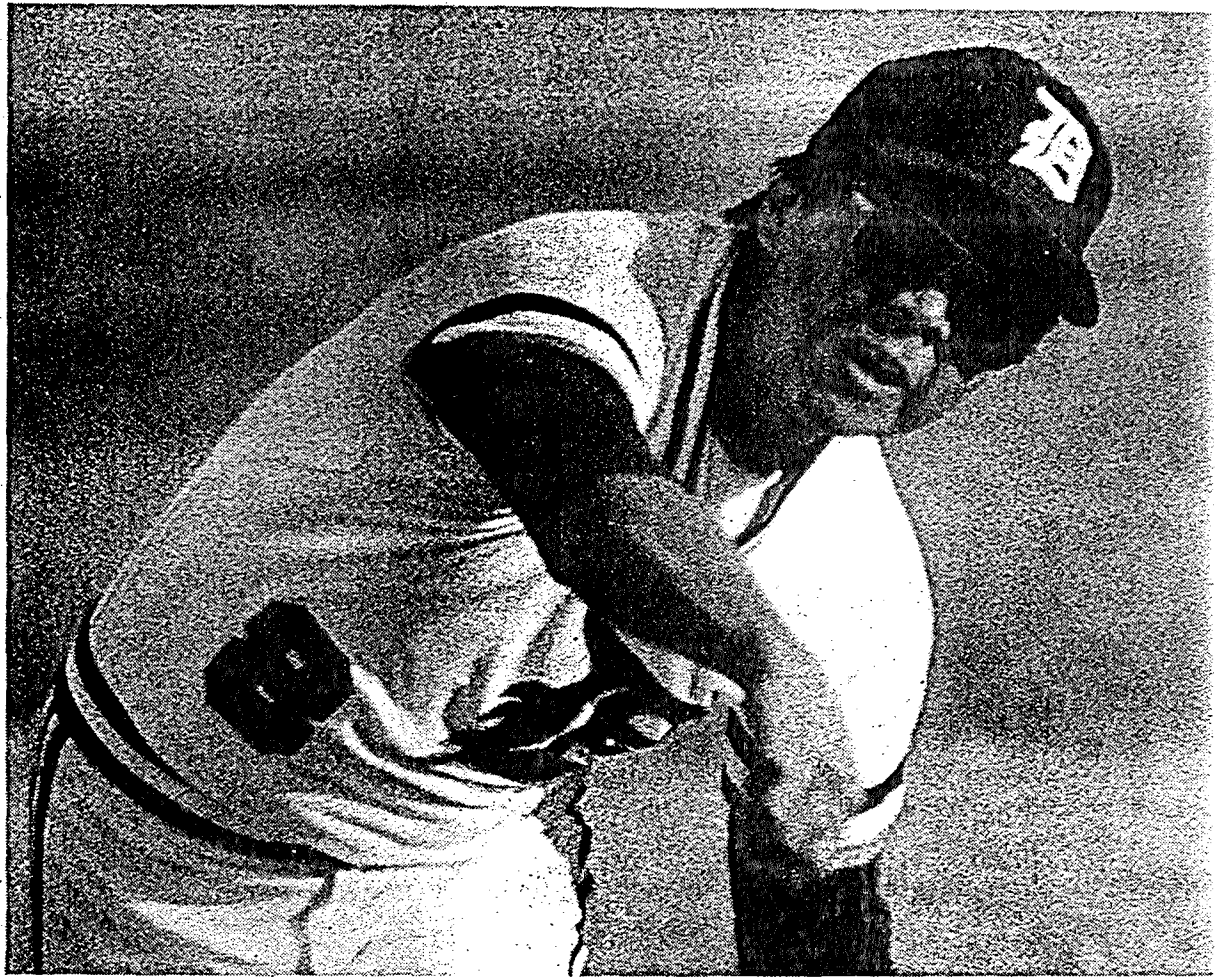
q

ENTER QUERY (SB6)

@5 sierra / contained

YOUR SEARCH IS PROCEEDING.

RANK 1 OF 1, PAGE 1 OF 2, DOCUMENT NUMBER 37284



TIGER ACE. Jerod Frank unleashes a pitch for Douglas High during a winning performance against Reno in March. Frank, who

earned all-conference honors this spring, plans to continue his career at the College of Southern Idaho. R-C photo

Senior Babe Ruth

Locals bound for Pasadena

Four Douglas High School products will have a chance to continue their summer baseball season when the Pacific Southwest Regional Senior Babe Ruth Tournament opens this weekend in Pasadena, Calif.

Sean Sullivan, Ken Tollmann, Mark Towell and Jerod Frank will suit up for the regional tourney as members of the South Tahoe Merchants. They played for Douglas during the regular Cal-Neva League season but have been picked up by the Nevada state champion South Tahoe club to play in Pasadena.

South Tahoe is scheduled to begin play in the eight-team tournament Sunday at 6 p.m. against the Utah state champion. The winner of that game

returns to action Tuesday against either Guam or Central California.

This marks a return trip to the regionals for Tollmann and Frank, who joined up with South Tahoe last August. The team went on to finish third in Ogden, Utah.

South Tahoe captured its second straight state championship by knocking off Sierra Nevada (Reno), 8-4, Monday afternoon at the Lake.

Towell, Tollmann and Frank

are expected to bolster a South Tahoe pitching staff that is already led by Whittell High School ace Chris Bernier. Frank was an all-Northern Nevada AAA pitcher for Douglas during the spring high school season and Sullivan was an honorable mention Northern AAA selection at catcher.

Towell was an all-conference pitcher for Douglas High as a senior in 1985, a season in which the Tigers won a divisional pennant.

Jerod Frank hopes to continue success

by DAVE PRICE
Sports editor

Jerod Frank wants to pitch; just give him the ball.

He performed well at his trade during two seasons at Douglas High, earning Northern Nevada AAA all-conference recognition in both his junior and senior years. The right hander wants to continue his career at the College of Southern Idaho in Caldwell — and possibly beyond.

"I want to go up there and see what happens," Frank said. "Practice and conditioning start when we first get up there; then we'll play through the fall and winter. Year-round baseball, that'll be neat. Hopefully, I'll be throwing a lot."

The 5-foot-11, 180-pounder can throw a baseball. Just ask Douglas coach Hal Wheeler.

"He's probably the best all-around pitcher I've had. And that's saying something when you figure we've had kids like Tommy Newell (now pitching for the Philadelphia Phillies organization). At this point and time, he throws harder than Tommy, although Tommy had a better curve.

"Jerod is just a good all-around pitcher. He throws a lot of pitches, has good control and he's reliable," the coach went on. "He was our mainstay for two years; our workhorse."

Frank compiled a 6-3 record and 2.80 earned run average this spring for the Tigers, who finished 10-14 overall and 6-10 in conference. His performance was enough to earn a spot on the all-conference first team next to juniors Tom Smith of Reed, Donovan Osborne of Carson City and Wooster's Scott Conrad.

"This was by far the most difficult year for pitchers," Wheeler reflected of the all-conference selections. "There were five outstanding pitchers in the league, not just one or two. I mean outstanding as far as pitchers with college or pro ability."

"I didn't expect to make it this year, not with all those junior pitchers," Frank admitted. "I thought I had a pretty good year. I was 6-3 as a junior (Douglas won a division championship) and I was 6-3 again this year, only I lowered my ERA and had a few more strikeouts.

"I think my arm got a little stronger and I was a littler smarter. Last year, I just relied on throwing the fast ball. This year, I was able to get the curve ball over, and coach (Rick) Keester taught me a slip pitch, which is sort of a change-up. I even threw the split-finger fastball a little bit."

Frank has always been a hard thrower. That was evident when he was an all-star in the Carson Valley Little League and Babe Ruth programs.

He played football and basketball as a freshman at Douglas High, but decided not to come out for baseball that year. His absence didn't miss Wheeler's eye.

"I knew about Jerod before I got to high school. I had been watching this kid throw BB's for years down in Little League and Babe Ruth. You don't see a lot of kids with the arm action he had," the coach recalled.

"I remember he was kind of shy when he came out as a sophomore, but he threw harder than anybody I had then and he could throw strikes, so I kept him on the varsity. He didn't pitch that much, but he was kind of our Goose Gossage. He was the one I would bring in to shut the door on the other team in the late innings."

Coming off his successful high school season, Frank began summer Senior Babe Ruth play on a bright note by pitching six perfect innings in South Lake Tahoe before retiring with a tender elbow. He hasn't pitched since.

"The doctor said it was a strained tendon and told me to take it easy. It feels more like a nerve than anything, sort of like someone kicked me in the funny bone. When I throw, it starts to ache."

Frank paid the doctor another visit this week in hopes of getting clearance to play in the Pacific Southwest Regional Senior Babe Ruth Tournament in Pasadena, Calif. He and three other Douglas teammates have been picked up by the Nevada champion South Tahoe Merchants to play in the tourney.

Looking ahead, how far would Frank like to go with his baseball career?

"I suppose everybody's dream is to play in the Majors," he replied after a moment of thought. "I'd like to try and make it up there. I've got to work at it harder. I have to work if I want to improve."

The Record Courier

7-31-86

Alpine man accused in fire

The U.S. Forest Service has charged that an Alpine County man accidentally started a 3,400-acre Fredricksburg fire 10 miles south of Gardnerville.

The fire was believed to have been started by a spark from the exhaust of a tractor driven by John Lyle Cassidy, according to Forest Service investigators.

The Forest Service has given a

misdemeanor citation to Cassidy, whom they claim drove the tractor even though it didn't have a spark arrester required by California state and federal law, a spokesman with the Forest Service said.

If convicted in federal court, Cassidy would face up to six months in jail and a \$500 fine.

The fire, which threatened

homes and damaged valuable ranch property, burned out of control in three mountain canyons for four days July 16-20. It took about 1,200 firefighters and several agencies to battle the fire, costing more than \$800,000.

If convicted, Cassidy may be liable for the costs, according to the Forest Service.

The Record Courier
25 YEARS AGO

7-31-86

Thursday, Aug. 3, 1961

ALPINE FIRE DISTRICT. The Alpine District fire total rose to 14 with the recent discovery of two more hold-over blazes caused by the lightning storms of July 12 and 19. Both fires were contained in less than one-quarter acre, keeping the success record of the Markleeville suppression crews intact. Robert Tracy, owner of the Coleville Pack Station, was notified of the latest blaze by two anonymous fishermen who discovered the fire and later worked on it.

COURT POLICIES. Three new policies aimed at a more uniform handling of juvenile matters in the First Judicial District were announced here Friday by Judge Frank B. Gregory . . . Gregory also announced, for the first time, that in an effort to make the public aware of the growing problem of juvenile delinquency in this district, he will allow the press to witness courtroom proceedings and report upon them. In the past the press has been barred from juvenile actions.

Thanks

The Record Courier

7-31-86

Editor:

Our homes were involved in the recent fire in Alpine County.

The firefighters and volunteers, headed by Jim Nelson of the U.S. Forest Service, risked both life and limb to save our homes, our grasslands, and our forest. Their around-the-clock vigilance and extremely hard work did not go unnoticed.

We would like to offer our sincere thanks to all the people involved in the control of the blaze. The organization, efficiency, and manner of everyone we came in contact with (in particular D. Session and John Singleton) were much appreciated.

TOM AND LISA EMBREE
ROGER AND BETTY OLSON

July 24

PUBLISHER'S LETTER

A good friend of yours was the second known person to witness the start of the Fredericksburg fire which eventually destroyed 3,400 acres in Alpine & Carson Counties and cost some \$800,000 to suppress. Through osmosis you became curious. With the help of another friend; who is an independent forester, you began to research the story.

The research fell apart early on. You quickly learned that the residents of Alpine County are close-knit and tight-lipped. But that wasn't really the problem.

One morning, shortly after dawn, you sat with your forester friend at the coffee shop in Woodfords Station listening to a group of locals discuss the fire. Present and at the hub of the conversation was John Cassidy, the prime suspect in the starting of the fire.

At one point, a news broadcast of the fire, which mentioned Cassidy by name, came on the television above the bar. You watched as everyone in the small restaurant except Cassidy turned away from the television.

All at once you appreciated his friends' and co-residents' loyalty and acknowledged the quiet agony on Cassidy's face. More accurately, you empathized with his pain.

In an interview with Doyle Harris, the owner of the property on which Cassidy was operating a piece of machinery which is thought to have caused the fire, you were made to understand the emotion which took place back at the Woodfords coffee shop.

Mr. Harris is a gentle and soft spoken man. "I feel bad for John," he told you. "If he did start the fire, it was an accident. It could have happened to anyone. I want to do everything I can to help him."

As you listened to Mr. Harris speak, you remembered walking on his land earlier that morning; small puffs of ash rising with each of our footsteps and, haun-

tingly, one majestic Jeffrey Pine ^{surviving} amidst all the black. Then you asked Mr. Harris how he felt when he first visited his property.

"Sad," he said. "I cried."

Although your heart wasn't in it, you persevered. Your forester friend explained that a device called a "spark arrester" was absent from Cassidy's piece of machinery. He went on to add that many vehicles, including county vehicles are without the device and it is the fault of the agents who monitor such goings on to not be more vigilant.

Other sources informed you that the investigators of the fire had ruled out all other possibilities and, hence, pointed the finger at Cassidy. Legal counsel explained that the evidence was circumstantial at best, and there really wasn't a strong case.

Your friend who first witnessed the fire told you that people thought you were blood thirsty; that you were out to get Cassidy. Your friend hurt your feelings by saying this because you knew he thought it was true, too.

That morning at Woodfords Station coffee shop, you walked up to Cassidy and asked if you could talk. You showed him your press credentials and watched Cassidy's face as it seemed it would cave in from exhaustion. He said no, pushed past you and drove off in his truck.

More and more, as you worked on the Fredericksburg fire story and the problems in your personal life escalated, your confidence waned. Not just as a journalist, but as a person as well.

Later, you had dinner with a young writer at River Ranch in Alpine Meadows. The two of you sat outside polishing off a couple pitchers of beer while watching the Truckee River idle by.

The young writer said, "You know, you're not at all what I expected you to be like." He meant it as a compliment. "I thought you'd be more establishment."

You explained to him that you were a registered Republican, that until recently you never bought clothes anywhere but Brooks Brothers and Abercrombie &

Fitch, and that your perspective was just as broad. All of the people you had known all of your life, who were really good friends thought the same as you, and that anyone else was "just not your sort."

But a funny thing happened when you moved to Tahoe. You found another side of life. Although philosophically you had always known it was true; that all people have their lives to lead and are, in essence, good people, you never really applied such thinking to everyday life.

John Cassidy, circumstantially, was the cause of a devastating fire. Circumstantially. But whether or not he caused the fire doesn't really matter to you anymore. From what you learned about Cassidy, he loves the land he lives on. He would never willingly harm it. He is a good neighbor and friend to his co-residents.

You know, more than anything else, Cassidy just wants to be left alone.

You remember picking up the telephone early one Saturday morning. A man's voice said, "Don, don't drive your car." You hung up as you've been instructed to do as you receive a couple of such calls a month.

In a devastating moment of realization, you realized you didn't feel comfortable calling the police. Instead, you called another law enforcement agency.

You have come to question authority; you view the local establishment as something that strangles innovation and halts the truth. It is a sort of cultural and moralistic shock that you are shaking from.

So, with your insular little world shattered, you called your good friend Patrick, with whom you own *The Tahoe Reader*. You hear yourself say that come September, the obligation to provide the community with a year and six months of the publication will be fulfilled. And now you both must decide if it is worth it to go on.

You both agree that the last month has been particularly difficult, that you both love the publication and being a part of it, and will probably continue. But you are

FAMOUS LAST WORDS FROM FRIENDS TO FRIENDS

*"Are you in any shape to drive?"
"I've never felt better."*

*"I think you've had a few too many,
"You kiddin', I can drive
with my eyes closed."*

*"You've had too much to drink,
let me drive."*

"Nobody drives my car but me."

*"Are you OK to drive?"
"Who? a few beers?"*



**DRINKING AND DRIVING
CAN KILL A FRIENDSHIP**

cautious. Neither of you is quite sure anything at the moment.

But one thing is certain. You no longer judge people as quickly as you once did. You no longer write off an introduction as a new experience as pointless.

As you sit at your desk in front of a keyboard, you listen to a cassette that you bought recently gave you. You never really appreciated pop music, even when you were younger, as anything more than trendy.

But the fundamental lesson that Tahoe has forced upon you is that life is made richer by expanding horizons. Before *The Tahoe Reader*, you would never have found yourself listening to a song titled "Sledgehammer." But now, as in the case of Peter Gabriel's new hit, you can assimilate the message and appreciate the beat.

The beat goes on.

Don Reavis-Bulan

Historian seeks information on 'Chinese Wall'

R-C
Aug 1986

Mysterious structure on Pinenut ridge

by JOYCE HOLLISTER
Staff writer

A mysterious "Chinese wall" in the Pinenut Range, unknown to most people in Carson Valley, has been thought to be anything from an ancient structure to one made by Chinese laborers or Basque shepherders.

In fact, one article in the Reno Gazette, June 8, 1974, quoted the director of the Nevada Outdoor Recreation Association who was convinced that the mysterious structure was prehistoric and was used for corralling game during hunts.

He offered all sorts of reasons why he was sure ancient Indian people had made the wall to use in herding animals to where hunters waited in ambush.

Tom King of the Oral History Program at University of Nevada-Reno first heard hints about the wall when he was doing oral history and archeological research in Carson Valley in 1984.

"Most people in the Valley had never seen the wall," he said, "but several had heard stories about one and believed they knew what it was."

King said that he checked with the Bureau of Land Management, and was told there was no record of a wall. It's existence is not marked on any archeological site report nor on any historical or topographic map.

King said that, with the lack of documentary evidence, he had been prepared to dismiss the reports of a "Chinese wall" as a bit of folklore.

However, last fall, King mentioned the wall to Jim Hubbard, an area architect.

"Not only had he heard stories of it, he had seen it from the air. I accepted his generous offer to fly me down the spine of the Pinenuts south of Sunrise Pass so that I could photograph the wall from his light plane."

Winds were too high and Hubbard and King couldn't make a close approach to the wall, but his photos reveal the structure is definitely man-made.

In July, Alvin McLane and King examined the wall on the ground.

"We found a dry stone wall, 3-4 feet in height, running along the ridge of the range for roughly 2.5 miles from its northern terminus about 1 mile south of Sunrise Pass. The wall is at an elevation of 7,600 to 8,000 feet, several short sections of it are barbed wire fence rather than stone, and the entire structure encloses nothing."

The two men closely examined the wall's construction.

"We were relatively sure that it dated back no further than the 1930s."

King, though he works for the government himself in a way, offered a humorous explanation.

"Both the wall's grand scale and its apparent uselessness suggested that it was the work of a government agency."

McLane asked a friend of his with BLM to check it again, and this time they found in their files a CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps, a project designed to put people to work on conservation projects during the Depression) report that partially describes the structure.

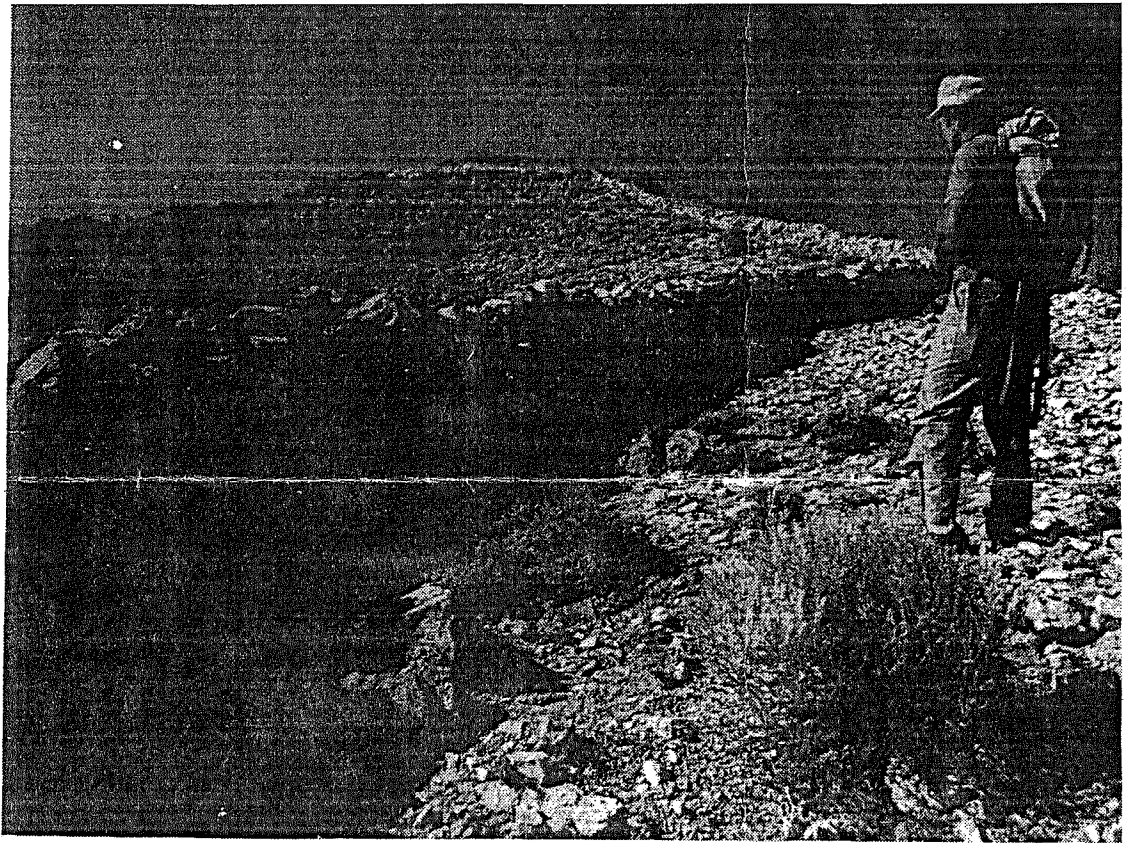
King said that about all he knows about the mysterious wall is that it was built between July 1939 and November 1940 by a CCC crew. William F. Dressler and the H. F. Dangberg Co. contributed some of the materials.

He would appreciate more information about the wall from Carson Valley residents or even from people who may have worked on it.

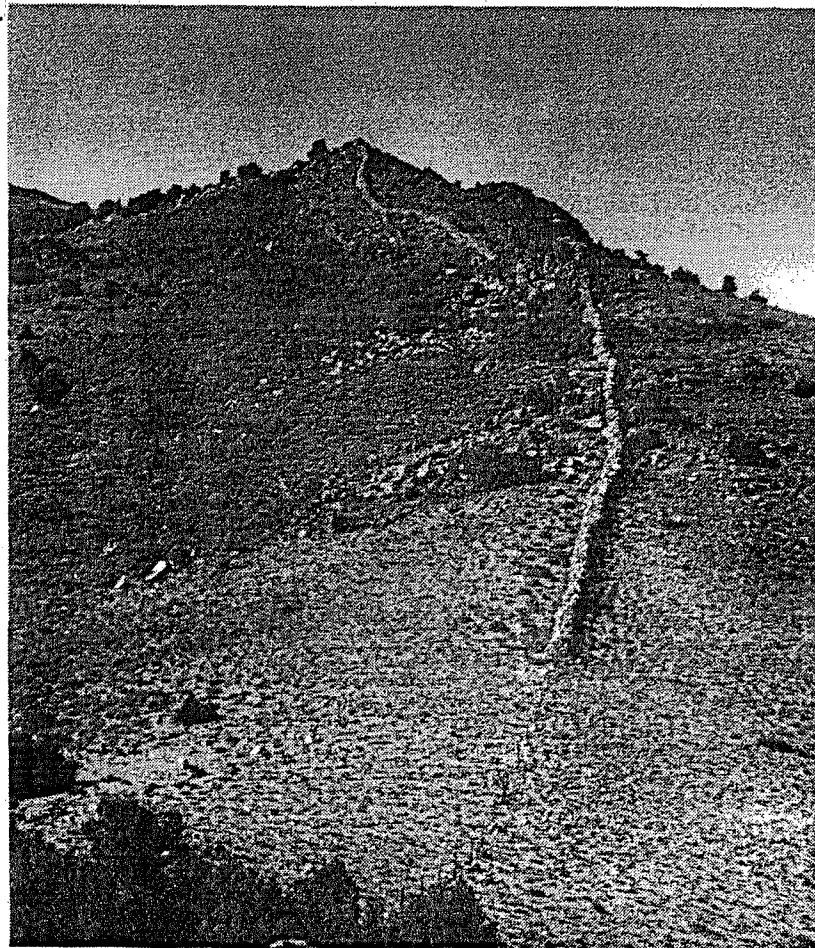
He can be reached through the R-C (782-5121) or the UNR Oral History Program (784-6932).



ALONG THE RIDGE. Like its more famous counterpart, the "Chinese wall" in the Pinenut Mountains looks majestic from the air. The wall sits at about 7,600-8,000 feet and is 2.5 miles long. Tom King photo



UP CLOSE. Alvin McLane, archeologist and friend of UNR's Tom King, takes a closer look at the wall. The structure was thought to be either prehistoric, built by Chinese laborers, or built by Chinese laborers or sheepherders. Tom King photo



GREAT WALL. The Range ends in a barbed wire fence. The mysterious "Chinese wall" on the range. Tom King photo

Crafts, foods Best exhibitors named

by RHONDA J. TOGNOTTI
County Extension 4-H Agent

County residents got the chance to display their handiwork at this year's Douglas County Fair, which concluded Sunday at the fairgrounds on Pinenut Road. Even though the number of entries in the Baked Goods and Clothing sections was low this year, the quality of entries in all nine sections was extremely good and appreciated by the judges and fair goers.

Winners in each of the nine sections were as follows: Baked Goods (Adult): Virginia Denna, Silver Tray Sweepstakes award; Mathilda Minor, Grand Champion; and Ruth Darouze, Reserve Champion; Youth: Silver Tray Sweepstakes award: Kris Geary; Grand Champion - Lisa Mathis; and Reserve Grand Champion, Kris Geary.

Preserved Foods (Adult): Sue Poland, Adult Silver Tray Sweepstakes Award; Sue Poland - Grand Champion; and Sandra Franke, Reserve Grand Champion.

Clothing (Adult): Ruth Darouze - Silver Tray Sweepstakes Award; Elaine Chester - Grand Champion; and Doris Hoskin - Reserve Grand Champion; (Youth): Michelle Newbold - Silver Tray Sweepstakes Award; Shaylene Davis - Grand Champion; and Shannon Napolitano - Reserve Grand Champion.

Needlecraft (Adult): Lori Pulver, Silver Tray Sweepstakes Award; Louise Blount, Grand Champion; and Gail Rhodes, Reserve Grand Champion; (Youth): Shannon Napolitano, Silver Tray Sweepstakes Award; Natalie Tucker, Grand Champion; and Lisa Gardner, Reserve Grand Champion;

Creative Crafts and Hobbies (Adult): Sharon Burnbom, Silver Tray Sweepstakes Award; Kathy Wise, Grand Champion; and Sharon Burnbom, Reserve Grand Champion; (Youth): Marci Mathis, Silver Tray Sweepstakes Award, Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion.

Fine Arts (Adult): Catherine Gillespie, Silver Tray Sweepstakes Award; Janet Wass, Grand Champion; and Doranna Tognotti, Reserve Grand Champion; (Youth): Gaytha Watley, Silver Tray Sweepstakes Award and Grand

Champion; and Brian Jones II, Reserve Grand Champion.

Photography (Adults): Bev Mathis, Silver Tray Sweepstakes Award; Helen Bjornsen, Grand Champion; and Kathy Mortimer, Reserve Grand Champion; (Youth): Louis Destree, Silver Tray Sweepstakes Award; Bob Eisenmann, Grand Champion; and Melissa Nystrom, Reserve Grand Champion.

Horticulture (Adult): Janet Wass, Silver Tray Sweepstakes Award; Mary Ann Johnson, Grand Champion; and Jim Nicely, Reserve Grand Champion; (Youth): Brian Danielson, Silver Tray Sweepstakes Award and Grand Champion; and Brent Danielson, Reserve Grand Champion.

Floriculture (Adult): Sue Poland, Silver Tray Sweepstakes Award; Nellie Ponalt, Grand Champion; and Lloyd Boyce, Reserve Grand Champion; (Youth): Melissa Williams, Silver Tray Sweepstakes Award and Reserve Grand Champion; and Paula Coyne, Grand Champion.

The Douglas County Fair Board would like to thank all those who entered their items in this year's fair and would like to encourage everyone to start making items for the 1987 Douglas County Fair.

Dancers take 7th in national competition in Florida

The dance company from Ann Robinson's Dance Workshop in Gardnerville returned from what they called a "wild week" in Orlando, Fla. The dancers competed in the Dance America Finals against 12 top regional winners in the U.S.

The company came in 7th place and were very happy to represent Gardnerville/Minden and the state of Nevada, according to Robinson.

She said, "The competition was extremely tough and we felt very privileged to be among such talented dancers. It was a great learning experience."

Dancers who competed in Florida were Cindy Walker, Cyndi Supko, Ann Proffett, Ann Robinson (student), Amy Robinson, Nora Sorensen accompanied by Ann Robinson (teacher) and with Teena Thran as assistant.

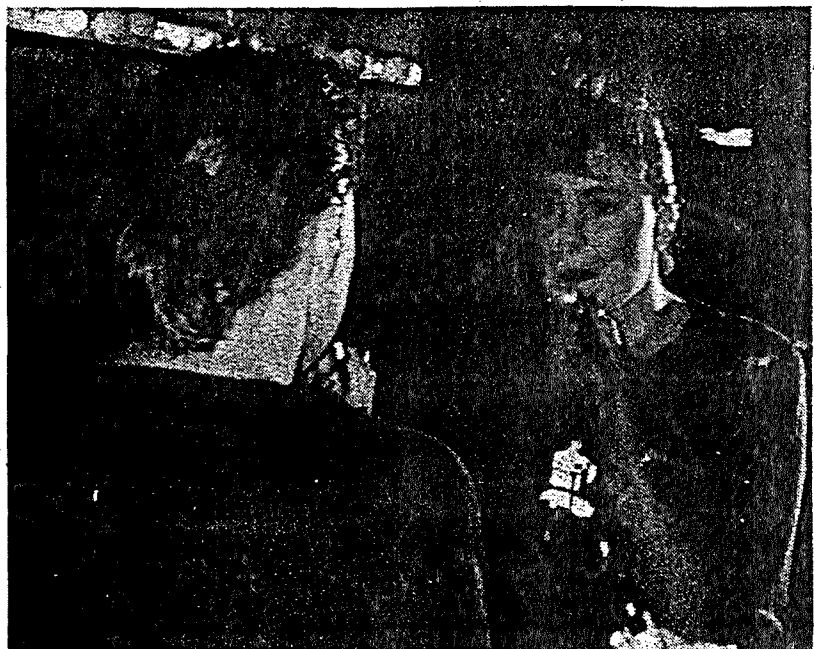
Besides the competition itself, the dancers all attended a four-day dance seminar with all the contestants and their instructors.

"There was such high caliber instruction that we all feel that we learned much to bring home to our students in Gardnerville," Robinson said.



IN FLORIDA. A day was spent in relaxation at Epcot center after the pressure of competition by Ann Robinson's Dance Workshop members.

Left to right are Ann Proffett, Cindy Walker, Ann Robinson, Amy Robinson, Nora Sorensen, Teena Thran, Cyndi Supko and Ann Robinson.



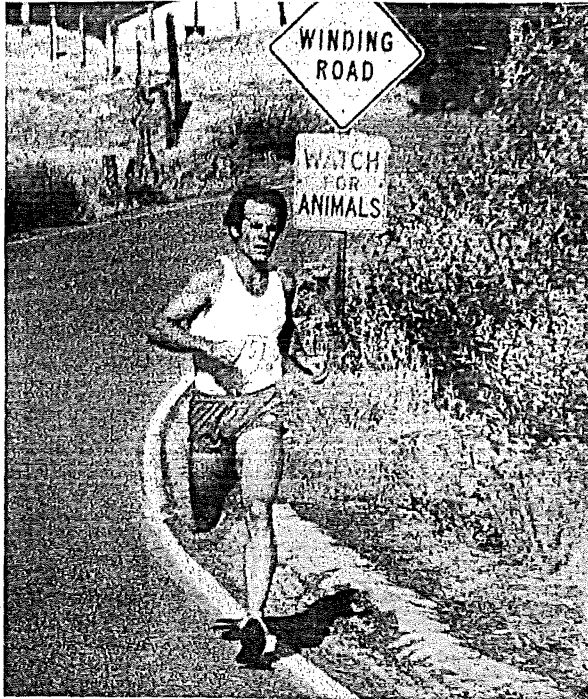
BACKSTAGE. Amy Robinson applies makeup prior to competing in national dance com-

petition. Ann Robinson photos

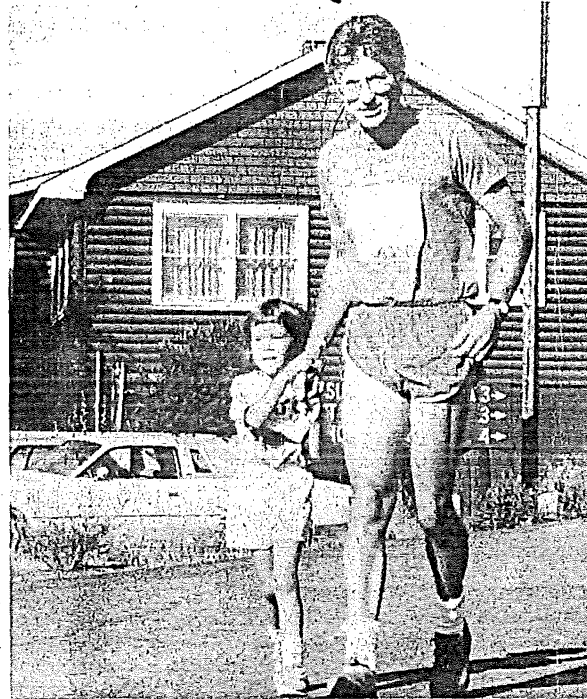


COUNTRY FAIRE. Markleeville's annual Country Faire is set for Aug. 16 and 17. Last year's winner of the tug-of-war (above) was the team

from the Markleeville Toll Station. Booths featuring food and crafts will be available. Details, see calendar.



ON THE RUN. Dave Carlsen of Carson City (left) heads down the homestretch in first place at the sixth annual



Markleeville Country Faire Run Saturday. On the right, Richard Harvey and his 5-year-old daughter, Sarah, enjoy a more

leisure pace in the two-mile run. R-C photos by Dave Price

Country Faire 10-K Woodfords runner speeds to record

Dave Carlsen and Linda Mantynen finished on top of their respective divisions at the sixth annual Country Faire 10-Kilometer Run Saturday in Markleeville.

Carlsen, 33, of Carson City, outlasted a field of 46 runners to win the 6.2-mile race with a 34:14 clocking. Rick Bily of Carson City finished second in 36:55, while Gary Ceragioli of Woodfords was 15 seconds behind in third.

Mantynen, who resides in Woodfords, led all women to the finish in a course record time of 41:11. Kathy Ceragioli was the second woman in 41:52.

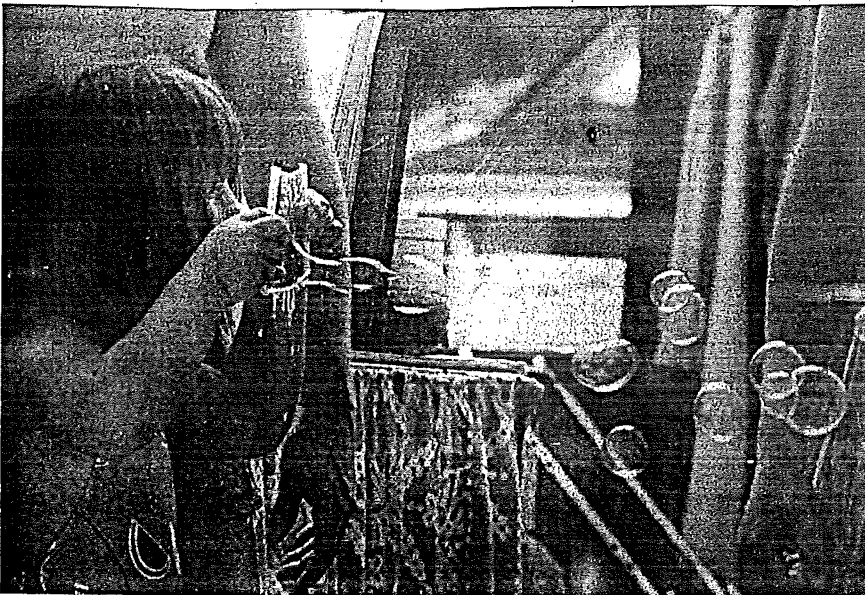
Suzy Niemeyer of Minden was the third woman overall and first in the 40-49 age category

with a 46:12 clocking.

For Niemeyer, the race served as preparation for the U.S. Triathlon Federation national championships Sept. 27 at Hilton Head, S.C. She qualified for the national event by her triumph at the Sacramento Triathlon last month.

Minden's Gina Jenkins, 17, was the top female finisher in the two-mile run. The Douglas High senior crossed the finish in 17:04, followed by Sandy Celio in 17:36.

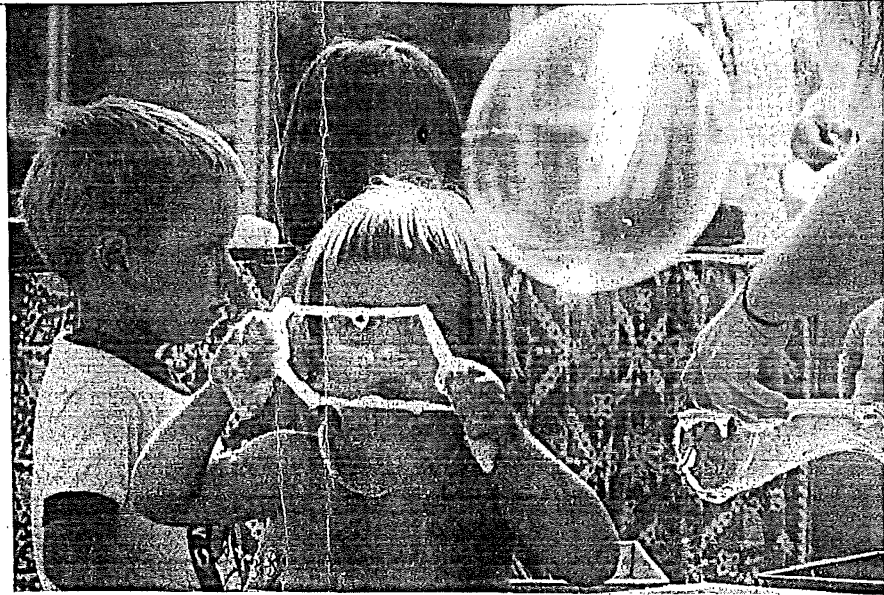
Larry Stone was the overall two-mile winner in 11:32. Gary Brooks ran 12:10 for second place, just ahead of Greg Hayes in 12:48 and Jason Duran in 12:53.



Fun times

The annual Markleeville Country Faire offered a variety of activities for fun-seekers Saturday and Sunday, including more than

60 arts and crafts and flea market concessions, even street dancing and a tug-o-war.



In the middle of all the hoopla, young Breana, 5, left, and Marlin, 3, found a source

of entertainment at a bubble-blowing concession Saturday. R-C photos by Dave Price

You said it!



Should voluntary drug testing be used at the workplace?



ROBERTA ANDERSON
Nurses aide

"Yeah, it might help them. When you apply for a job, if they ask if you want to volunteer, I think you should because then they know. Maybe they will get better employees worth their trouble."



CINDY HENDRICKSON
Waitress

"No, it's an infringement of our rights."



TOM BIGELOW
Engineer

"Basically I do. The company I work for, we do have drug testing. It's required. It's in the Bay Area. I think most people are willing to volunteer for drug testing."



RON CAMPBELL
Store owner

"I'd go for it, yeah, because of the problem we have in the country with drugs. Possibly, it's a solution to resolve it."



CAROL MURDOCK
Teacher

"I'd say no. I really think that's an invasion of your privacy. Your job performance is what counts and they can judge by that."



DOUG FITZGERALD
retired

"I'm opposed to government intervention (drug testing for military, federal employees) in a lot of things, like controlling our lives."

The Record-Courier 8-28-86
Resort offers classes

Sorensen's Resort has lined up two fly tying and rod building courses to be held this fall in Hope Valley.

J.E. Warren of Woodfords, owner of the Horse Feathers rod building company, will instruct both classes, which have been scheduled for Sept. 19-21 and Oct. 6-9 at the Hope Valley resort.

Warren also will offer demonstrations on casting for anglers, who will have time both in the morning and evening to venture off to nearby fishing areas.

"Alpine County is a fly fisherman's dream," Warren said. "It has wide-open spaces and plenty of fishing spots — every kind there is."

All materials will be supplied for the fly tying class. The cost, including three nights lodging and meals at Sorensen's, begins at \$180 (per person, double occupancy). The course will be \$50 without meals and lodging.

All materials will be on hand for the four-day rod building course, which will cost between \$422-437, depending on the type of graphite rod chosen. This course, without food and lodging, will cost \$200-215.

Participants are invited to bring their personal fishing gear to either course.

Reservations for the classes may be made by contacting Sorensen's at (916) 694-2203.

Federal money eyed for Fredericksburg clean-up

by TREVA ZELLER
Staff writer

If it can gain support from private land owners, the Nevada Soil Conservation District plans to seek an estimated \$45,000 in federal emergency funds to salvage areas scorched in last month's Fredericksburg fire.

Wayne Imgard, soil conservationist with the district's Minden office, said he expects to hear from four or five affected property owners by this week whether they want to match 20 percent of the costs to re-seed their land.

Before applying for the funds, Imgard also must seek financial

backing from the Alpine County Board of Supervisors. The board, which meets Tuesday, would have to "sponsor" the property owner's 20 percent to ensure that it would be paid.

The cost for re-planting on the low-lying acres of mostly private land is estimated at \$50,000, and property owners would have to come up with approximately \$10,000. The landowners also may lend equipment or labor toward that amount.

About 20 nearby property owners affected by the fire damage, are also being asked if they want to participate in the program.

"This is their (the property owner's) best shot, and we're not guaranteed the federal government will act pleasingly either," Imgard said.

Private landowners had about 640 acres of land damaged in the fire, a bulk of which is considered critical deer feeding range in the winter.

A deer population of about 300 feed in the area in the winter and could move to lower ranch fields without adequate brush.

Planting new brush in the private areas is also critical to guard against erosion and damage to the water table, according to Imgard, who added

that some damage already has occurred. Dust problems and damage to water will continue, he added.

"The last storm carried a lot of sediment and ash over the roads," Imgard said. "It plugged culverts and went into some of (Chris) Gansberg's fields — so we have already seen some damage and it's just going to get considerably worse."

However, nothing will be done for the upper elevations at this time, according to Imgard, because of lack of support and funding. The area is expected to cause damage to a watershed used for domestic use and by wildlife.

The project for mopping up the Fredericksburg fire is being given greater priority than the two-year-old Indian Creek fire salvage because of its more critical soil for supporting brush eaten by deer, according to Imgard.

The state of California reimburses the Nevada Conservation District office, which takes Alpine County and Mono County under its jurisdiction, according to Imgard.

Under the plan, seeding would cost an estimated \$50 per acre. Experts want to avoid allowing growth of the natural cheat grass, which would be more of a

fire hazard. If the project gets off the ground, rehabilitation could begin by November with completion of the project by May. Some brush could be planted by the spring.

The fire burned July 16-19, destroying 3,400 acres of private and public lands. The area included lands under the jurisdiction of California Fish and Game, the federal Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service.

The California Fish and Game Service and the U.S. Forest Service would also use the program for a total of 190 acres. The BLM with about 65 acres will not do any work at this time.

Resort to

The Record-Courier
8-28-86

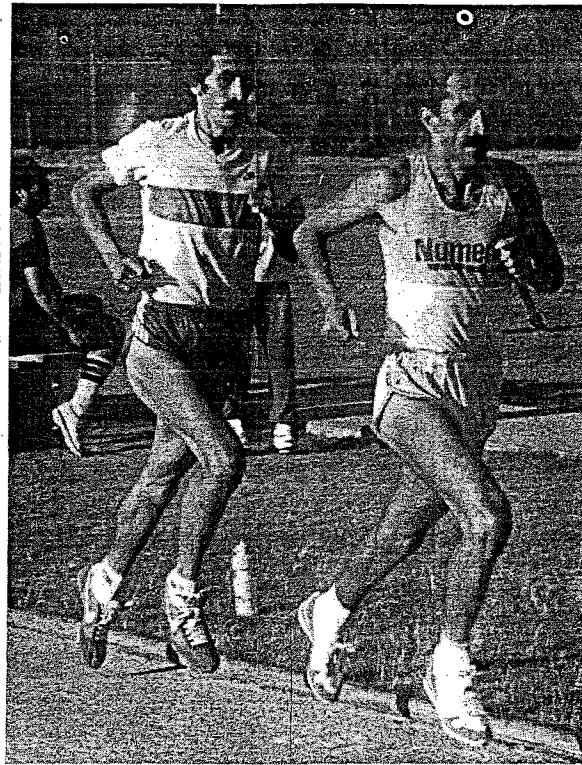
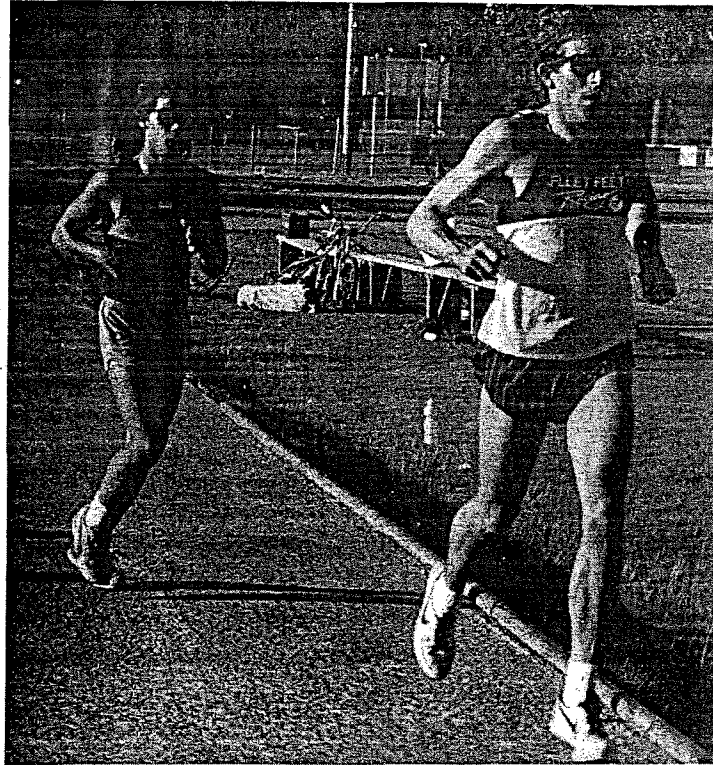
Sept. 7

Coming up soon will be Sorensen's Annual Birthday Barbecue, which will raise support funds for the Alpine County Volunteer Firefighters and Alpine Children's Center. Sunday, Sept. 7 is slated for the chicken and ribs barbecue dinner and outdoor dance from noon and on into the afternoon.

The Sweet Potato band from Amador County will play all afternoon including country, rock and swing from their wide selection of music. Volleyball, horseshoes, hiking and fishing are activities people can enjoy during the day. Lodging is also available for those who wish to make a weekend of it.

Sorensen's Resort — historic settlement just east of the Highway 88/89 junction and 15 miles south of Lake Tahoe — features 20 housekeeping cabins on 165 acres and along the West Fork of the Carson River. Sorensen's is celebrating its 93rd Birthday!

For more information, contact Sorensen's Resort at (916) 694-2203.



On the run

Mike Lannoy of Kirkwood, left, ran to a fifth-place finish at the 13th annual High Sierra 10-K last Thursday on the South Tahoe Intermediate School Tartan track. Lannoy, 33, completed the 25-lap race with a 33:51 clocking. Former Olympian and University of Nevada-Reno star Domingo Tibadulza, leading on the right, outdistanced his brother, Miguel, to win the race for the second year in a row. Tibadulza's winning time was 31:12. R-C photo

10,000-Year-Old Find in Sierra

Dig Uncovers Prehistoric Hunting Site

By Dale Champion

Archeologists digging in the High Sierra have uncovered evidence of what may be the oldest prehistoric structure ever found in North America.

Those involved in the discovery of a clay floor and hearth near Eb-betts Pass, 150 miles east of San Francisco, estimate the hunting site is at least 10,000 years old.

Until now, a find at Hells Gap, Wyo., believed to be 8000 years old, has ranked as the oldest known man-made structure on the continent.

The new discovery was made three weeks ago by scientists with Peak and Associates Inc. of Sacramento, who are conducting archeological explorations before expansion of the Spicer Meadow Reservoir in Stanislaus National Forest floods the area.

The Alpine County site, south of Highway 4, is at a 6600-foot elevation, much higher than where spear points, estimated at 12,000 years old, were found last year at Clarks Flat, also in Alpine County.

Clarks Flat, 35 miles west of the new dig, has an elevation of 1500 feet.

Archeologist Melinda Peak, co-owner of Peak and Associates, said the earthen floor was found at a depth of about eight feet in soil on the edge of a meadow in the Highland Creek drainage. Found next to the floor was a semi-circle of large granite rocks with the remains of charcoal.

The site also yielded a number of stone points used for spearing game, stone implements and rock carvings.

Peak said the carvings consist of a series of circles with radiating lines.

"We're estimating that the site was occupied 10,000 years ago," Peak said. "But we really can't say for sure until charcoal flakes have been carbon dated."

She said specimens will be processed for dating in a Zurich, Switzerland, laboratory, with results expected in November.

Besides offering the promise of containing the continent's oldest known structure, the discovery also could establish occupation of the High Sierra by prehistoric man much earlier than previously known, Peak said.

"Other finds have indicated that man occupied the western Sierra Nevada up to high elevations 5000 to 6000 years ago. So evidence that he was in the same area 10,000 years ago would be a big jump backwards."

Peak said that stone chips, remnants of prehistoric tool making, were found on the surface of the Highland Creek dig. A crew of 28 field workers spent 15 days excavat-

ing the site, one of seven being investigated before the Spicer Meadow Reservoir expansion floods them.



BY ASSOCIATED PRESS

Archeologist Dan Elliott at Alpine County remains of structure that may be oldest in North America

Tahoe Daily Tribune

Aug. 29, 1986

Ancient hunting site discovered in Sierra

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (UPI) — Archeologists report that they have found a hunting site at least 10,000 years old in the High Sierra, including evidence of what may be the oldest prehistoric structure ever found in North America.

Scientists with Peak and Associates Inc., discovered the clay floor and hearth three weeks ago while conducting archeological explorations before expansion of the Spicer

Meadow Reservation in the Stanislaus National Forest floods the area.

Until now, a find at Hells Gap, Wyo., believed to be 8,000 years old ranked as the oldest known man-made structure on the continent, although spear points estimated to be 12,000 years old have been found in California.

Archologist Melinda Peak, co-owner of Peak and Associates, said an earthen floor

was found at a depth of about 8 feet in soil on the edge of a meadow near Ebbetts Pass, 150 miles east of San Francisco. Found next to the floor was a semi-circle of large granite rocks with the remains of charcoal.

The site also yielded a number of stone points used for spearing game, stone implements and rock carvings, she said Thursday.

Alpine County fire chief explains 'slow' response

Alpine County Fire Chief Dave Zellmer said this week that several minutes elapsed before his volunteer crews were called to the scene of the Fredricksburg fire.

"We don't know exactly what time the fire was ignited," Zellmer said. But according to witnesses, the blaze may have been going 10-15 minutes before his department was called, he added.

"There was a time lapse between when it was ignited and when we were called in."

Although Carson Valley residents could see smoke rising for some time in the afternoon of July 16, the Alpine County volunteers knew nothing of the fire until they received a call apparently several minutes after it

started, Zellmer said.

Gusty winds quickly spread the fire and blew smoke toward Carson Valley and away from Markleeville and Woodfords where the nearest Alpine County fire equipment is based.

When the department did receive the call at 1:37 p.m., Zellmer said he reached the site within six minutes with Forest Service crews arriving just minutes after that. Equipment arrived about 1:44 p.m. when Douglas County crews also were called in, Zellmer said.

Zellmer said the delay in Alpine County's receiving a call may explain why Douglas County fire crews seemed to stand by several minutes before they were called in by authorities. The site is out of Douglas Coun-

ty's jurisdiction but within 15 minutes from Minden-Gardnerville.

"I'm sure there were people in Carson Valley who knew there was a fire going on when we didn't know," Zellmer said.

Alpine County volunteers worked to save structures, mainly the Bruns ranch home, along Fredricksburg Road with the aid of Douglas County. Zellmer said jurisdiction turned over to the Forest Service when the fire spread to forest land.

Although several agencies last week examined the procedures for fighting this fire as a matter of routine, Zellmer added that he doubted anything different could have been done regarding the Fredericksburg fire.

31, 1986 • The Record-Courier • Gardnerville, Nevada 5

Thanks

Editor:

Our homes were involved in the recent fire in Alpine County.

The firefighters and volunteers, headed by Jim Nelson of the U.S. Forest Service, risked both life and limb to save our homes, our grasslands, and our forest. Their around-the-clock vigilance and extremely hard work did not go unnoticed.

We would like to offer our sincere thanks to all the people involved in the control of the blaze. The organization, efficiency, and manner of everyone we came in contact with (in particular D. Session and John Singleton) were much appreciated.

TOM AND LISA EMBREE
ROGER AND BETTY OLSON
July 24

Aug
31

Prehistoric Dwelling Found in U.S.

By Mark A. Stein
Los Angeles Times Service

SAN FRANCISCO — Archaeologists searching for cultural artifacts in a remote Sierra Nevada valley have unearthed a prehistoric settlement they believe may be the oldest example of a human shelter in North America.

Digging at the proposed site of a hydroelectric project outside the Alpine County town of Bear Valley, 140 miles (226 kilometers) northeast of San Francisco, workers found what appears to be a floor and fireplace built roughly 10,000 years ago.

Archaeologists from a private company, Peak and Associates of Sacramento, California, made the find.

If the antiquity of the find is supported by radiocarbon dating it would be the oldest structure on the North American continent. An 8,000-year-old site near Hells Gap,

Wyoming, is now the oldest known structure, according to Robert Bettinger, an associate professor of anthropology at the University of California at Davis.

While the new find could be the oldest example of a human shelter on the continent, it would not be the oldest sign of human activity. Professor Bettinger and Vance Haynes, a University of Arizona geologist, said that there have been many 10,000- to 12,000-year-old discoveries of tools and other evidence of human presence from Nova Scotia to the Mojave Desert.

In addition, French scientists last summer found evidence that humans have lived in South America for at least 32,000 years. This suggests that humans at least passed through North America on their way from Asia over what is now the Bering Strait.

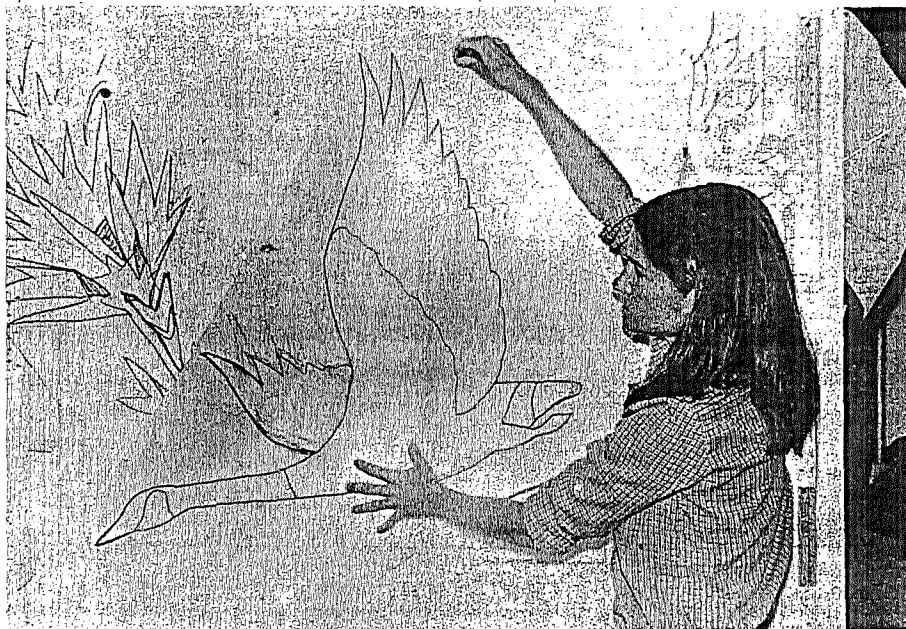
Anthropologists reacted cautiously to the announcement of the

Sierra Nevada discovery, and most withheld comment until more details emerge. In the past, potentially promising new finds have been discounted after detailed study.

But if the find is confirmed, it may add greatly to knowledge about prehistoric human activity, according to Professor Bettinger. "If it is a house floor," he said, "it would be the oldest house floor in North America almost by a factor of two."

In addition, Professor Bettinger said, "it would tell us about settlement patterns in a time we don't know much about settlement patterns."

Scientists could learn such things as how people organized their lives, how often they moved from one area to another and whether they regularly migrated back to the high-altitude site after the area's heavy snowpack cleared in the spring.



Hopkins puts enthusiasm into bettering community

By WILLA OLDHAM
Appeal Correspondent

There are lots of reasons why 32-year-old Heidi Hopkins has chosen to live in Markleeville for the past four years. There are a number of reasons why people, knowing her background, are surprised that she has chosen to come to a small town on the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada range.

For Hopkins it is important to her to be known now as a busy community oriented person making a contribution. She said she hopes these contributions will "help the community in which I live to mature and grow."

"I see myself as being the moss between the stones; doing the kind of work within the community that will kind of pull it together," she said.

Hopkins wears a number of different hats, acquired since she arrived. Formerly on the arts council and the arts commission of Alpine County, she now serves as coordinator for the recently established Markleeville Art Gallery, which is open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursdays through Sundays.

Membership in the Historical Society of Alpine County was a stepping stone to her present position on the historical commission.

When there was danger of desecrating Hope Valley, Hopkins stepped in to organize the Friends of Hope Valley. They came to the defense of the renowned beauty spot on Highway 88 by first blocking the establishment of a gravel pit in its pristine area and more recently by convincing the Sierra Pacific Power Company of Nevada and the Sacramento Municipal Utility District that they did not need a second inter-tie corridor through the Sierra. Hopkins said there was already one that would suffice, sparing not only Hope Valley but the unspoiled beauty of sections of Alpine County.

When the "Alpine Enterprise" lost the editor it was Hopkins who contributed at the volunteer level for three years. Though unfamiliar with functions required of an editor, she was willing to accept the challenge. She took on the small town newspaper that has a large subscriber list from the Bay Area and Southern California.

Challenges stimulate Hopkins and have been a part of her life since she was born in Carmel, Calif. and lived in Big Sur as the middle child of five siblings whose parents were independently wealthy.

Her paternal grandfather, the nephew of Mark Hopkins the western railroad tycoon, showed his own ability by inventing the refrigerated railroad car.

Maternally, Hopkins is descended from the La-Conte's. When the University of California, Berkeley was founded, Hopkins alma mater, her family came West to become noted professors. They were highly involved with John Muir in the making of California history and supporting the environmental movement from its inception.

"When I went to Berkeley to school I became a physics major with an emphasis on astronomy," recalled Hopkins. "After four years I discovered that was not an avenue I wanted to pursue. It did give me a certain confidence and understanding of the scientific world, but it was not where my heart lay."

While searching for her "heart's desire" at the university, Hopkins joined the U.S. Women's Bicycling Team. Team players are chosen annually from the top women racers in the country after strenuous and frequent racing events across the country. Hopkins had only planned to enjoy the fine bicycle her father had given her as a gift until friends, watching her ride, encouraged her to go into competition.

Her first world championship 40-miler was a disappointment.

"I was racing at San Cristobal, near Caracas, Venezuela," she said. "A half mile from the finish, there was a crash that blocked me and put me really down the line as I was about to finish."

A year later she was in Germany on a team of five from the U.S. The course was flat and not as interesting as the mountainous work Hopkins was used to.

"The next year I took off backpacking, instead of riding," Hopkins said. "The fourth year I decided I was going for it. The last race was the biggest hill climb I have ever seen. It was in the Alps near Mont Blanc. The climb was so bad. In the first lap we probably dropped half of the 60 women in the pack and the second lap was no better. My teammate won — Beth Heiden — sister of Eric Heiden. She was the one woman I could never beat, I was second to her all year long which was really frustrating for me."

Not prone to talk of her successes, Hopkins does admit that she was the first woman who, in her first year of competition, made the national team and then went on to the world championships.

9/3/86
Nevada Appeal



FORMER INTERNATIONAL CYCLIST, Heidi Hopkins, above, checks her wheel carefully before taking a spin around Markleeville. Hop-

"Inga Thompson of Reno, who is now the rising star in women's bicycling, is the only other woman who has done that."
Nowadays, Hopkins substitutes her 40-mile a day bicycle ride to running 25 miles a week. "I don't have the time for biking with my other activities," she said.
Her activities include a continuation of the sail making she and a friend started in the Bay Area but scaled down. Now Hopkins handles the designing and making of banners, street hangings, flags, pennants and accessories for wind surfing.
She said she enjoys cross-country skiing where

kins, coordinator of the Markleeville Art Gallery, creates designs for banners, flags and pennants for commission in her spare time, top left photo.

there are no tracks in front of her, hiking, and backpacking. She has almost achieved the goal she set for herself this summer and frequently her outings have been alone.
Summer has seen her exploring the Arc Dome area of the Toiyabe range off Highway 50 near Austin; hiking the Big Sur country with her family, going in at Twin Lakes and out at Leavitt Meadows in the Bishop area. She is planning two more trips, one to the Bishop area for mountain climbing, the other in the Mammoth Lakes area traveling into the southern section of Yosemite Valley.

Photos by Willa Oldham

The Revel-Courier 9-4-86

Sorensen's celebrates. The Sorensen's annual Birthday Barbecue will raise funds for the Alpine County Volunteer Firemen and Alpine Children's Center. The event will be held Sept. 7 beginning at noon and will feature barbecued chicken and ribs, and an outdoor dance. The Sweet Potato band will offer country, rock and swing music. Volleyball, hiking and fishing are available. Sorensen's, which offers lodging all year round, is celebrating its 93rd birthday. Information, (916) 694-2203.

The Record Courier

Sept 11, 1986

Art show benefits Hope Valley group

Watercolors of Hope Valley will be featured at a benefit for the Friends of Hope Valley. The informal event, with guitar music, complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a no-host wine bar, will take place on Sunday, Sept. 21, 2 - 5 p.m., at Sorensen's Resort in Hope Valley.

The Hope Valley watercolors are by Lady Jill Mueller, a watercolorist and art instructor from Yerington. She focuses on scenes from the Hope Valley,

Yosemite and Mammoth areas, and shows her work in galleries in Sutter Creek, Mammoth and at Sorensen's Resort.

Her Hope Valley collection will be displayed at the event. Fifty percent of the proceeds from the sale of these works will benefit the Friends of Hope Valley.

A group of Alpine County residents formed the Friends of Hope Valley when Hope Valley

was proposed as a possible corridor for a major powerline connecting the Sacramento Municipal Utility District and Nevada's Sierra Pacific Power Co.

The founders of the group claim the valley, which has no utilities, services or development beyond a few ranch cabins and which is used year-round by recreationalists, was not appropriate for use as a utility corridor. The powerline's pro-

ponents eventually did drop the Hope Valley alternative from further consideration.

A spokesperson for the group said that since the successful blocking of the powerline, the group has turned its attention to long-range planning for the valley which may include purchases of open space for dedication to public recreational use.

The public is invited. For information, call Sorensen's Resort at (916) 694-2203.

They tripped around England

Did you ever have to write one of those back to school reports titled "What I did during summer vacation"? Well, 16-year-old Jenne Walsh could fill a journal with the memories of her European holiday.

She and her mother Barbara, who works hard the rest of the year as a speech therapist for Douglas County Schools, spent an exciting summer tripping around Great Britain. They had so many relatives there that they had to keep moving from house to house to see them all. They visited with about 50 different previously unknown kinfolk and just as many historic tourist attractions.

They saw bunches of castles, abbeys, cathedrals and churches. They were all huge, even in the small towns, and had beautiful detailed carvings, like the stone-etched animals adorning the walls of the Lincoln Cathedral.

Jenne loved shopping in London best of all and said the huge Harrod's Department Store was unbelievable. The first floor food aisles contained every edible you could imagine. The many pubs they visited had good food, but it was mostly fried. They rode in the underground tube subway in London and also watched bowling on the green and cricket (which was "boring"). They went to a play and just missed the Queen. (Fortunately, as Barb's luggage hadn't arrived and she was still in her grungies.)

Barbara loved Eyam, in Derbyshire, where the northward movement of the plague was stopped. Also the Bemish Open Air Museum which shows the history of coal mining and how life was for the lower and middle classes. Their visit to the extremely opulent and stately home called "Chatsworth

Fish Springs Flier

by LINDA MONOHAN

House" demonstrated the extreme class differences of England past.

Barb had not yet recovered from her jet lag when husband Tom took off on his motorcycle for his own style of vacation—tripping around the Pacific Northwest and the Canadian Expo. That's quite a change of pace from Tom's regular daily routine as a computer analyst for the county. But, you see, there's this wild side to Tom when he jumps on his Harley and takes to the road. Sounds like the Walshes are having some fun.

ON THE MOVE

A big Fish springs FAREWELL to John and Teri Sherwood who've lived over on Carlson in the big white house with the solar panels and satellite dish for the past three years. Teri already "flew the coop" (as a stewardess) to St. Louis and John leaves soon to work for the Hilton Hotel back there. We wish them happiness.

Ray Watley now joins Bob and Sharon Grissom in "RACES"—Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service. As members of this organization, they and their ham radios will be activated during local natural disasters, such as floods or earthquakes. That's great, we want to keep all communications in Fish Springs open and clear.

The Grissoms also have an anemometer to measure wind speed. They clocked a gusty 46 miles per hour last Sunday.

No wonder my sunflowers are eating the dirt! Norbert had to turn off the windmill because it was overflowing its 2,000 gallon

storage tank, even with all the irrigation spigots turned on. Alas, it's just our traditional "changing of the seasons" howl...

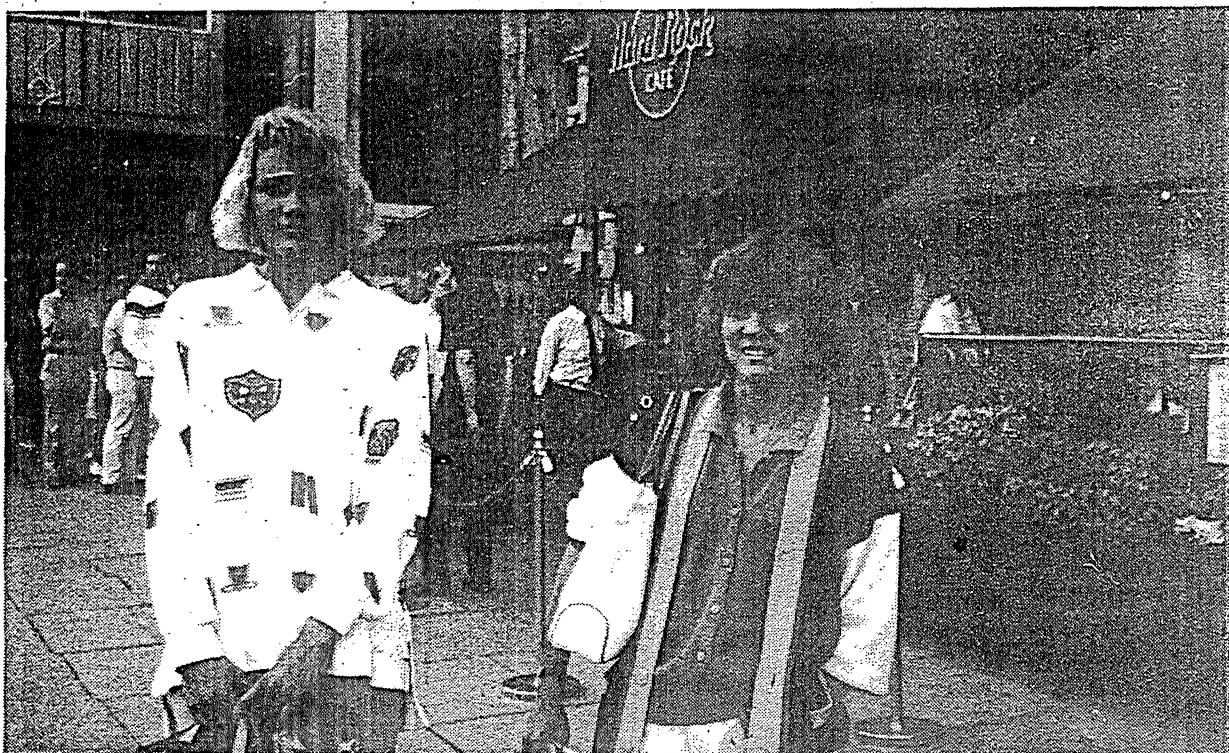
TID BITS

Tony Watkins tells me there's some good stuff he'll be auctioning off this Saturday morning at the airport. The Douglas County and School District's Surplus Auction will start at 10 a.m. or Sept. 20, but you can preview the items (which include trucks, cars, office equipment and a forklift) from 8 til 10 that morning.

Tony also predicts that same night, Sept. 20, Fish Springs will get its first tomato-killing freeze. He's lived here for a long time, perhaps he's got some inside dope...Unlike Steve Fisher, a newcomer to our area, who's working desperately hard and fast to complete his home over on Burro Court before winter arrives. The little motorhome the Fishers live in is beginning to get cold, but Steve still thinks our hard freeze won't hit 'til Oct. 1. But what does a southern California boy know about winter anyway?!

Susie Hale said her zucchini already froze, but the tomatoes are still alive. Don Hale believes our first frost date will be Sept. 18, his birthday! He also shared an old Indian secret with me—brew pieces of willow bark into a tea and then use the fluid to water young transplants—(like Steve Fisher!). There's some special chemical agent released in the willow juices that accelerates the growth of new starts.

THANKS to our neighbors for not calling the cops on our loud party last Saturday night. Our Country-Swing group came over for an end-of-summer dance on the driveway. We were a little bit rowdy, but heck, that down-home, stompin' music frees up the spirit!



TRIP. Jenne and Barb Walsh had their photo taken by a passerby at the famous "Hard Rock Cafe" in London.

Sept 18, 1986

The Record-Courier

Harold Walker

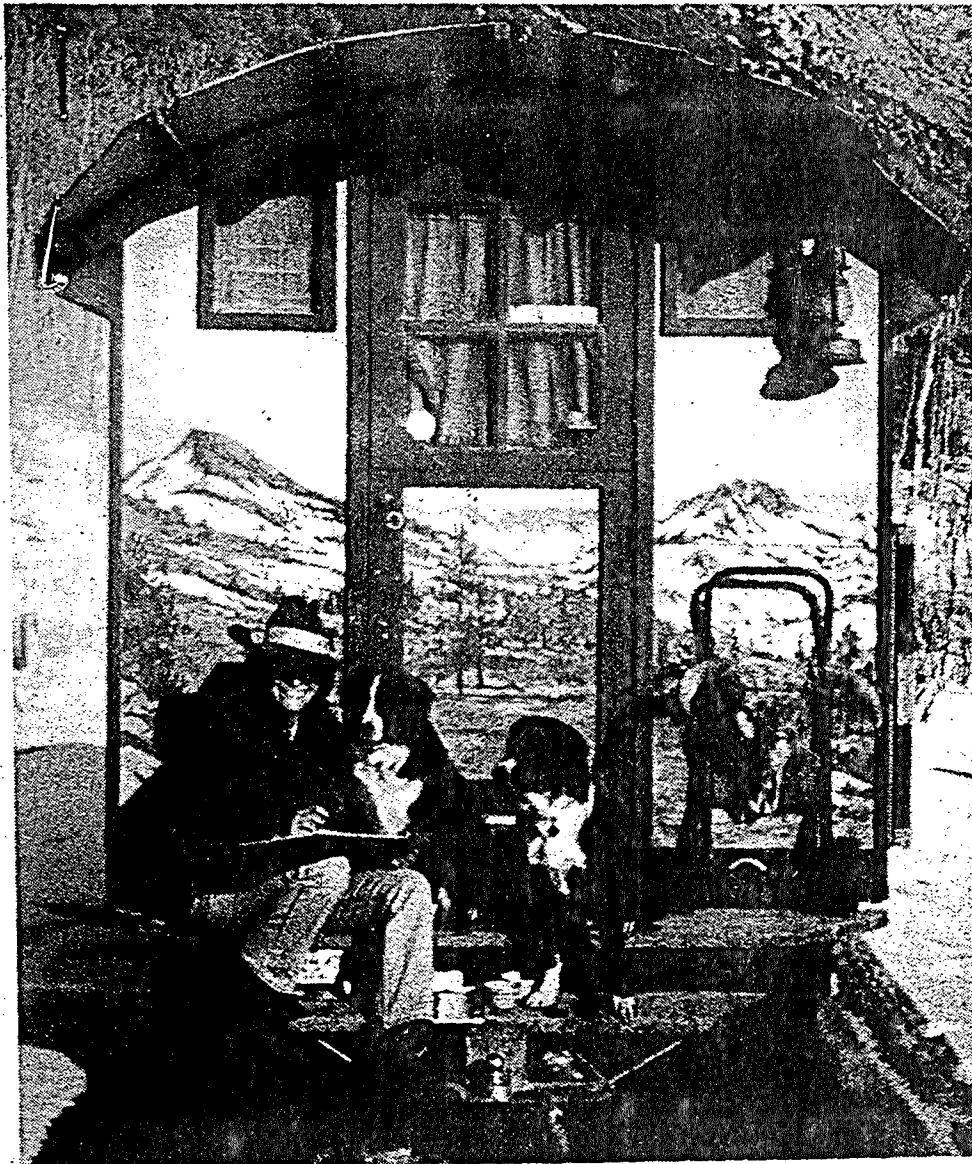
Graveside services were held Monday for Harold Walker, a lifetime resident of Woodfords. He was 54.

Walker died Sept. 11 in a Reno hospital. He was born Dec. 19, 1931, in Coleville. He was an Army veteran and served in Korea.

Walker was a laborer for a local construction company.

Survivors include his wife, Marylene; son, Harold; daughters Lucinda and Mimi Walker, and Kathy Vann; and brother Eugene Walker, all of Woodfords; sister Ailena Turtle of Carson City; brother Charles Walker of Gardnerville; five grandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Walker was buried in Kingsbury Cemetery on Kingsbury Grade. FitzHenry Funeral Home in Carson City was in charge of arrangements.



FOR SALE. Watercolors of the Hope Valley area will be on display and sold at the Friends of Hope Valley event this weekend. Artist Jill Mueller, shown here with her trailer that she painted with a Hope Valley scene, will sell and display her work. Details, see calendar.

Event in Hope Valley. The Friends of Hope Valley will sponsor an afternoon event Sunday, Sept. 21, 2-5 p.m., at Sorensen's Resort in Hope Valley. Watercolors of the area by Yerington artist Lady Jill Mueller will be displayed and sold. Fifty percent of the proceeds from the sale will benefit the Friends. Live music, complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a no-host wine bar are also planned. Information, (916) 694-2203.

Wine Country benefit slated for Turtle Rock

Wine Country in the High Country III will be presented by Villa Gigli Press of Markleeville and J. Pedroncelli Winery of Geyserville, with the proceeds to be donated to the Alpine County Parents' Club Scholarship Fund.

The art exhibition, wine tasting, music by Eric Jung of Bear Valley, and dance perfor-

mance by Ann Robinson's Dance Company of Gardnerville will take place Saturday, Oct. 11, from 5 to 7 p.m., at the Turtle Rock Park Community Center in Markleeville, Calif.

Jim and Phyllis Pedroncelli, along with their pilot and his wife, will fly in to the

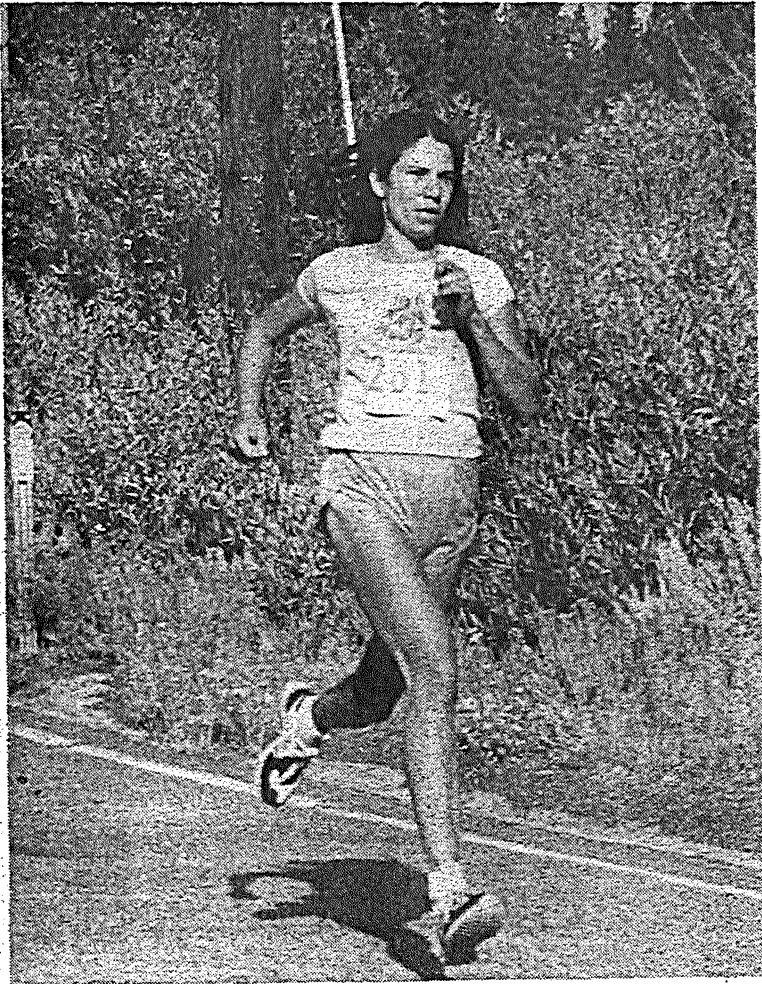
Markleeville landing strip, as they did last year, bringing their excellent Dry Creek Valley wines for the wine tasting.

Admission is \$7.50 per person and includes a souvenir wine glass. Door prizes and raffled gifts, appropriate to the theme Wine Country in the High Country will be awarded.



EVENT. Phyllis Pedroncelli; left, Ruggero Gigli and Jim Pedroncelli will be at the third Wine Country in the High Country benefit. The

Pedroncellis will fly to Markleeville for the event. Gina Gigli photo



The winner

Linda Mantynen of Woodfords sped away with top honors in the Silver State Classic Half Marathon Sunday at Bowers Mansion. Mantynen emerged as the overall women's winner as she covered the 13.1-mile distance in a time of 1 hour, 27 minutes and 13

seconds. Kathy Ceragioli, also of Woodfords, was close behind the runner-up position with a 1:28:49 clocking. Another Valley entry, Coco Crum, finished behind the two front-runners to place third in the women's 30-39 year old age class. R-C photo

Alpine 'artigiano' loves life

by HEIDI HOPKINS
Special to the R-C

Ruggero is not just a survivor, he prevails," said Hank Murdock, good friend of Ruggero Gigli of Markleeville. Ruggero's life bears this out in full force.

Ruggero, familiar to many in the Carson Valley, is coordinator of the Wine Country-High Country Pedroncelli wine tasting being held this Saturday at Turtle Rock Park in Alpine County. He is an art promoter, wine connoisseur, culinary expert and the "artigiano" (artisan) partner of his artist wife, Gina Gigli, formerly of Carson City.

Their home and art studio perches on the hill overlooking the small town of Markleeville. Close enough, according to Ruggero, to keep in touch with the comings and goings of the town but separated enough to allow them the quiet they need to pursue their busy lives.

And they are busy. Over the past seven years the Giglis have built up a thriving art business, producing multicolored intaglio prints with a wine theme. They produce and sell hand-pulled, limited edition intaglio prints to corporate collectors including Harrah's Tahoe, Inglenook, Christian Brother, Pedroncelli, San Martin, Martini, Sequoia Grove, Pine Ridge, Sterling, Dry Creek, Ventana. The artist-artigiano partners have also created wine label designs and hand-pulled menus to expand their business and complement their intaglio prints.

The two excel at innovative, conceptual ideas which combine their talents and promote their art, their business and their personal satisfaction.

Recently, they conceived the idea of giving a "cena delle grazie" for the Gigli's corporate collectors as a way of saying thanks for the support. Both Ruggero and Gina worked on the event which was held in the great hall of Justin and Bonnie Meyer's Silver Oak winery in the Napa Valley.

Gina prepared the grapevine and red rose wreaths which surrounded the featured wines on the table. She also spent several days planning the seating arrangements for the 60 people invited to the event.

Ruggero prepared the food: Antipasto eaten on the terrace overlooking the Napa Valley; his locally-renowned Lasagne al Forno which he creates entirely from scratch (including the pasta); heart of palm salad "to cleanse the mouth"; and a dessert which amazed the sophisticated guests with its elegance and simplicity — dried Sonoma figs marinated in a 1980 Silver Oak cabernet sauvignon, surrounded by fresh Sonoma walnuts and covered with a chocolate fondue. This last delicacy was accompanied by Sonoma pears and Italian parmesan cheese. Each phase of the dinner was served with appropriate wines selected from the various wineries represented at the dinner.

"It was a memorable dinner," recounted Gina. "Many of the people we invited are rivals of each other. Our dinner brought them together in the most marvelous way."

The event marked the culmination of several years of intensive work. And it represented, in a way, the essence of Ruggero's philosophy of life.

"Living," said Ruggero, "is to try every single day to do something for somebody. Unhappiness and confusion are based on egoistic thinking — you want something you don't have. Instead, you should give what you do have."

One would never guess from eating at Ruggero's table — always delightful, always delicious, always elegant, if simple — that once he knew hunger in its literal form. Yet his childhood in Italy was a world apart from the world of success and sophistication he now enjoys.

Ruggero was born into a poor family in Borgo San Lorenzo, a town about 13 miles from Florence, Italy. His mother was a chef in a pension; his father bought fruit from the farmers and sold it in the town.

As a small boy, Ruggero would watch his father count the apples and pears he intended to purchase by a quick estimate of the number of fruit on a tree and a simple multiplication of the number of trees per row and the number of rows in the orchard. His father seldom erred in these calculations, said Ruggero.

"Look through your eyes and multiply in your mind," the father told the son. "You have no need for pencil and paper."

And Ruggero, at age 6 or 7, accepted this as a challenge. Today, Ruggero is described by Murdock as having "an uncanny business sense." One cannot doubt that it began in the Italian orchards, when little Ruggero tagged along with a father who had learned to use his eyes and his mind to conduct his business, unencumbered by books, pens, paper and rules.

Ruggero's schooling came to an abrupt halt in the 5th grade with the onset of war and the German occupation of Italy.

During the war years, Ruggero watched his plump mother grow skinny as she pressed her

small portions of food on Ruggero and his brother.

"My mother always makes the best of any situation," said Ruggero. She managed to feed not only her own immediate family, but also the other relatives who would join the Giglis for the noontime meal.

Ruggero learned to fend for himself, jumping the 6-foot fence of a rich neighbor to retrieve the table scraps thrown out for the chickens.

"I never took a chicken, though," he proudly declared.

As the war reached its climax, the family fled the town entirely. The 10-year-old Ruggero watched the retreating troops kill everything in their path. At one point, the family joined another family in digging a ditch which they covered with chestnut branches. During the day, they huddled in the ditch; at night they ventured out for water. They had no food. They spent about 10 days in these conditions while the German army passed by.

"I was hungry," said Ruggero, still with a tremor in his voice. "What developed in me then was the idea of not wasting anything. I feel sorry for people who do waste things."

Ruggero's father, a diabetic, died during the

war. When the war was over, Ruggero did not return to school. Instead, he went to work to help support himself and his family. At the age of 11, Ruggero's fantastically varied and successful work career began.

His first job was sifting sand along the banks of a river for use in construction. After a year or so, he decided to try something more to his liking. He went to work for a baker, delivering bread from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. He delivered the bread personally to each home, riding a tricycle loaded with as much as 200 pounds of bread. He looks back now with humor at the time he fell asleep at the wheel and fell over into a ditch. Fortunately, it was at the end of the day and the bread basket was empty.

Delivering bread was not what Ruggero had in mind for himself. With the permission of the baker (and without pay) Ruggero worked determinedly from 3 a.m. until delivery time at 8 a.m., learning the art of bread baking. His appetite for learning was as insatiable at 13 as it is now.

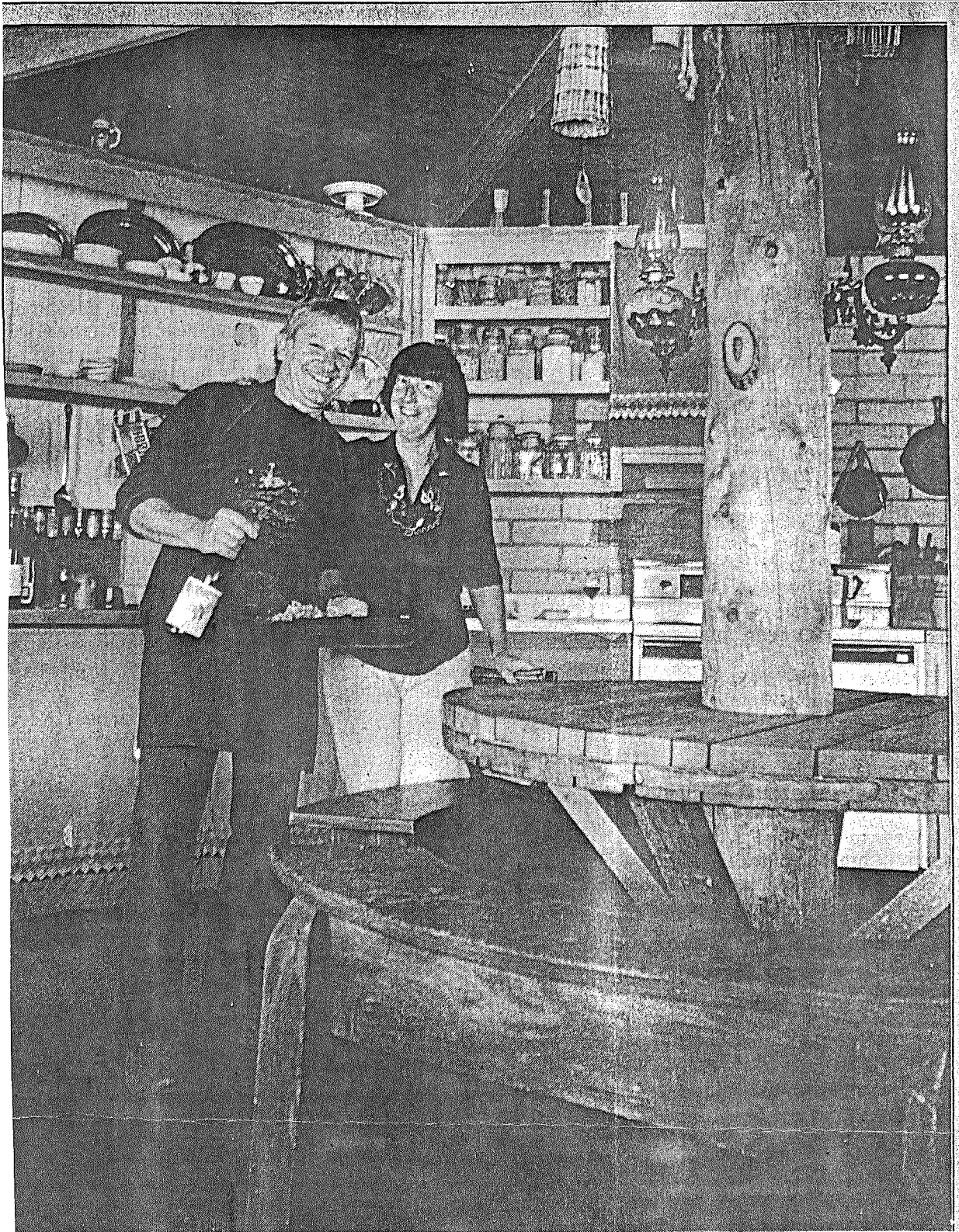
At 16, having learned to bake, Ruggero set off for Florence. There he got a position with a famous baker, Giuseppe Sartoni. Sartoni even-

Continued to page 11

10-9-86
R-C



THRIVING. The Giglis have built up a thriving art business, based on Gina's intaglio prints. Ruggero is handpulling a print off his press. They also do menus and wine labels.



CHEF. Ruggero Gigli and his wife Gina are shown in their Markleeville kitchen. Ruggero is a noted cook, and loves to put together authentic Italian dishes, particularly those that go well with good California wine. They

organize the annual Wine Country-High Country benefit set for Saturday at Turtle Rock Park in Alpine County. Jay Aldrich photos

Ruggero: Wine Country benefit

Oct. 9, 1986 • The Record-Courier • Gardnerville, Nevada 11-A

is Saturday in Alpine

Continued from page 1

tually became like a father to Ruggero and Sartoni's son, Carlo, became Ruggero's best friend.

Ruggero was promoted to head baker, a promotion which marked Ruggero as one of the two best bakers in Florence at the time.

"I did my 'grand vivir' then," Ruggero recalls. He worked all day in the bakery (beginning at 4 in the morning) and danced away his evenings with the Florentine girls. Sometimes, there was no time for sleep.

He married at 23 but separated a year and a half later.

At 26, he set off for America. He had many reasons for coming here: he had met an attractive New York girl; he was separated from his wife in a country that didn't allow divorce; and there was for him, as there was for many Europeans of the time, the allure of the American dream.

Arriving in New York, he was advised by a lawyer to go to Nevada to expedite his divorce. Bill Crowell, of Carson City, took charge of Ruggero on the recommendation of the New York lawyer. He helped the Florentine, who spoke little English, to adjust to the American ways.

Ruggero describes his first encounter with Nevada as one filled with amazement. The treeless countryside covered with "funny bushes" fascinated the Italian.

"Was this place burned by fires?" he queried. No, they told him, this was the desert.

At first, Ruggero swaggered around Carson City's few paved streets in a typical Florentine raincoat, black hat and umbrella. Soon, the stares of the local residents prompted Ruggero to change his attire to what he now terms that of "a drugstore cowboy."

When his six week residency was fulfilled, Ruggero was divorced upstairs in the Carson City courthouse and married downstairs to his New York friend. The couple returned to New York.

In New York, at the suggestion of his hairstylist wife, Ruggero decided to pursue hairstyling as an occupation. After a brief "brush-up" course, he passed the exam and received his license.

"I've always believed I could do anything anyone else could do," he said simply.

He got work in a salon on 5th Avenue which employed 26 hairstylists. He immediately moved up in the business and soon had a helper working under him. His ingenuity earned him significant renown.

"The other hairstylists were jealous of me," Ruggero remembers. "I didn't follow regulations. I styled hair to the eyes, nose, ears, height and even the manner of walking of the person. I talked to my customers."

But always in the back of his mind was the Nevada desert with its "funny bushes," its freedom and its friendly people.

After two years of work in New York, Ruggero returned to Carson City despite the pleadings of his boss, who offered him half the business if he would stay.

"I want my own business," insisted Ruggero, "I have decided to go and I am going." Once Ruggero makes up his mind there is no changing it.

And so Ruggero embarked on the next phase of his life.

In Carson City again, Ruggero opened up his own hairstyling business — Ruggero's — which, as had always happened before, became successful and profitable.

"And I met many friends," emphasized Ruggero. "Garbage collectors, the Governor of Nevada, lawyers, teachers and gas station attendants...everybody! I had lots of friends in Carson City."

It was at this time that he met Gina, a local artist who taught in the Carson City schools and worked in the Nevada State Museum. His second marriage had dissolved. Ruggero married for the third time, making the commitment that he never could make to either of his first two wives.

"We change," he explained. "I always enjoyed everything I did in my life. I never did anything too long I didn't like." In Gina, he found a soulmate, a business partner and a friend.

With the profits reaped from his hairstyling business, Ruggero and Gina purchased properties in Alpine County, California. Ruggero abandoned his hairstyling salon and opened a restaurant in Markleeville while his wife devoted herself to oil painting and batik.

At an international art show, the Giglis were introduced to intaglio printing (a process that includes etching and aquatint, and which uses several colors in the printing process). Gina liked the art form and put her hand to it. She found she liked the etching part of it but not the printing. Ruggero helped her to print "for two weeks" and promptly fell in love.

He has pursued the art of printing since then, dedicating himself to becoming a better printer and making their print business profitable enough to support them.

Charles Clark, an art collector from Texas, has said that Ruggero is one of the two best printers he has seen doing this particular kind of intaglio printing. Ruggero has mastered the art of combining several colors on a single plate and producing a multicolored print from a single press pull.

Gina and Ruggero work closely together in their art: the artist and the artigiano. They bounce conceptual ideas off one another in the initial phase. Next, Gina designs and executes the etching and plans the colors in which the plate is to be inked. After the first print is pulled by Ruggero, the two put their heads together to critique the colors.

"Our experience flows together," said Gina. "We don't compromise. We have to both be 100 percent satisfied before we go into production with an edition." It may take many changes in the coloration (and some butting of heads) before the artist and artigiano agree

and the "buona tirata" (the first of an edition) is pulled.

It was Ruggero's business acumen that led the two to limit their art to a theme.

"You have to propose ways of using art," explained Ruggero. "Even the old masters, like Michelangelo and Leonardo did 'utilitarian art,' producing art for clients."

The wine theme he has selected has proved to be a fertile field. An initial commission from Harrah's Tahoe opened up

an array of contacts in the world of wine and the culinary arts.

Perhaps the finest moment for Ruggero came during a recent trip to Italy in which they planned to visit several of the larger Italian wineries. A letter to the Marchesi de Frescobaldi, a Florentine family which has been in the wine making business since the 12th century, and which has the largest wine landholdings in Italy, produced an invitation to meet with a representative of the family. The initial meeting with the

youngest brother, Marchese Leonardo, was an exceptional honor and "big pleasure" for Ruggero. The meeting led to a subsequent meeting with all three Frescobaldi brothers and two of their international sellers.

"Unbelievable!" said Ruggero. "Imagine little, poor Ruggero sitting down with the Frescobaldi family." Imagine, indeed. Not so many years ago he was scrabbling in the dust of Florence to get enough to eat...

The Giglis organize the Wine Country-High Country wine tasting event each year as an offering to the two communities which are involved in their lives: the Alpine-Douglas community and the Napa Valley community. The event provides a showcase for local artists, as well as celebrating the Giglis favorite theme: wine. It benefits the local school's scholarship fund.

Ruggero

10-9-86
R-C

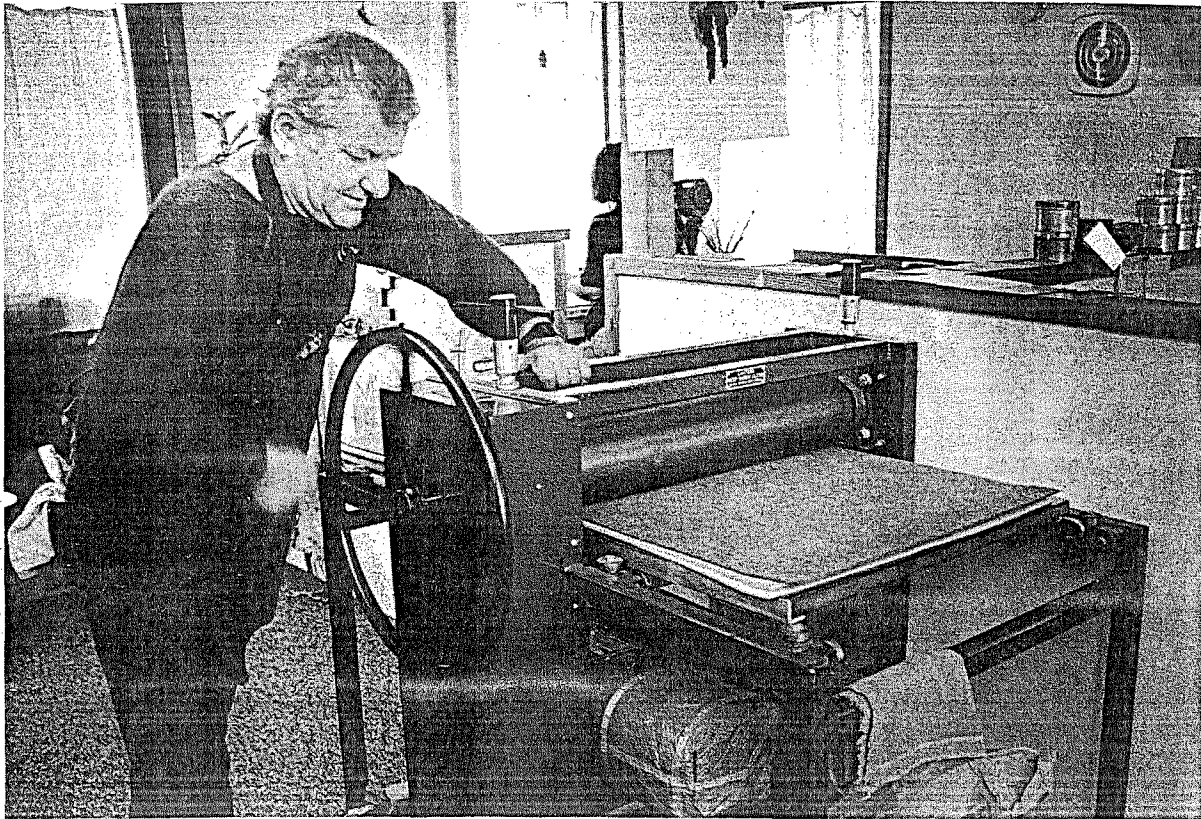
Ruggero, said Gina, wants to express his appreciation for those things he did not have (schooling) but which he holds with the highest regard. This annual event is his way of giving back something to his friends and neighbors.

Ruggero's life is a testament to his philosophy. "The beauty of life is learning," he said with effusive spirit. "The soul of every man is the knowledge which he gives to others." Each day, he added, is his best day yet.

The essence of Ruggero, like that of a fine wine, cannot be captured in words but must be experienced. His 15-year-old daughter, Dinamarina, speaks from the heart when she says, "He's a good father. He has good ideas and good philosophy and he's... well... he's strong-headed."

This is Ruggero.

Big head, big hand, big heart.



PRINTING BUSINESS. Ruggero Gigli prepares his press prior to pulling a print. His wife Gina designs wine labels as well as prints and menus. The Gigli's organize

the annual Wine Country-High Country benefit each year to raise funds for a scholarship fund and to thank the Alpine-Douglas and Napa Valley communities.

This year's event is set for Saturday at Turtle Rock Park, 5-7 p.m. Jay Aldrich photo

10-16-86

The Record Courier

People

save

1936: Rustlers use trucks

100 YEARS AGO
Friday, Oct. 15, 1886
Genoa Weekly Courier

SNOW-SHOE THOMPSON. The most striking article in the October Overland Monthly is Dan De Quille's stirring account of the recently deceased "Snow-shoe Thompson," the heroic mailcarrier of the high Sierras, whose achievements should go on the world's records of the most gallant adventurers of all times. The article is of special interest to those people

Remember when?

in this section of the country as it was the home of "snow-shoe" and his last resting place is within sight of Genoa. After the 2d of November next the excitement, din and roar of political affairs will fade away in the dim past, and old settlers will feel that there is something refreshing in the recalling of familiar incidents in private life of long ago. There the Courier will not be overly crowded with advertisements, so a few of its columns will be given to the reproduction of the article on "Snow-shoe Thompson."

The Record Courier 10-16-86

Douglas girls win titles

Douglas High School cross country has come a long way in one year's time. Coach Neal Freitas had a chance to see just how far Saturday at Folsom Lake, Calif.

The Tiger harriers returned home from the Maria Duncan Cross Country Classic with a pair of individual medals last October. Saturday, they came back with two team championships.

"We had a pretty good day," Freitas said after watching both the varsity and frosh-soph girls win their respective small schools divisions. "There wasn't a lot of competition in the way of

teams, but it was nice to win those trophies."

Douglas won the small-school varsity girls crown by virtue of fielding the only complete team in the race and outran Loretto of Sacramento to win the frosh-soph division.

"I thought the sophomore girls did especially well. They would have been third in the large schools race," Freitas pointed out.

Douglas outdistanced Loretto by a 22-33 score in the team race, with the quintet of Theresa Walton, Marlea Munoz, Leah Weissman, Amber McGeein and Michelle Barr all placing among the top 20. Walton placed fifth,

Munoz ninth, Weissman 10th and McGeein 11th — with a mere 49 seconds separating them — and Barr was 19th.

Lizy Lodato paced the varsity effort by placing third with a 22:10 clocking over three miles. Audra Starbuck also ran 23:48 for fifth.

Douglas also placed fourth in the small schools varsity boys event with a 92-point total. South Tahoe, last year's Nevada state AAA meet runner-up, was first with 42 points.

Robert Wheeler placed fourth with a 17:58 effort over Folsom's challenging three-mile route and Mike Guidotti 11th in 18:27. A measure of improvement, Guidotti ran two minutes faster than he did on the same course last year and Wheeler bettered his time by 1:28.

Josh Cooper and Jason Warren placed 10th and 12th respectively in the sophomore boys race.

The Record Courier
Thanks 10-16-86

Editor:

This thank you is long overdue for all those who helped with Sorensen's 93rd Birthday Party and fund-raiser for Alpine County firefighters and Alpine Children's Center.

Many thanks especially to Jim Cone and Roy Wickham for their continued support and great cooking. Also to Ed Schalberg for providing his secret sauce for our barbequed chicken and ribs. For those who sold tickets in advance, thank you so much, and for those who came and enjoyed a wonderful, warm afternoon of good eating and dancing, we appreciate your support of these two essential groups to Alpine County. Kate Harvey, thanks for your enthusiasm and help in serving.

Most of all our thanks goes to CalGas for donating a gas barbeque which we raffled off and raised additional funds for the groups. Also, our thanks to Woodfords Station for donating a T-shirt and complimentary lunch.

We look forward to this annual event. We'll see you all at next September's event.!

JOHN AND PATTY BRISSENDEN
Oct. 6

The Record Courier 10-16-86
Fine game

Editor:

The "Grand Parlor" of the Native sons of the Golden West put on their annual softball tournament on Sept. 6 and 7, in Sacramento. Our very own "Alpine Parlor" sent a team to Sacramento to join in on the Admission Day weekend festivities.

The Alpine softball team went into the finals with one loss against the "Napa Parlor." At the end of the championship game, the "Napa Parlor" was victorious and became the 1986 champions by a score of 9 to 7.

The officers of Alpine Parlor No. 200 would like to congratulate the softball team for their fine performance and the second-place finish. We are all looking forward to next year and are confident that our team will display another fine performance.

E.V. ED SCHALBERT
Markleeville
Oct. 14

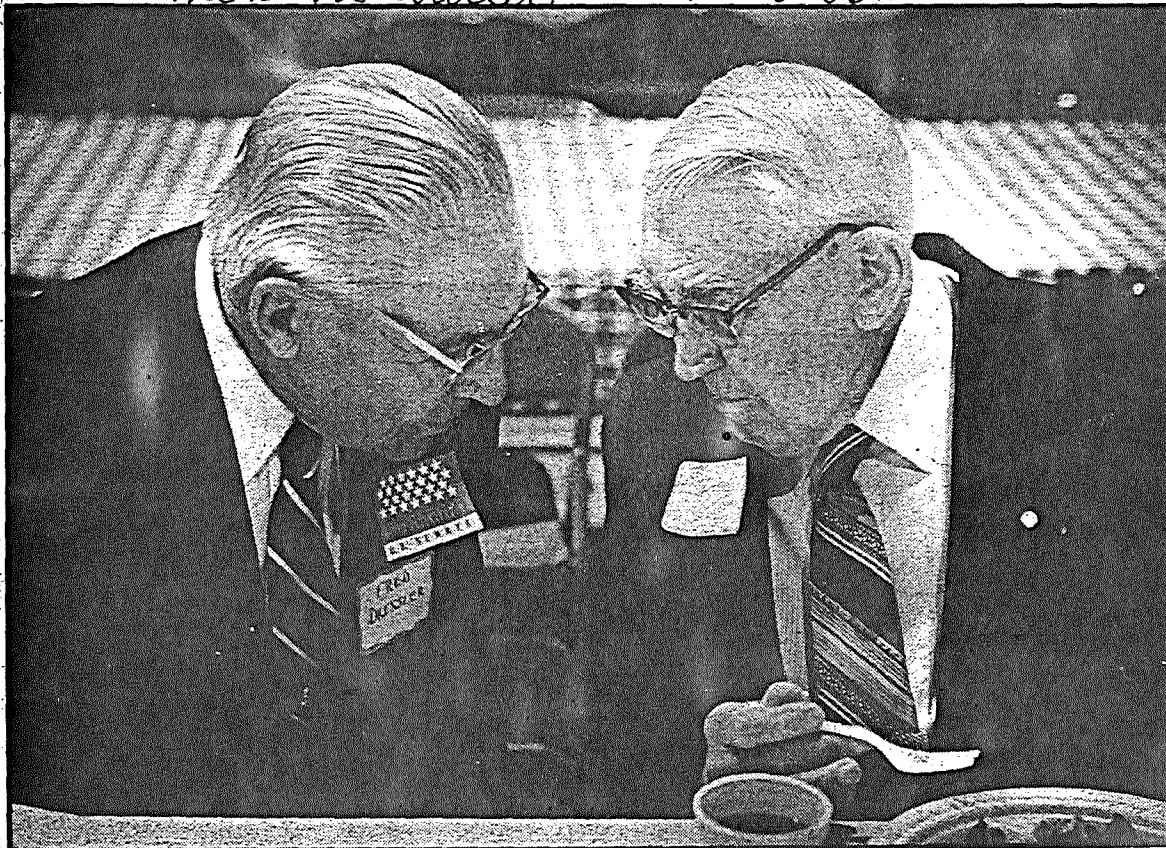


Vanishing sight

Cattle drives like this one, common 100 years ago, are still seen on Western roads today. But for how long? Of course, that question is likely on the

minds of these motorists as they wait in line for a herd to pass on Highway 88 through Woodfords Canyon last Friday. And to be found at the tail end of the

drive was Valley rancher Fred Dressler, an octogenarian who has undoubtedly made this trek on countless occasions. R-C photo by Dave Price



Elder statesmen

Two former state senators, Fred Dressler, left, and Fred Settelmeyer, got together last Thursday at "The Sen. Paul Laxalt Invitational" get-together on behalf of former Rep. Jim Santini, the Republican hopeful to

succeed Laxalt. Laxalt and Santini rubbed shoulders in the CVIC Hall as Valley residents ate from a spread of barbecue, beans and more. Jay Aldrich photo

The Record Courier 10-30-86



Alpine Holiday Bazaar

Alpine County Parent's Club president, Angie O'Neal, and Karen Hamann and son Andrew admire a few of the items to be sold at this year's Holiday Bazaar at Diamond Valley School off Highway 4 in Woodfords, Saturday, Nov. 15, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A chili booth for lunch will be one highlight of the day, and an admission ticket of \$1.50 will

give the buyer dessert and a chance at many door prizes. Residents are invited to shop for Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations, gifts, children's novelties, plants, baked goods, and the ever popular "recycled treasures." Funds raised go to the club's annual scholarship. R-C photo

Alpine residents debate historic artifacts ordinance

by TREVA ZELLER
Staff writer

Supporters say passage of an Alpine County initiative would protect treasured sites of historic artifacts that may be covered with sewage.

Opponents argue the measure's only intent is to block a South Tahoe Public Utility District reservoir scheduled for construction next summer in Alpine County. They say it also will hamper other construction in the California county.

About 40 Alpine county residents heard both arguments Monday night at a public forum held in Markleeville.

Measure A, a proposed historic resources protection ordinance, will appear on the Nov. 4 ballot in Alpine County. It seeks to protect sites found on private lands that are eligible for the National Historic Register. The ordinance would only allow disturbance of the sites for scientific research or if it is approved by voters.

A second category of less significant artifacts would be protected through a vote of a committee appointed by the county Board of Supervisors.

According to supporters of the initiative, the action would protect the centuries-old settlements of Washoe Indians and

early white settlers. Snowshoe Thompson's homestead is thought to be in the area of the proposed STPUD reservoir.

At least three "significant" sites would be affected by construction of a reservoir near Diamond Valley Road. STPUD plans to build a 3,200-acre-foot reservoir for treated effluent. It would hold more effluent than Indian Creek Reservoir, which STPUD wants to change into a fresh water lake.

"We don't revere them," Washoe Indian and Diamond Valley native Belma Jones said about the historic sites. "We don't worship them, but we like to tell our children how we lived. We don't want the whole place to be covered with sewer like it will be."

Brian Wallace, vice chairman of the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, agreed the protection of the sites is important to Alpine County's future and past.

"Unless we speak up now, the destruction of our past will eventually be commonplace and the defamation of our homeland trivial," he said. "These sites and others are evidence of a background and history, an essence of a culture which prevailed here for a thousand generations."

However, opponents said

federal and state laws already are in effect to protect ancient artifacts.

"This is not a measure to protect historical items," said Henry Murdock, Alpine County district attorney. "That's not what anybody is talking about. We're talking about stopping STPUD."

Property owner Charles Keebaugh told the audience that the initiative would be complex, binding and cause an opposite effect.

"People may hide artifacts or destroy them in order to go on with a project," he said, adding that he does not support the STPUD project either.

He said that the county needs on-going development that can work within the present laws. Adopting the initiative would bring a loss of individual property owner rights and more delays for projects, he said.

Alpine County Supervisor-elect Don Jardine argued the effort would effect all construction in Alpine County, possibly hampering development if there is any land disturbance.

"All of Woodfords is a historical site and potentially may be locked up," he said. He added that the rest of Alpine County has a history dating back to at least 1861 when

Markleeville was settled.

Another Supervisor, Eric Jung, agreed that extensive federal laws protect artifacts, mandating respectful treatment.

"The best fate for historic artifacts is to have them studied and preserved by experts and put them on display where it does good for everyone," Jung said. He said that the initiative is a means to further polarize the community.

The panel fielded questions from the audience, including ones asking whether the STPUD project could be stopped.

"This is about our last tool in the tool shed," said Diamond Valley attorney Tim Pemberton, a Measure A supporter. The only thing left would be court action, he said.

Pemberton also argued that the initiative would not hamper other construction in the Valley.

"The Washoe lived in very specific places — along the Carson River and Indian Creek," Pemberton said.

"We're not talking about a few isolated arrowheads or bottles. If it's the center of an old Indian Colony, yes, but there are very few of those. It only addresses the important historical sites. What it comes down to now is they can bag up these important sites and carry them away."

Pemberton added that STPUD is the real threat to property rights in the county, not the initiative. He then displayed legal papers seeking to condemn private property in the path of the STPUD project.

"If we don't stand up today and limit this project we'll be bringing in a Frankenstein," he said, adding that STPUD has the money to hire a fleet of attorneys. "There will be no local control whatsoever."

But according to Murdock, because the Alpine County Board of Supervisors has agreed to take sewage from STPUD, "Frankenstein is already here" and will continue to be.

"STPUD has been here for 20 years and will probably be for another 20 years," he said.

Alpine County has more than 200 archeological sites that may be eligible for the National Historic Register, according to California state cultural resources officer Joe L. Pope.

STPUD has to provide for the inventory of any artifacts found in the project area. Only five sites have been found, according to Dan Hinrichs, an environmental consultant hired by STPUD. Two will be avoided, including the apparent homestead site of Snowshoe Thompson and an old Indian settlement, Hinrichs said.

Three others would be affected by the reservoir's waters, two believed to be ancient hunting areas and another site possibly that of Indians or settlers, according to Hinrichs.

Some artifacts have been removed by an archaeological firm hired by STPUD. The sewer district received mitigation approval from four state agencies for the removal of artifacts after an extensive study, STPUD Manager James Cofer said.

According to Cofer, only a few items found near the surface were removed — one bead, a few arrowheads and some obsidian (volcanic glass) not native to this area. He said there is no evidence of burial grounds, but the Silver City, Nev., Intermountain Research firm did find the artifacts to be eligible for the National Register.

All of STPUD's tertiary-treated effluent is piped to Alpine County and stored in the Indian Creek Reservoir. However, spillage from that reservoir has occurred for the past five years, ending up in the East Fork of the Carson River.

The utility district, which serves South Lake Tahoe, plans to reduce its treatment to filtered secondary and store the effluent in the new reservoir.

Valley woman is named Markleeville postmaster

For Margaret Daniels, Nevada Day will be just another working day.

Daniels takes over tomorrow as postmaster of the Markleeville, Calif., Post Office, after working at the Gardnerville Post Office for nine years.

She was notified last Wednesday that she was selected by the Postmaster Selection Board for the position. She had applied for the job and after being interviewed, was selected as one of three finalists by Reno Postmaster Dwaine Evans.

Daniels will work with one other person, Wanda Coyan, who will serve as acting postmaster whenever Daniels is gone.

The Daniels family includes her husband Dennis, an investigator with the Nevada Gaming Control Board, and son Craig, a student at Western Nevada Community College.

They came to the Valley in 1973 and live in Sheridan Acres.

Daniels has been on the Douglas County Fair Board since its inception and was involved in the beginning of the



MARGARET DANIELS

creation of parent-faculty groups in the Douglas school system.

She has been treasurer three times for the Alpha Iota chapter of Beta Sigma Phi.

save

The Horse Race, the Archeologists, and the Link in the Chain

Some women wave across the courtroom. Some men shake hands. But there is a muted tension in the crowds of turquoise necklaces, pullovers, loosened ties, and tractor hats. As they pick seats, they know they may have to stand up tonight and argue with a neighbor under the bright, even light.

What brings these people together is an initiative called the Alpine County Historic Resources Protection Ordinance. It's a 15-page, single-spaced document which sets out to — as a recent ad for the initiative states: "Protect the historic heritage of Alpine County from large land development," and specifically, to "prevent South Lake Tahoe Public Utility District (STPUD) from constructing a secondary sewage reservoir and ditches on several sites eligible for the National Register of Historic Sites."

STPUD plans to build the reservoir which when filled to spillway elevation would flood about 160 acres. Initially, eight historic sites would have been included in and perhaps damaged by the project, but through redesign, there are only three sites left now that will be affected. One is on Bureau of Land Management property; two, on private property. STPUD states that they cannot redesign again and that they cannot avoid these sites.

James Cofer, Manager Engineer at STPUD says, "When we started our project, there was only one site that was registered as a potential significant site. We've now got two other sites on our parcel that nobody seemed to know about." He goes on to explain that almost everywhere they have looked in Alpine County they have found evidence of Washo tribes. "It appears to us that all over Alpine County there are extensive archeological sites, any one of which could be determined to be significant if the ordinance passes." Over \$100,000 was spent on archeological investigation and they found, "some obsidian chips, arrow heads, one bead, a powder flask — which is a white-man artifact—" and so on.

Tim Pemberton, attorney and spokesman for the initiative disagrees: "The Indians did not live everywhere in Alpine County. They tended to live along the drainages. That's what makes these sites special. Data recovery writings for site 212 has a laundry list of objects; 500 to 1,100 objects. And that's in black and white."

Nancy Thornburg, a historian and columnist for the *Alpine County Enterprise* adds that, "Most of it is lithic scatter, meaning flakes of stone — obsidian — from where they made tools, ground pine nuts or acorns. Perhaps a place where they came back many winters in a row."

Eric Jung, County Supervisor for District Four, Alpine County continues that thought: "They did find a deer stand. There was a natural rock wall and somehow archeologists deduced that there was this spot where one or four people would lurk and wait for the deer and trap out at them." Radiocarbon dating places its use around 1300 A.D. But apparently there was nothing to indicate that this was anything other than a temporary

deer camp. "There were no major structures and I don't think there was anything found that would be bigger than a bread box. Not the kind of things you would want to allow to stop a major project. They didn't find any human remains."

Jo Ann Nevers, Washo Tribe Historian: "There are bed-rock mortars, some spear points and some arrow points. The sites are very significant to the tribe. It could have been a winter camp although no one really knows. Whenever you find a site that's had a lot of use over the years, then you can probably call it a winter camp. Maybe it was a camp used all year round."

The significance of these sites has divided the community. At the date of this writing (the eve of the election), no one knows who will win. "It's a horse race," they say, one closely watched and briskly discussed. But to understand how this situation arose, a short history lesson may be in order.

In 1967, Alpine County entered into a contract with STPUD to handle sewage effluent treated to tertiary standards. Cofer explains that in 1983, "We had done a

The Indians didn't express a whole lot of interest in this project until their but-ton was pushed.

facility plan as part of the Environmental Protection Act state study. To increase the hydraulic capacity and reliability of the plant, we looked at a number of alternatives and concluded that the most cost effective solution was to go to filtered secondary at a new reservoir. So we went to the county with this new plan and negotiated the change which became the second amendment to the contract."

Many Alpine County residents did not find this an attractive offer. The voters adopted the Sewage Quality Initiative which insisted that sewage should be treated to a tertiary level as agreed upon in the original contract. It passed by ten votes. Pemberton describes what happened next: "STPUD, not liking the outcome of that election, immediately sued the county to have the initiative declared invalid. Ultimately, STPUD was not very happy with the courts either and they went to Sacramento and were able to obtain a law known as AB 914."

Cofer responds: "The reason we went to Sacramento on AB 914 was we found ourselves in an impossible predicament. The state of California was telling us we had to export the waste water out of the Tahoe basin and the

county of Alpine, through the Sewage Quality Initiative, was putting conditions on us that prohibited us being able to complete that project. So we went to the legislature and asked for them to clarify who does have that responsibility and authority for setting water quality standards."

The legislature and the governor stated that the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board has that responsibility. When this reporter mentions to Cofer that this seems unconstitutional, taking away the county's ability to govern itself, he says that, "The United States government has superior laws that the states must live with, and the state has superior laws that the counties must live with." However, the constitutionality of AB 914 is currently under review in the court system on the grounds that (as stated in an *Alpine Enterprise* story dated November 1985), "It is an attempt by the California legislature to unilaterally modify the water quality jurisdiction of the bi-state federal Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA). The TRPA and its regulations have the status of federal law... and no state law may supercede a federal law."

The sewer district owns no lands in Alpine County. To build this reservoir, they must acquire both public and private lands through eminent domain. On June 30th of this year, STPUD filed lawsuits to condemn property owned by F. Heise Land and Livestock Company, Ray and Dorothy Heise, Melvin Schwake, and several other parties who were unwilling to sell to the sewer district under the terms and conditions the district desired. "We have filed condemnations on all the parcels required," explains Cofer. "This project has been under review since 1981 and it's received permits from virtually every public agency involved. I think the need has probably been established. The eminent domain powers gives us the right to take the property, the only question now is of compensation and the court will have to decide what that compensation is."

Pemberton, who represents the Heises, details the importance of Historic Resources Ordinance: "If STPUD cannot remove the sites or cover them up or affect them directly or indirectly, they will not be able to build their reservoir. So it's de facto; the condemnations are gone; there's no justification for acquiring land which they cannot possibly use. It will protect others in the future as well. There are proposals for a dam on the Carson River. Those lands have been inventoried as having artifact sites on them."

Brian Wallace, vice-chairman of the Washo Tribe of California and Nevada, defends the initiative: "Some people say we are pushing a cause with no depth of knowledge. But you can't lose, in 60 or 100 years, the affection and allegiance to the land that you've had for thousands of years. This is home." (*Alpine Enterprise*, September 1986)

Yet there are many in the county who while respecting Wallace's point of view, distrust the intentions of the initiative proponents. Nancy Thornburg: "It's all personal motivations against STPUD. Period. They want to stop STPUD any way they can and they are willing to take the Indians down with them. To me — and I know I'm going to eat this when you put it in the paper — but to me, the white man, the proponents of this initiative are using the Indian one more time. It's a back door approach and I really resent it as a historian because they're complicating the issue."

Thornburg also believes that there are already sufficient laws on the books to deal with such situations: "It's all set out in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) or the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) or both. They mandated that the district go back and do a more in-depth survey of the sites and that's what they've been doing for four years. STPUD has been doing everything the state of California said they had to do if they turned up this kind of stuff."

But is that enough? Pemberton asserts that the National Historic Preservation Act has been given minimal lip service. "And NEPA requires analytical consideration be dealt with thoroughly by each federal agency involved. And because this project touches the jurisdiction of maybe 15 governmental agencies, everybody thinks everybody else has done a good job, but nobody's done any job at all. They just keep signing one another's inadequate works. Take the Army Corp of Engineers who do nothing more than issue a permit to divert a creek. They interpret the law to mean they only have to look at the creek bed itself and the effects in-stream. But they have to look at the big picture and see all of the effects."

One of the effects under current law would be the removal of the artifacts from the sites. This does not sit

well with the Washo who believe that relics should be left in place. Belma Jones, a Washo woman who grew up in the area, is adamant: "They should be left undisturbed where they are. The Washo people, we don't revere the artifacts, we don't worship them, but we'd like to show our children and grandchildren about how our people lived. We certainly don't want our places all covered with sewage." And to quote from the initiative: "... such resources located within their natural setting and context represent a precious archeological, paleontological and historical heritage which is fast disappearing as a result of land development..."

County Supervisor Jung thinks it's a matter of compromise: "State and federal codes note that when Indian artifacts are involved, the Indians are to be given an opportunity to get involved from the start of a project by way of comments and by way of having on-site monitors there at all times. Where human remains are concerned, if it is found necessary and permissible to remove the remains, the Indians are to be allowed to direct the ceremony. The word 'respect' is used many times in that particular clause.

"The law," he continues, "recognizes the need to move things once in a while and the law recognizes the need to show respect and try to preserve cultural values. I think that's the middle road and I think that's the way to handle things." Jung feels that the Indians have put the white man in a difficult position when they say that the only way to preserve Washo heritage is by leaving things alone. "For one thing, in this particular case, the Indians didn't express a whole lot of interest in this project until their button was pushed. And if there's a sentiment on one side that we're drowning out a heritage, there's a sentiment among the ranchers that Tim Pemberton and a few other people are manipulating the Indian sentiment in order to stop the project."

By way of example, he cites a logging project that was to begin in 1980 along the north side of Hot Springs Road just outside Markdeeville. "The loggers went in and found a legitimate Indian burial ground."

Thornburg clearly recalls the incident. "It [the burial ground] was common knowledge among some people who lived in town. My husband had known it was there since he was two. Yet the Indians were apparently not

sentiment among the ranchers that Tim Pemberton and a few other people are manipulating the Indian sentiment in order to stop the project."

The same can be said for the sites at the proposed reservoir. Cofer explains that, "They weren't appreciated at all because nobody seemed to have any knowledge of these sites prior to our bringing an archeologist on. We think we're going to learn a whole lot more about what happened if the archeologists are allowed to study them."

Jung insists that there has been a disdain by the initiative proponents for the notion of archeology in general. He finds the notion that artifacts are best left in place to be a "... very limited way of using a cultural resource. I mean, if you've got a whole village or a pyramid or something like that, obviously you're going to leave it in place and people are going to come to it. But for something

We are part of the earth.
We feel a responsibility
to take care of our
home. It was our home. It *is*
our home.

that's on private property or in the middle of a project like STPUD's, it seems to me that the best thing that can happen to it — or a good thing, at any rate — is that it end up in the hands of professionals where it can be studied and preserved and placed into the context of its own culture and other world cultures.

"So from the standpoint of education and accessibility, I don't see an artifact's life in a museum as a bad thing. I grew up in a suburb of Washington, D.C. and I spent a lot of my free time in the Smithsonian Institute. If you follow the argument of the initiative proponents to its logical conclusion, we should take everything out of

of a cultural tradition, a tradition that says, "Leave it alone." Ramona Dick, a Washo born and raised in Alpine County, warns, "We believe that there is a spirit. When you disturb things, it turns on you and makes you sick. There will always be unrest. My grandmother and mother taught me this and I taught my children this. I know white people don't understand Indian people's beliefs." (*Alpine Enterprise*, September 1986)

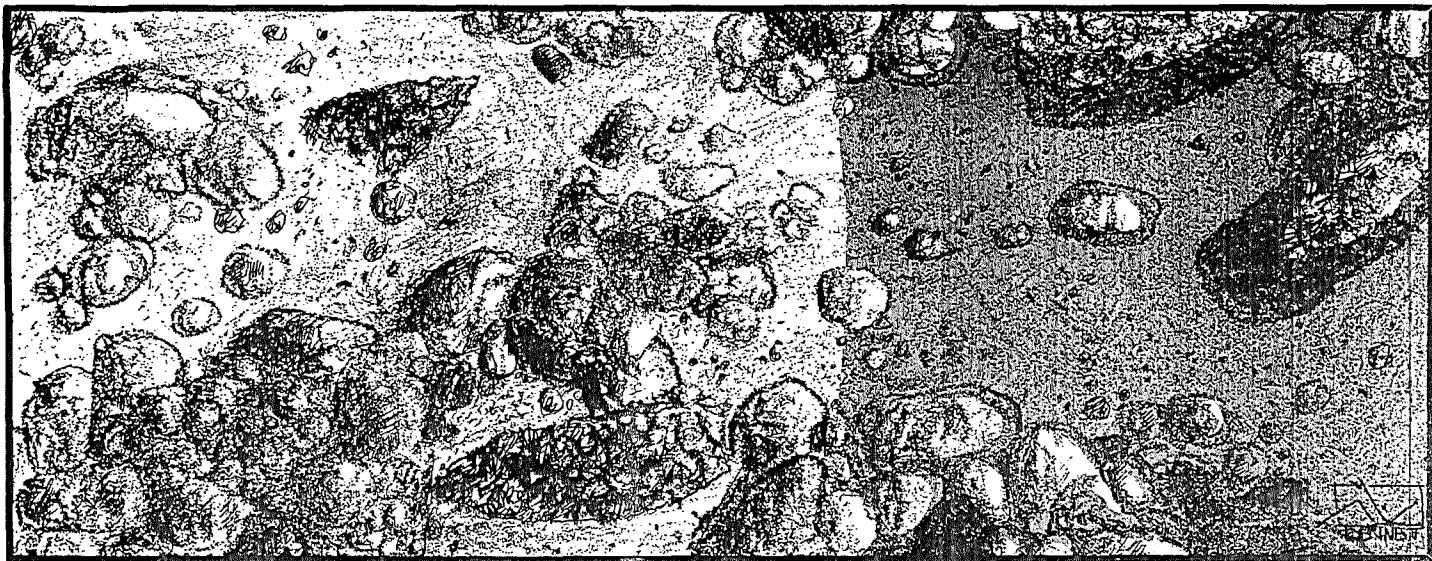
With all the furor over the ordinance, the above statement becomes glaringly obvious. So much of the conflict over Measure A had had to do with property rights: those violated by eminent domain and on the other side of the fence, those that might be violated were the ordinance to pass. Yet the Washo way of looking at the land has never been proprietary; it was all home, a repository of their lives.

"Leave the artifacts there," insists Nevers. "Leave them alone. That's the way the Washo people believe. It has to do with respect for their people who have gone away, who have departed." Even though no human remains are involved, the removal of the artifacts is akin to digging into a grave. "We are part of the earth. We feel a responsibility to take care of our home. It was our home. It is our home."

So finally, the conflict over the approach to caring for a cultural heritage boils down to the white man's need to categorize, document and verify, as opposed to the Washo, who simply live within their heritage. Perhaps through the centuries the Washo have intuited the true nature of the world; that the further one pierces into the matter, the more obvious it becomes that there are no "basic building blocks," but instead a net of relationships connecting various parts of the whole. In quantum physics, the human observer is the link in the chain between the setting up of an experiment and the measurement afterwards. The properties of atoms can only be understood by way of interaction with the observer.

What this means is that the objective view of nature can no longer be considered a valid way to measure life. One cannot address nature without addressing ourselves.

"I am very involved with the Historical Society," concludes Nancy Thornburg, "and one of the things that



aware of it." The timber project was held up until the state Historic Preservation office was called in to do an archeological review of the site.

"And the Washo never even stepped in or got involved with the project," says Jung. "It was strictly on the initiative of the white people that they fenced the thing off and moved their logging roads and went around it."

"That's not true," says Jo Ann Nevers. "We always were [interested in the site], but they never listened to Washo people. They think we have nothing to say about things, but we do."

Still, Jung makes it clear that if there's a sentiment on one side that whites are drowning a heritage, "There's a

the Smithsonian and take it back to where it came from and put it back into the ground."

On the surface, it's hard to argue with that line of thinking. If one doesn't know how to identify an artifact or understand its nature, then it means nothing; one is likely to walk right by it. But is it less valuable in its natural state? If the measure of the white man is all, then the further an artifact is pushed into a human context, yes, its value increases. It can be used to understand a way of life now vanished which is what may occur if the ordinance fails; the relics from the sites will be curated in a museum at the University of Reno.

But what if this measure of man is not all there is? What if the removal of items from historic sites is a defilement

really irks me more than anything else is that as a historical society, we are having so much trouble rounding up anybody interested in preserving the heritage and culture of this country. I think Indians and whites need to get together and say, 'How can we do this together?'"

Indeed, for we are all part of the earth.

— Patrick Bennett

The Alpine County Historic Resources Protection Ordinance was voted down November 4. The unofficial final results were 262 against the initiative and 166 for.

Sewer plant project hangs in historic balance

By ROB WELLS
Tribune Staff Writer

The fate of an improved South Lake Tahoe sewage treatment system and protection of valuable historic artifacts are intertwined in Alpine County's Measure A on Tuesday's ballot.

The Alpine County Historic Resources Protection Ordinance, if passed, could halt construction of the \$14 million Harvey Place reservoir and

related facilities. The reservoir is part of a \$25 million project to upgrade the South Tahoe Public Utility District sewage treatment facilities and prevent further multi-million gallon sewage spills.

Artifacts from Washoe Indians have been found on the Harvey Place construction site, and STPUD has delayed further construction until the outcome of Tuesday's vote.

"We have located five archeological sites that are significant" at the 700-acre Harvey Place reservoir and the project's related conveyance system, said STPUD Manager/Engineer Jim Cofer. Grinding rocks used by Washoe Indians and the home site of pioneer mail carrier Snowshoe Thompson have been spared through project modifications, said Cofer.

But the site of a Washoe Indian hunting blind

and other historic sites would be covered by the 3,600 acre foot storage reservoir.

The utility has a plan approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the California Historical Preservation office and the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for excavation and placement of the artifacts in a museum at University of Nevada, Reno.

(See Sewer, Page 12)

Sewer

(Continued from Page 1)

Cofer predicted the Historical Preservation Ordinance will "have much more impact on Alpine County than just stopping the South Lake Tahoe sewer."

The proposed ordinance states a five-member Historical Review Commission will seek to balance historic preservation with the economic needs of property owners wanting to develop historic sites.

Brian Wallace, vice chairman of the California-Nevada Washoe Tribe, said STPUD's current reservoir plan "has a direct impact on significant cultural resources of the tribe. We understand the difficulty the utility has ... but we feel the design and procedures can be altered so not to destroy our cultural resources...."

"Undeniably we cannot subdivide our allegiance to the past for short-term economic gains," Wallace added.

The ordinance states development of public projects on historic sites can proceed if Alpine County voters pass a referendum stating such projects are in the community's best interest.

Wallace is optimistic about the ordinance's chances.

Historic preservation

Tahoe Daily Tribune
11-5-86

Alpine County dumps A

Alpine County voters stomped Measure A Tuesday, the Alpine County Historical Preservation Ordinance, clearing the way for a major improvement in the South Tahoe Public Utility District sewage treatment system.

The measure was defeated by a 262 to 166 vote margin.

Defeated by a 61 percent margin, the ordinance would have set forth stringent regulations on development where historic artifacts have been found.

Measure A would have had a direct impact on the STPUD's proposed \$14 million Harvey Place reservoir because important Washoe Indian artifacts have been found in the construction site. The utility has postponed further construction of the reservoir, part of a \$25 million refurbishing

of South Lake Tahoe's sewer system, until Tuesday's vote was tallied.

"We are very pleased it lost in all five districts in Alpine County," said utility manager/engineer Jim Cofer. "We think the people thought this measure went too far."

The ordinance would have defined and indexed historic resources, such as burial grounds or settlements with artifacts dating prior to 1875, and make the most significant sites off limits to any development. Only scientists or archaeologists could disturb the sites under the law.

Cofer added the utility will begin condemning lands for the reservoir within the month. Once STPUD begins acquiring land, it will begin paying Alpine County \$100,000 a year in mitigation fees.



Sorensen's: Back to life

by SHEILA GARDNER
Staff writer

A rundown Alpine resort is the last place you might expect to find John and Patty Brissenden and their three kids, but then they didn't waste anytime turning the place into a haven of hospitality.

The result is Sorensen's Resort, tucked away in Hope Valley, a historic piece of real estate brought back to life by the Bay Area couple.

"When we became involved about four years ago, it was a dead resort," said Patty Brissenden. "It had become leftover employee housing for workers at Kirkwood Ski Resort who couldn't find anyplace else to stay."

Backed by a number of investors, the Brissendens have transformed Sorensen's into an all-season resort that draws most of its customers from the Bay Area.

Sorensen's has become so successful, that the Brissendens plan to add an 18-room lodge by Christmas 1987 featuring a full restaurant, library and third floor conference center. Estimates for the lodge range from \$800,000 to \$1 million.

That's in addition to their 20 cabins and country cafe that serves three hearty meals daily.

Both have previous experience in public service and used that expertise plus marketing to bring the out-of-the-way resort to the attention of potential customers.

"When we moved up here two and a half years ago, we refurbished all the cabins. It was quite hectic. And, we'd just had a new baby," said Patty Brissenden. In addition to Beth, now 2½, the family includes, Annie, 6, a first grader at Diamond Valley School, and Jennifer, 16, a student at Douglas High School. Eighteen-year-old John is a college student in California.

Running Sorensen's is a full-time job and at some time or another, the whole family gets involved. The Brissendens live at the resort in a cabin they made into a home.

"We work from 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days a week," said Patty Brissenden. "When we can, we try to take off Sunday nights or an occasional Monday."

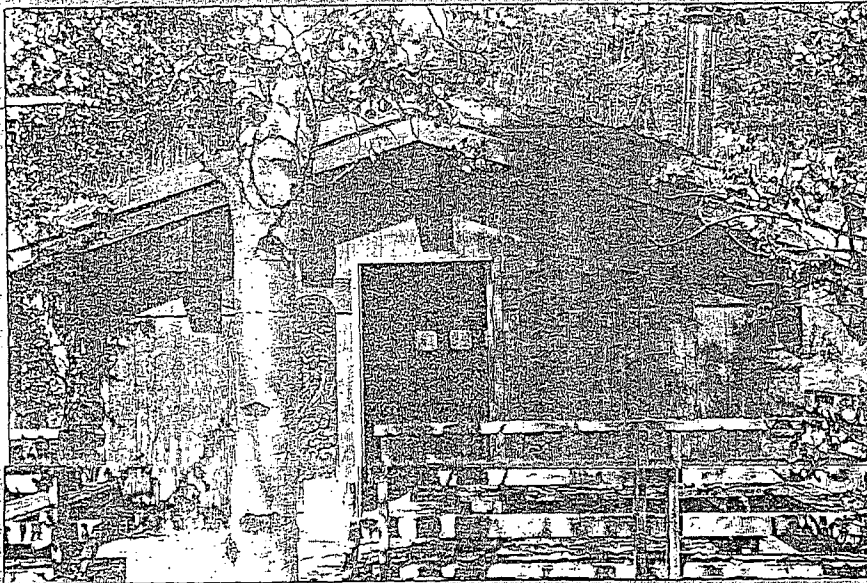
Those holidays will come to an end soon as Sorensen's gears up for its busiest season. The skiers start arriving right around Thanksgiving to take advantage of the area's numerous cross-country and downhill facilities.

Sorensen's summer employees cleared 10 kilometers of newly marked trails from the cabins into the Alpine County High meadow. The trails are free and open to guests and the public.

Sorensen's country cafe is popular with the ski crowd, too, offering such items as Hope Valley beef burgundy stew, beef pastries, mushroom and spinach quiche and a variety of desserts.

The cafe begins serving at 7:30 a.m. daily and stays open until 8 p.m. during the summer and on Friday and Saturday nights in the winter.

"We have a three-hour feast for our guests on Thanksgiving and then we roll them back to their cabins," John Brissenden said.



Spring and summer activities include fishing, hiking the historic trails and barbecues. The fall offers a glimpse at Alpine County's famous foliage.

Guests also have the option of doing nothing but enjoying the scenery and the innkeepers' hospitality.

"We are unique," said John Brissenden. "Our product is our lodging, cozy and clean and we've made a lot of friends." Sorensen's offers 20 gas-heated housekeeping cabins ranging in price from \$45 a night midweek to a \$130-night holiday rate for a cabin which sleeps up to eight people.

Norway House, which is the largest facility, actually was shipped to the Alpine resort from Norway by a previous owner. Every detail is authentic including the sod roof.

The Brissendens have also gone "smokeless" which means guests are not allowed to smoke in the cabins or the cafe. They may smoke on the grounds.

"We're the only smokeless resort I know of," said John Brissenden. "We made the decision after we had to strip one entire cabin of the furniture and shampoo the carpets after a weekend chainsmoker checked out. We pride ourselves on the purity of the Alpine air and we think our customers do, too."

He said there had been no complaints about the "no smoking" policy.

Before they discovered Sorensen's, the Brissendens lived in Santa Cruz. John sold real estate and Patty worked for a state assemblyman.

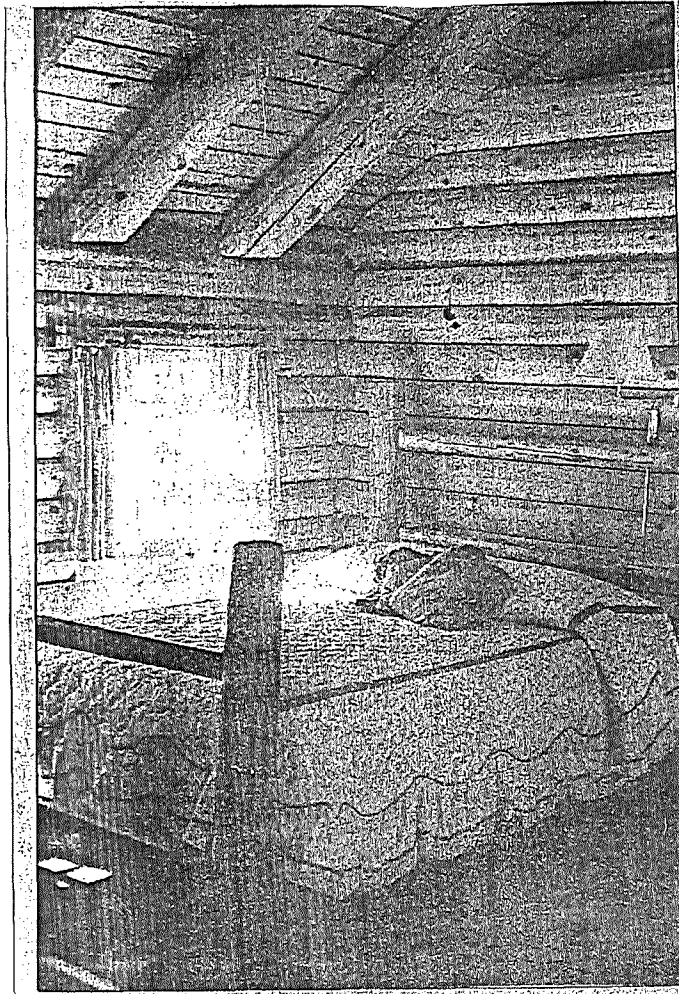
They found Sorensen's through Patty's sister, Kathy.

"She and her husband were living here at the time and she told me I just had to be here," Patty said.

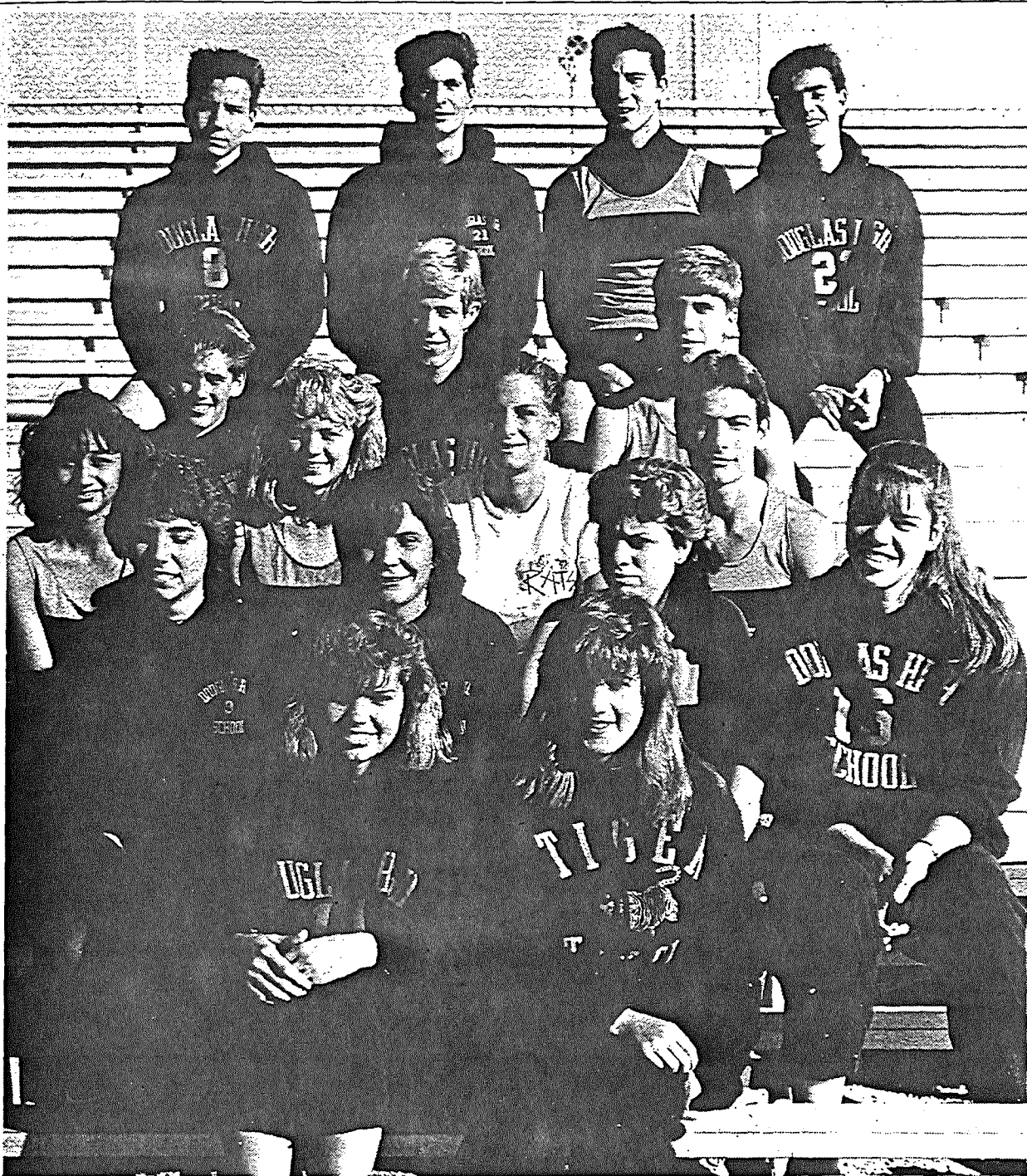
The property was homesteaded by the Sorensen family 110 years ago, said John Brissenden.

Sorensen's Resort is located in Hope Valley, just east of the junction of Highways 88-89.

It's about a 20-30 minute trip from downtown Gardnerville. For information or reservations, contact the Brissendens at 1-916-694-2203.



RESORT: John and Patty Brissenden and daughter Beth, 2½, take a rare break at their resort, Sorensen's, in Hope Valley. In the middle photo is one of the several cabins they rent. They are especially popular in the winter-ski season. At left is a typical bedroom found in the resort. R-C photos by Dave Price



TOP TIGERS. Douglas High School cross country achieved a milestone last Thursday by having both the boys and girls teams qualify for the state AAA meet. Both teams advanced by placing fourth at the Northern AAA zone finals held in Reno, a performance for which the runners received Douglas' Athlete of the Week award. the contingent includes: (front

row, from the left) Tonya Sherwood, Theresa Walton, (second row) Jennifer Slaback, Liza Lodato, Audra Starbuck, Leah Weissman, (third row) Marlea Munoz, Amber McGeein, Michelle Barr, Jason Warren, (fourth row) Jeff Scheneman, Josh Cooper, Greg Weiler, (top row) Mike Guidotti, Robert Wheeler, Jason Pruitt and Hernan Cornejo. R-C photo



OTTO GREULE

Jeff Steinberg, left, and Bart Weitzenberg
Continued from Page A1

'Able-bodied' jurors break long tradition

By BONY SALUDES
Staff Writer

Two Santa Rosa lawyers are back home after visiting the state's smallest county for a brush with frontier justice that was straight out of the Wild West.

Attorneys Bart Weitzenberg and Jeff Steinberg did what they say had never before been done in the 137-year history of tiny Alpine County — winning a jury verdict in favor of a plaintiff in a civil case.

But they did more than that. They faced a jury rounded up by the sheriff, who had to close the bank and scour the saloon to find enough people to sit in judgment.

When the county population numbers only 700, it's no small task to corral enough "able-bodied" jurors. The sheriff even resorted to one man who claimed he was just passing through on a fishing trip.

Weitzenberg and Steinberg went to trial knowing the odds of winning their case were virtually nil.

Their opponent was formidable — the Kirkwood Meadows Ski Resort, the county's biggest taxpayer and employer.

"Our clients knew they wouldn't win, or if they did, they wouldn't get much, but they wanted to make a statement," Weitzenberg said.

But after hearing two weeks of testimony, the jury deliberated eight hours and, lo and behold, awarded \$25,000 to the parents of Dean Faulkner, 20, Sebastopol, who was killed in a skiing accident on March 8, 1981, and another \$25,000 for Roy Freitas, 29, Santa Rosa, who was injured in the same mishap.

Faulkner and Freitas, who was 24 at the time, were skiing on a slope at the Kirkwood Meadows Ski Resort and skied off a cliff. Freitas and Faulkner's parents sued Kirkwood for negligence, charging a failure to post warnings of the cliff.

"The award was small for the type of case, but we figured if we won a nickel, it would be worth it," Weitzenberg said. "We also wanted to have some fun."

And fun it was, he said.

The trial began on Sept. 30 in the one-room courthouse at the county seat in Markleeville, a town of 150,

See Alpine, Page A16

before Superior Court Judge J. Hillary Cook.

Cook said he doesn't ever remember an Alpine County jury finding for a plaintiff in a civil suit.

"At least there hasn't been one in the 15 years I've been on the bench," he said. "The closest we got was about two years ago when we had a hung jury. In the retrial, it was a defense verdict."

When it came time to select the jury, the first panel consisted of 150 citizens, but by the end of the first day the attorneys had gone through the whole group and still not assembled a jury.

So Cook ordered Larry Kuhl, the acting sheriff, to summon 30 more jurors for the next day. The lawyers exhausted that supply with equal speed. And the judge ordered up an additional 30 new jurors for the third day.

When that batch was finished and still no jury seated, Cook called for 30 more jurors.

the list, your honor," the court clerk announced.

Whereupon, the judge invoked a law out of the Old West that empowers the sheriff to round up any "able-bodied" man or woman he sees in town.

By this time, people in town, which consists of the courthouse, a general store, a bank and the community's social hangout, The Cut Throat Saloon, knew what the sheriff was up to and tried to duck him.

The obvious place to go looking for people was across the street at The Cut Throat Saloon, but when the sheriff walked in, the place was empty. However, he spotted four half-full cocktail glasses sitting on top of the bar.

"People don't have much money in Alpine County and the sheriff knows when they buy a drink, they always finish it," Weitzenberg said.

The sheriff went out back and, sure enough, he found the four men who had been drinking at the bar

served each a summons.

He also went to the bank, which is open only three hours a day, ordered customers not to leave and summoned them along with all of the bank employees.

The sheriff finally rounded up enough people, including a Mono County man who protested that he was only in town to fish, and the jury was selected on the fourth day.

When the case was handed to the jury on Oct. 20, business at the courthouse came to a standstill for eight hours. Since the courthouse consists of one room, all employees were run out when the jury was locked in to deliberate, Weitzenberg said.

Happy with having broken the mountain community's spell, the two lawyers set out for home in Weitzenberg's car, but Alpine County's rural atmosphere got in the last word.

A 200-pound mule deer ran into Weitzenberg's car, causing \$1,000 damage.

Big Bear Valley archaeology find

Could be continent's oldest structure

The Associated Press

FRESNO — Remains of what scientists believe could be the oldest structure ever found in North America have been radiocarbon-dated to at least 9,750 years, an archaeologist said yesterday.

The dating was made possible by the discovery of charcoal from a hearth found in the clay floor of what was once a 12-foot-long oval-shaped residential building near Bear Valley in the Sierra Nevada.

"We are tremendously excited because this is the oldest structure apparently ever found in North America," said Melinda Peak, of Peak and Associates Inc. of Sacramento.

"It pushes back our knowledge about man and particularly his use of the mountains," she added. Peak's mother, Ann, is chief archaeologist for the family company that in August found the structural remains 8 feet underground while excavating the site of a hydroelectric project along a tributary of the Stanislaus River in Alpine County.

Because of its antiquity, as well as the firm's discovery earlier in the year of 12,000-year-old spear points at a prehistoric campsite 30 miles away, scientists expect some of early human's history on the continent to be revised.

"This in the very least will cause archaeologists to dig deeper, because in the past many believed man had not even been in North America that long ago," said Walt Woolfenden, an archaeologist for the National Park Service.

A discovery at Hell's Gap, Wyo., was previously believed to be the oldest human-made structure on the continent, dated at 8,000 years, said Peak.

The Sierra Nevada site has attracted nationwide attention since news reports of its discovery. At the time, Ann Peak estimated it was 10,000 years old. Carbon dating, which measures the decay of carbon-14, has revealed the age with a margin of error of 180 years either way, she said.

The new find is expected to fuel a debate about how long ago humans migrated to North America. Sites and structures tentatively dated up to 32,000 years ago have been found in South America, but many scientists speculate those early inhabitants may have come by boat across the ocean since few sites more than 6,000 years old have been found in North America.

Scientists are sharply divided over when migration to the Americas occurred. Some say humans arrived 20,000 to 35,000 years ago, while others contend migration began no more than 13,000 years ago.

The significance of the residential site in Gabbett Meadow at an elevation of 6,500 feet is that it indicates a long-time presence and established culture rather than a transient popula-

tion, said Robert Bettinger, a prehistory specialist at the University of California at Davis.

He said if humans were just arriving in North America 10,000 to 12,000 years ago, it is unlikely that permanent structures and campsites would be found.

Although the research is not yet completed, there soon may be other structural discoveries that also will be dated to 10,000 to 12,000 years ago, said Robson Bonnichson, of the Center for the

Study of Early Man in Orono, Maine.

"A house or some other kind of residential structure is highly significant because it indicates the people have settled in, which indicates that they have established roots in the area over a period of time," he said in a telephone interview.

"This find shows that people were living in North America right at the tail end of the Ice Age in houses, something we've always suspected," he added.

Car chase ends with an arrest

Shots are fired in pursuit

By ROB WELLS and JIM DIPESO
Tribune Staff Writers

A wild car chase through Nevada and California Saturday afternoon, involving six law enforcement agencies, ended in the arrest of a 22 year-old Kansas man at gunpoint in a pasture just south of the stateline at Highway 88.

Boyd L. Mills, 22, of Mulvane, Kansas, is being held in El Dorado County jail on charges of assault with a deadly weapon, possession of a stolen vehicle and a felony rape warrant from Kansas, a spokesman from the Alpine County sheriff's department said this morning. About \$4,000 worth of damage was caused to three police vehicles in the chase.

Mills and a 17-year old female companion were taken into custody about 1:45 p.m. Saturday after the reportedly stolen 1984 Ford van came to rest in a field with only one good tire remaining. Douglas and Alpine County sheriff's deputies had fired at the van's tires three times during the chase.

No injuries were reported in the chase.

The chase began in Yerington about 12:30 p.m. when local police spotted the van, reported stolen from Mulvane, Kansas. The police pursued the vehicle

into Douglas County at Wellington, and the on Highway 208 south to 395. As the vehicle approached the California line at Topaz Ranch estates, a Douglas County sheriff's unit fired one shotgun round at the van's tires.

The vehicle continued into California and encountered a roadblock at Monitor Pass, with three Alpine County sheriff's patrol cars and one California Highway Patrol car waiting for the suspect. Alpine County deputies fired two shots at the van's tires, said Alpine County deputy John Crawford.

As the vehicle approached the south end of Markleeville, a Douglas County vehicle attempted to pass the van. The van reportedly clipped the patrol car, damaging the a windshield and door. No injury was reported.

An Alpine County patrol car rammed the rear end of the van as it approached Woodfords, in an attempt to let an El Dorado County patrol car go ahead to stop oncoming traffic. A Douglas County patrol car was damaged north of Markleeville, but details were unavailable this morning.

Douglas County deputies again fired on the van north of (See Car, Page 5)

Car

(Continued from Page 1)
Markleeville as it continued back toward Nevada on Highway 88. The van was running on three blown tires when traveling

north of Markleeville, said Alpine deputy Crawford, and Boyd reportedly had a tough time controlling the vehicle.

About one quarter mile south of the stateline on Highway 88, Boyd encountered a Nevada Highway Patrol roadblock and ran off the road into a pasture. He attempted to flee the van, but was surrounded at gunpoint by Douglas and Alpine County deputies and California Highway Patrol units. Deputy Crawford estimated about a dozen units finally secured the arrest scene.

Boyd is being held on a \$25,000 Kansas warrant.

Resorts Ready to Try Again

From Page 77

their base facilities, adding amenities or making things more accessible.

By far the biggest project was the renovation of June Mountain, which was spruced up to the tune of \$10 million. The Mammoth Mountain Ski Corp., which late last spring purchased June, its mid-sized neighbor to the north, put up an innovative tram system (14 twenty-passenger cars) from the base to the mid-mountain lodge, erected a 9000-foot detachable quad chair from the mid-mountain to the top, and renovated three other chair lifts. Besides increasing its uphill capacity to 12,000 skiers per hour, June also upgraded its lodges and other facilities.

At Mammoth, meanwhile, \$5 million was spent over the summer, mostly on increasing its fleet of shuttle buses (from 19 to 29 vehicles) and doubling the number of lift-ticket windows/booths. As for the hill itself, Mammoth cut three new intermediate trails off Chair 15 and began its project of refurbishing the gondola cars.

The basic lift-ticket price at Mammoth (which plans to open as soon as possible) and June (targeted opening of Thanksgiving Day) is \$25, up a dollar from last season, and lift passes are interchangeable at the two resorts.

Access to the popular Sunrise Bowl (Chair 4 area) at Kirkwood will be vastly increased with the completion of the resort's 11th lift (the Reut), a triple chair that runs 30 yards east of and parallel to Chair 10 but stops well short of the summit ridge, and the tripling of Chair 2.

Also included in Kirkwood's \$2.3 million summer project list were the cutting of two trails off Chair 11, a new, 6000-square-foot bar and grill in the Sun Meadows condo-area, expansion of the bar and cafeteria in the main lodge, and the purchase of equipment whose winching capabilities will enable crews to groom the steep Wall area from the top. The lift-ticket price at Kirkwood, which is hoping to open Saturday, is \$25, an increase of \$1.

Besides spending money on resurfacing the parking lot and the usual summer trail maintenance, Mt. Reba plunked down \$125,000 for a new groomer and winch system that is expected to groom Grizzly Bowl on a continual basis. A \$2 raise, to \$24, was put on the lift tickets at Reba, which hopes to open November 22.

WHERE TO GET A DEAL

Several Sierra ski resorts are offering bargains and incentives, from guarantees of learning to ski in the first lesson to on-the-hill lotteries. Here's the rundown on some of those deals:

ALPINE MEADOWS SKI AREA — Alpine commemorates its 25th anniversary this year, and "silver season" specials for skiers include giveaways with every 25th lift ticket sold on Sundays. Also included are drawings for prizes, clinics and carnivals — all open to the public. For more information, phone 916-583-4232 or write Alpine Meadows Ski Area, PO Box 5279, Tahoe City 95730.

BOREAL SKI AREA — Both Boreal and Soda Springs are offering a variety of deals for die-hard skiers, potential skiers and families. In the Jump-the-Gun season special, for example, all skiers buying a lift ticket will receive a voucher for a free lift ticket good any time after March 29. Boreal will also participate in the free national Learn-to-Ski-Day kicking off the Let's Go Skiing America promotion. For more information, call 916-426-3666 or write Boreal/Soda Springs Ski Areas, PO Box 39, Truckee 95734; 916-426-3666.

DODGE RIDGE SKI AREA — Various deals throughout the season. Special skiing opportunities include introductory package for the novice over 13 years of age for \$20, "Tuesday For Two," for skiers avoiding crowds, allows two skiers to ski for the price of one. And two weeks have been designated as "kids ski free" weeks, allowing those under 12 to ski free when accompanied by a paying adult. More information, 209-965-3474, or write Dodge Ridge, PO Box 1188, Pinecrest 95364.

DONNER SKI RANCH — The Ranch Frequent Skier Club offers free skiing on any day in April, as well as reduced lift-ticket prices. Value of the free day of skiing combined with the savings from the first three discounted lift tickets will equal the cost of membership. Members will then receive \$5 off each weekend lift ticket and \$3 off each weekday ticket. Membership cost is \$15 and is limited to 500 members. Contact Ranch Frequent Skier Club, c/o Donner Ski Ranch, Post Office Box 66, Norden 95724, or call 1-800-221-SNOW.

HEAVENLY VALLEY SKI RESORT — Resort offers skiers the Heavenly Ski Club. Benefits include discounts on lift tickets, lessons, rental equipment and items at the Heavenly Sports Shops. Club members are also offered discounts on Mahre Training Center weeks, which feature training by skiers Phil and Steve Mahre. Members can also take advantage of "ski club days," which include barbecues and after-ski parties with entertainment and dancing. Membership is \$20; applications may be obtained by calling 916-541-1330 or by writing Heavenly Ski Club, PO Box 2180, Stateline, Nev. 89449.

HOMEWOOD — Resort features reduced rates including \$12 per day adult midweek lift tickets

during non-holiday periods of the season. Also, persons age 60 and over can ski anytime for \$8. Contact Homewood Ski Area, PO Box 165, Homewood 96718, or call 916-525-7256.

KIRKWOOD SKI RESORT — Kirkwood and Safeway stores offer beginner learning programs. The promotion is threefold, with discounts on lift tickets, on a beginner program for adults and on a children's "mighty mountain" learn-to-ski program. Coupons for discounts on lift tickets and learn-to-ski packages are available at stores throughout the Bay Area and Central Valley. For details, call 209-258-6000 or write Kirkwood Ski Resort, PO Box 1, Kirkwood 95646.

MT. REBA/BEAR VALLEY — Seasonlong \$25,000 Celebration Sweepstakes drawing and lift-ticket lottery are the highlights at Mt. Reba/Bear Valley. The lift-ticket lottery is open to all levels; prizes to be awarded include vacations, lessons, dinners and discounts. Grand prize is a 1987 station wagon. For information, call 209-753-2301 or write Mt. Reba Inc., PO Box 5038, Bear Valley 95223.

SKI INCLINE — The ski area offers super-skier fares for those families seeking an economical alternative to skiing. A family of four can ski for \$39 on weekdays and \$49 on weekends. Families must consist of at least one but not more than two adults, and children must be under 18. Fares are available throughout the season except holidays. Other specials include discounts on season passes, clinics and lesson packages. For details call 702-832-1177 or write PO Drawer AL, Incline Village, Nev. 89450.

SQUAW VALLEY — Skiers may register as beginner, intermediate or expert and, if at any time the wait in their skill category exceeds 10 minutes, they receive a full refund and can ski the rest of the day at no charge. Offer is good throughout the season. Squaw also offers a variety of ski packages. For details call 916-583-6985 or write Squaw Valley, PO Box 2007, Olympic Valley 95730.

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK — Badger Pass ski area offers the "silver skier special" and a guaranteed learn-to-ski package. The silver-skier program provides a free season pass to anyone age 60 or older along with a \$25 lesson package designed for the elderly. The learn-to-ski package is \$25 and guarantees that after lessons skiers will be able to ride a chair lift, ski down a slope, turn and stop, or be given a choice of a full refund or another day's lesson package. More information, call 209-372-1445, or write Yosemite Park and Curry Co., Yosemite National Park 95389.

The Record-Courier

11-13-86

Alpine question defeated

Alpine County activists who oppose a new South Tahoe Public Utility District reservoir will have to take the issue to court with the recent failure of Measure A.

The measure, which sought the protection of artifacts that

may be covered by the reservoir, failed in Alpine County on Nov. 4 by 96 votes.

Opponents of the measure said federal laws adequately protect the artifacts of Washoe Indians and early settlers that are scattered around the county.

They also said the measure would block other construction on private lands.

The measure would have effectively stopped the STPUD reservoir project scheduled for construction by next summer.

The Record Courier 11-6-86

Editor:

As co-chairman of the Wine Country in the High Country III, benefitting the Alpine County Parents' Club Scholarship Fund, we would like to express our gratitude for their support to the following: Mr. and Mrs. Jim Pedroncelli (Geyserville), Eric Jung's Band (Bear Valley), Ann Robinson's Dance Workshop (Gardnerville); Record-Courier, Alpine Enterprise, Heidi Hopkins, Jim and Dolores Clark, LeRoy and Nadine Wickham, Jerry and Marge Purdy, Barbara Jones, Dina Gigli, Scott Robinson, Gary Coyan, Jack Evans (Reno), and Diane Moteu (Reno).

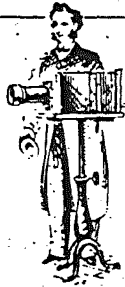
Also, a big thank you to the Green Mountain Book Company, Alpine Country Furniture, Walley's Hot Springs, Frank's Shell Station, Sierra Pines, Markleeville Store, Woodford's Station, Raley's, Mission Linen and Diamond Valley School.

Many thanks to the people who came and donated \$7.50 each to drink good wine and have a good time!

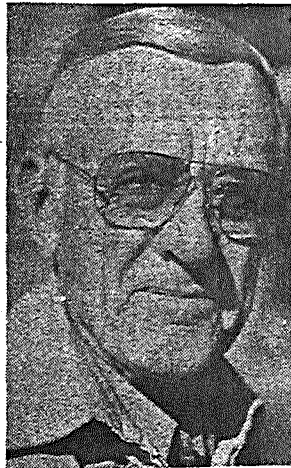
This year, after expenses were deducted, \$412 was donated to the Alpine County Parent's Club Scholarship Fund.

RUGGERO AND GINA GIGLI
Markleeville
Oct. 27

You said it!



Do we start thinking about Christmas too early?



CECIL FAIRCHILD
Retired

I don't see anything unusual about the way it's being celebrated already. I don't really mind that the decorations go up this early. It gets you thinking about it.



AUDREY INWOOD
Housewife

Yes, hell it's not even Thanksgiving yet.



MIRIAM NOFFZ
Retired

Yes, because it's too commercial. It means the stores start thinking about it too early. We should start thinking about Jan. 1 the next year, but the stores just start too early.

See WRECK, page B2 Cleaning up the wreckage of Tuesday's fatal crash brought traffic on Interstate 5 to a crawl for about an hour.

Sacramento Press 1/19/86

Tiny county flush with cash from sewage deal

by **Walt Yost**
See Correspondent

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE — The South Tahoe Public Utility District has made a \$100,000 mitigation payment to Alpine County on a controversial \$15 million waste-water reservoir project.

The district also sent the county \$15,000 to monitor water quality around the Harvey Place Reservoir, which has been the target of lawsuits and ballot measures since it was first proposed in 1983.

Alpine County Supervisor Eleanor Sawdey called the payment "a significant amount of money."

"Our yearly budget is only \$2.3 million," she said. "Maybe we can use the money to continue projects that would have been stopped."

Sawdey mentioned the library, sheriff's department and parks and maintenance as places the money could be spent.

Officials of the utility and the county said defeat of a recent ballot measure to preserve historic Indian sites nearby has paved the way for the project.

Reservoir opponents, however, said they will await the outcome of a 3rd District Court of Appeals hearing in January.

Tim Pemberton, a Markleeville attorney, and Larry Silver of the Sierra Club

legal defense fund, contend a 1983 Alpine County initiative requires greater treatment of sewage than is planned by the utility district.

District officials will challenge that requirement during the appeals court hearing in Sacramento Jan. 24.

James Cofer, the district's general manager, has said the cost difference between the two levels of sewage treatment would be staggering.

Cofer said he expects the district to win the court challenge, but added, "The project will go on either way."

The South Tahoe utility district is required by the state to export all sewage

out of the Lake Tahoe basin. The district built Indian Creek Reservoir (with the higher level of treatment) in Alpine County in 1967, and the county agreed to accept Tahoe's sewage discharge in perpetuity.

Harvey Place Reservoir would be built just north of the first reservoir and would have about 25 percent greater capacity.

The utility district agreed to pay California's least-populated county \$100,000 per year for the life of the project, Cofer said, because "Alpine needed some compensation."

See ALPINE, page B2

Alpine

Continued from page B1

The district also will provide the county with:

- \$5 million worth of insurance for the project.
- 15,000 pounds of catchable-size trout each year.
- Fire lines for the reservoir's fire protection.
- Water, in case the project contaminates drinking water sources.

On Nov. 4, Alpine voters voted 262-166 against an ordinance that would have prevented the utility district from building its reservoir on several sites once occupied by Washo Indians — sites that are said to be eligible for the National Register of historic places.

Cofer said rejection of the ordinance "showed the interest of the Alpine voters" and bolstered the reservoir's chances.

Pemberton, who backed the un-

successful ballot measure and previously tried to block the project because of health and earthquake hazards, said: "I'm entirely confident we'll prevail. Our goal is to get a quality project."

The South Tance utility district, which owns no property in Alpine County, is proceeding with eminent domain condemnation to acquire 600 acres for the reservoir project.

Cofer said an archaeological team can begin inspecting the Indian sites by December and remove artifacts for study.

The utility district hopes to award a construction contract for the reservoir by next June, he said, with completion by 1989.

The project could have been completed this year, Cofer said, if lawsuits hadn't delayed it. He said the delay has cost the utility district \$1 million and Alpine County \$400,000.

The buffalo are gone from James Canyon

Is there Genoa life after the buffalo? The buffalo have been there, just up the road, at the James Canyon Ranch, since "always," — which dates back to the early 1960s. The white board fence held signs every few feet: "BEWARE - WILD BUFFALO." Now the buffalo fields are empty.

The animals have been trucked off, and there is a stretch of void along that part of Jack's Valley Road. Wayne Orvik, the ranch's foreman until it was sold recently, says that the new owners of the James Canyon Ranch (to be renamed) have shipped most of the cattle and all of the bison and intend to put 600-700 head of Limousin cattle on the place. Ron and Tony Simek, father and son, the new owners of the ranch, are breeders of purebred Limousin cattle and are moving to Genoa along with their exotic French cattle.

Buffalo are not easy to handle; they must be worked as wild animals. Wayne says that is because "they ARE wild animals." He also stated that the ranch bison have killed two horses. The people who now own the ranch may have felt that the danger was too great.

Whatever the reason, it's their place and their choice. But the buffalo were an ambling landmark along Jack's Valley Road and they brought special joy to every passing car that held a camera or a child.

Genoa life without the buffalo is a change that we will adjust to with heavy hearts and reminiscent sighs.

THANKSGIVING

Ready or not, it's Thanksgiving one week from today and what can be said that hasn't been said too many times before? But there's one thing really fine about the holiday that we never tire of. That is the gathering of our loved ones all together in one place at the same time. Enjoy it and have a hearty gobble-dy-day.

PERSIMMON

Persimmons are in the market now and they are not too expensive. If you are not familiar with persimmons, try this simple, delicious way of eating them. The fruit must be extremely ripe, so ripe that it feels very soft in your hand.

You can buy them harder and set them out on the counter until ready. Then cut off the green calyx at the bottom set the persimmon upright on its calyx end, slice down two or three

Around Genoa

by CHARLOTTE REESE

times to open it like a flower and top with a huge blob of whipped cream and some chopped walnuts.

BUCK STOPPERS

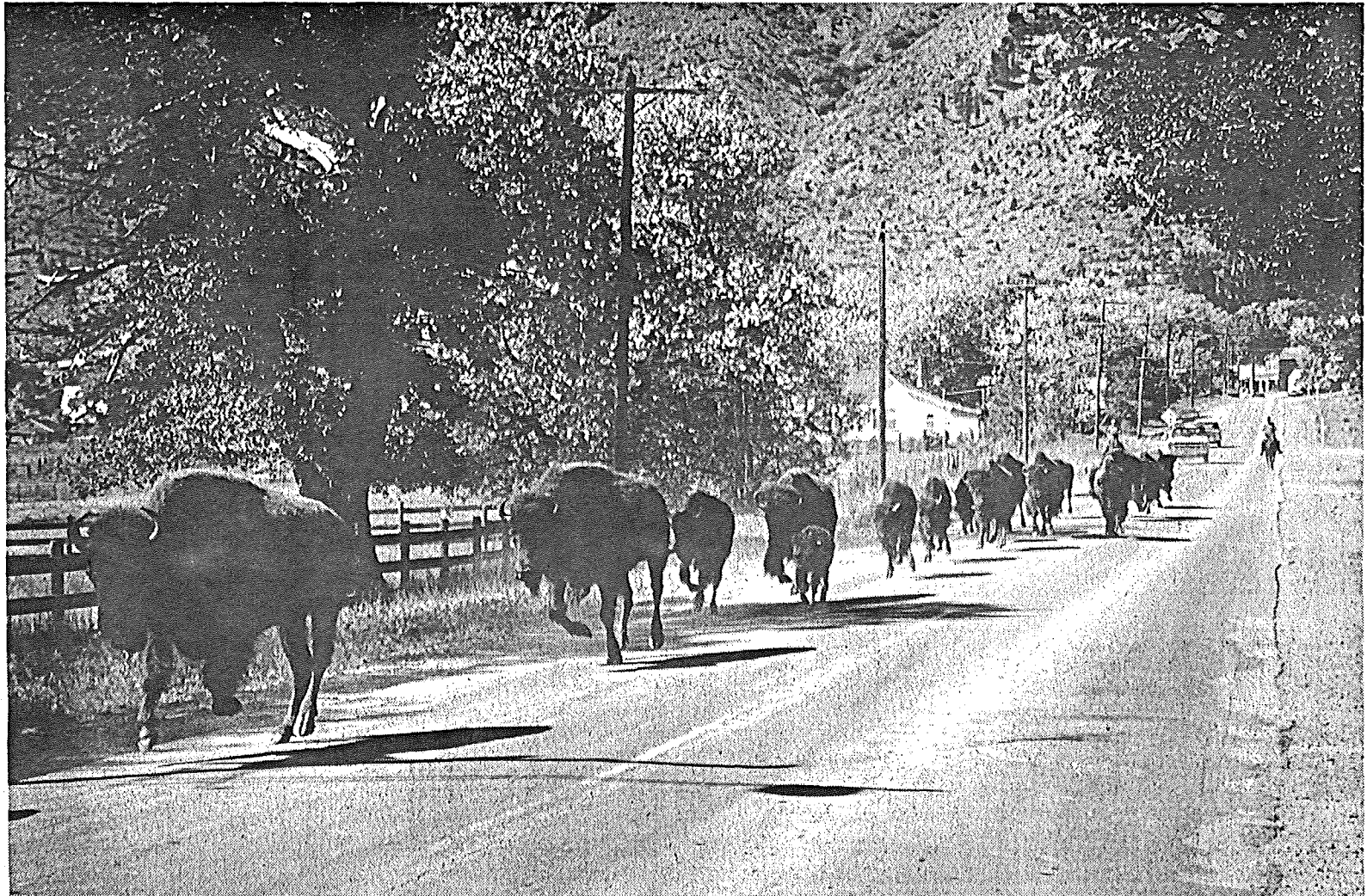
Dan Pendleton and son Lance Pendleton went deer hunting in the Eureka area. They didn't see

too many bucks but there were some and Lance, with a sunburned face and a big smile, brought his home.

Lance is just 14 years old and this is his second trophy. The first was bagged in the same area. Dan says Lance is "hot on Roger's trail." A reference to Roger Falcke's exceptional kill a few weeks ago. Congratulations, Lance.

TOP T

Judy Brierly's newest T-shirt reads, "Eat dessert first. Life is uncertain."



Last round up

Several years ago cowboys had the unusual task of rounding up loose buffalo in Genoa, after this herd escaped from their home at Harvey's James Ca-

nyon Ranch. It won't happen again, however. The buffalo reportedly were sold to a Los Banos, Calif., packing house recently, where they were

slaughtered. The James Canyon Ranch is now the Little Mondeaux Limousin Ranch, under new ownership. Jay Aldrich photo

Turkey of a Holiday at the Resorts

BY DAN GIESIN

For the first time in six years, it looks like skiing over Thanksgiving weekend is for the birds.

And that doesn't mean snowbirds; we're talking turkey.

With little or no snow at Sierra ski resorts — and a somewhat grim forecast for the chances of any big snowstorms arriving by Thursday — it looks like the long holiday weekend will be better served by going Christmas shopping or talking long bike rides.

Not since the 1980-81 winter, when most Sierra resorts didn't get on line until early to mid-December, has there been an almost snowless Thanksgiving, which many skiers like to consider the traditional ski season opener.

"Historically, it's a 50-50 chance to have snow around Thanksgiving," said Bill Jensen at Squaw Valley, which has covered the odds in nine of the last 10 Thanksgivings.

The disturbance that rumbled through Northern California last Thursday evening heightened anticipation, but did little to change the current situation. "We got a dusting," said Debby Horgan at Heavenly Valley. "It was enough (snow) to make everything white, but not skiable."

By most conservative estimates ski industry personnel, at least two feet of snow would have to fall for the majority of resorts to get going on a limited basis.

"Depending on the consistency of the snow, we'd need a minimum of two feet to open the lower mountain," said John Wagnon at Kirkwood. "If the snow was really light, like Colorado snow, we'd need up to four feet."

It looks bleak even at Mammoth Mountain, whose average opening day since 1970 has been November 15. "We still have some snow at the top of the mountain the (late) September storm," Pam Murphy. "But we need two feet at the (old base) lodge to open."

And even those hills that have snow-making capabilities haven't been given a break by the weather. In most instances, it's been just too warm to operate the machinery.

"We've had a temperature inversion the last couple of weeks," said Earl Davis at Boreal, which has been able to make snow on only a couple of short beginners' runs. "The weather's not cooperating, and we've not been able to make snow on top (of the mountain)."

The balmy temperatures have also affected Incline, which has the

largest network of snow guns in the Sierra and is able to cover 70 percent of the hill. "We're waiting for Mother Nature (to supply snow)," said the resort's Lee Weber. "We decided not to make snow in order to open by Thanksgiving. It would cost too much money."

Economics plays a big part in the ski resort business, but even though a potentially lucrative weekend is a potential bust, no one seems to be overly worried.

"I would say there's some concern," said Steve Teshara of the Ta-

hoe North Visitors and Convention Bureau. "We would like to have skiing on Thanksgiving, but that's not a given. A lot of people come up (to Tahoe) for Thanksgiving anyway."

"We're still pretty optimistic," said Mammoth's Murphy. "We're still hiring and getting ready for the season."

Although there were rumors last week of widespread layoffs at some resorts, the only employees told not to come to work were those whose jobs — ski patrollers, lift attendants — were on the hill.

A way of life fades to memory



Tribune photo by Scott Locker

BRIAN WALLACE, chairman of the Washoe tribal council, bends to touch the water in Trout Creek. Center is Dabert Wyatt, left is elder Maria Kizer.

Washoe strive to raise funds for cultural center

The Council of the Washoe Tribe are striving to raise \$1.8 million for a cultural center at Taylor Creek, off of Highway 89 near Fallen Leaf Lake campground.

The historic camp site at Taylor Creek was a focal point of Washoe economic and cultural life for generations.

Land for the potential cultural center, located across from the U.S. Forest Service Interpretative Center on Highway 89, is already set aside for the project.

Permission for construction has been granted by environmental agencies, and the project may begin once the funds are raised.

In order to raise funds, the Washoe tribe is conducting a series of exhibits on the Washoe way of life.

"The tribal council hopes to find matching funds from California State Parks and other agencies," said Brian Wallace, chairman of the Washoe Tribal Council.

The three major goals of the project are to reclaim the natural site at Taylor Creek, to build a cultural center and to expand the existing Washoe Trail already begun by the U.S. Forest Service, according to Wallace.

Erosion control is one of the initial priorities of the project, as will be a thorough clean-up. In the recent past the location was used as a dump site for dirt and other remnants of road work and construction.

Revegetation of indigenous plants will commence following the clean-up. Plants such as willows for basketry, and plants with medicinal qualities will be cultivated.

The cultural center will educate visitors, residents and Washoe tribe members in the ways of the Washoe.

The center will also protect the area and will allow for presentations of exhibits of a lifestyle compatible with the environmental health of the area, said Wallace.

The cultural center will offer a home for the artifacts of the tribe which are now scattered around the world. In addition to museum facilities, the center will provide services to scholars and students.

Bedrock symbolizes Washoe history

Tahoe
Daily
Tribune
Dec. 4,
1986

By SUZANNE STONE
Tribune Staff Writer

On a warm fall day of perfect Indian summer weather, three leaders of the Washoe tribe walked the path of the old railroad bed through a forested area of Trout Creek meadow, then emerged into the golden grassland between the creek and a large rock outcrop.

This large outcrop, known as a bedrock grinding stone, is pocked with round holes and worn smooth and shiny in certain spots from several hundred years of use by the Washoe Indian tribe.

The Washoe leaders, facing toward the mountains, away from Highway 50 behind the Lucky shopping center, took a moment to imagine what the meadow must have been like before the coming of the white man.

"I can see the women seated on the bedrock, grinding and pounding seeds and acorns while talking to each other," said Dabert Wyatt, secretary of The Washoe Cultural Foundation.

With Wyatt on this expedition were Brian Wallace, chairman of the Washoe Tribal Council, and Marie Kizer, an elder of the tribe.

Concern for the land prompted the three to make a recent pilgrimage to the bedrock grinding stone in Trout Creek meadow.

In the Washoe language, the Trout Creek site is called "dew'ltelgking," which describes the quaking or echoing sound made when the women pounded pestles in the bedrock mortar.

Trout Creek meadow was traditionally a Washoe campground, until the 1940's when the area became more urbanized. In the fall the camp was used primarily for trapping whitefish and gathering berries.

Wyatt's family used to camp in the meadow while his grandfather worked in the forest nearby. His brothers fished in the creek.

Now part of the soon-to-be built permanent Lake Tahoe Community College grounds, this site will face bicyclists, walkers, picnickers and students in greater numbers as college buildings rise from the once silent ridges surrounding the meadow.

The Washoe leaders fear that a greater number of uneducated users will scar the rock with more broken bottles and a greater avalanche of trash.

"I hope the public will take a moment to consider the significance of this place before throwing bottles against the rock," said Wallace, spokesman for the Washoe council.

Marie Kizer, a basket-maker respected for her knowledge of Indian ways, said she believes the Trout Creek bedrock mortar is the largest one in the area.

Seated on the bedrock in front of a grinding hole with one leg bent and the other out straight, she showed how the Washoe women would grind and pound seeds and nuts with a pestle to make a flour-like substance. She recalled using a mortar and pestle to grind when her mother and grandmother were alive.

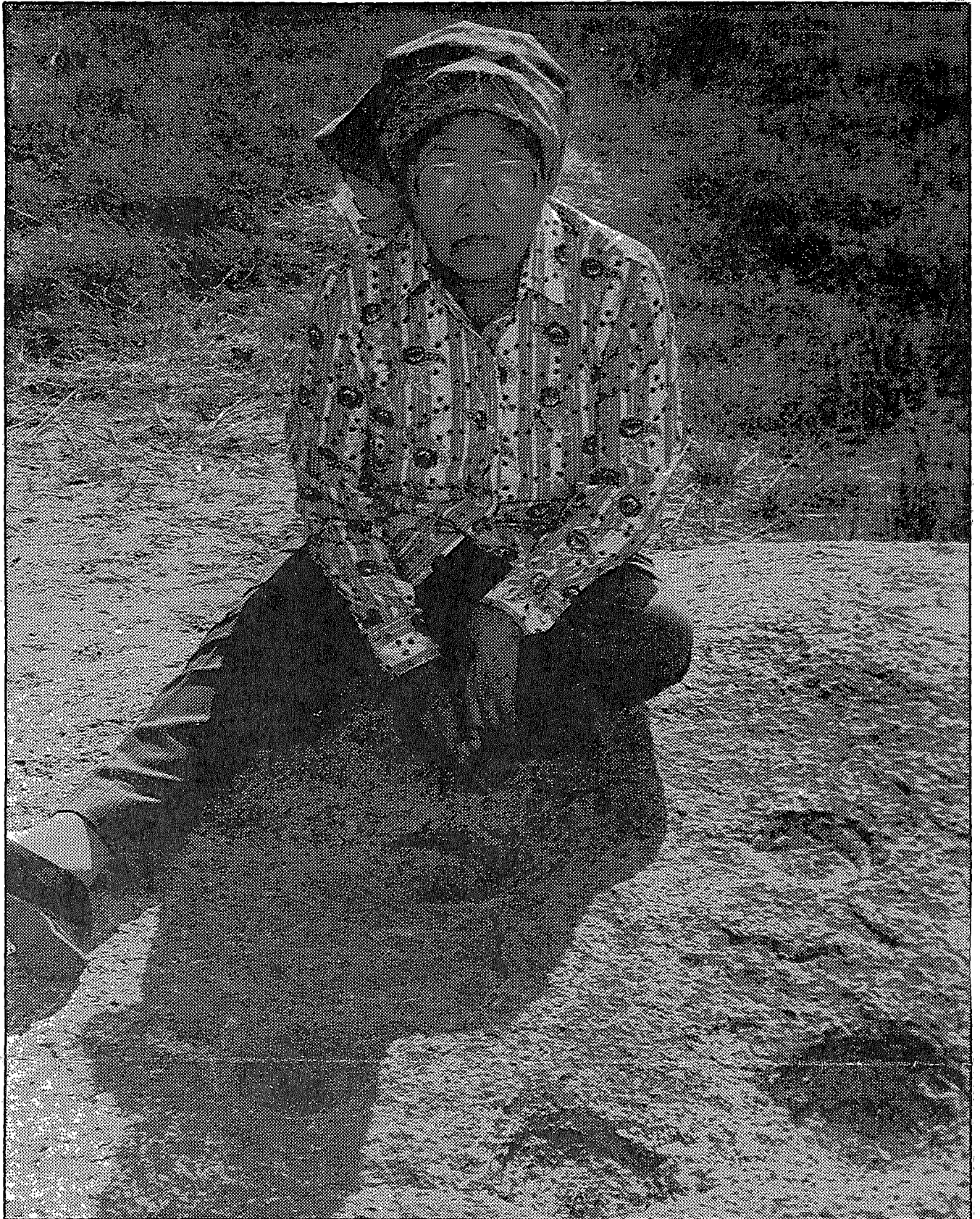
In journeying to Trout Creek meadow, the Washoe leaders found in the center of South Lake Tahoe a place where wilderness can be still be imagined.

Said Wyatt, "The bedrock should be taken care of. It should be identified. It has a special meaning for the Washoe people.

"I'd like to see the meadow remain as it is."

Secluded from the highway behind willows and fir trees is the meadow with its bedrock grinding stone and its creek glistening in the sun, a place worthy of honor and respect.

Tahoe Daily Tribune
Dec. 4, 1986



Tribune photo by Scott Locker

MARIA KIZER, an elder of the Washoe tribe, rests on the rock she and her ancestors once used to pound acorn into mush.

Tahoe Daily Tribune Dec. 4, 1986

STPUD to submit sewer master plan to Lahontan

By ROB WELLS
Tribune Staff Writer

Since 1980, an estimated 19.2 million gallons of treated and partially treated wastewater have spilled from the South Tahoe Public Utility District's sewer system into streams that feed Lake Tahoe, according to state reports.

In addition, an unlined emergency wastewater storage reservoir has leaked millions of gallons of treated and partially

treated wastewater into the Tahoe Basin groundwater table, said state documents and STPUD officials.

What's being done to prevent future disasters?

By Dec. 15, STPUD will present to the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board a comprehensive master plan to repair the numerous leaks and faults of the South Tahoe sewer system.

The task STPUD faces in pat-

ching up the system is enormous, as well as the price tag.

Perhaps the most onerous task ahead is how STPUD plans to stop the inflow of melting snow water into STPUD's 400 miles of sewer pipe. High water levels from winter storms manage to drain into the STPUD sewer system through leaky pipes and manhole covers, flooding the sewage treatment system and causing some of the multi-million gallon

spills of recent winters.

In technical circles, the problem is known as infiltration and inflow, a common vice to many aging sewer systems in California. The Santa Rosa area sewer system is plagued with a similar burden, and millions of gallons of treated effluent has been pumped into the Russian River when high winter water flows exceeded the sewer plant's capacity.

As in Santa Rosa, the cost of

inspecting, isolating and repairing the aging sewer pipes in South Lake Tahoe will be tremendous. Add to that the cost of lining STPUD's 13-acre emergency storage pond, fixing the leak-prone wastewater line that runs over Luther Pass and financing the local share of the \$40 million Harvey Place Reservoir and related sewer system improvements.

"It's hard to believe we can do (See STPUD, Page 12)

Page Twelve Tahoe Daily Tribune Thursday, December 4, 1986

STPUD

(Continued from Page 1)

all that without a rate increase," said STPUD engineer/manager Jim Cofer. Just how large a rate increase can't be determined until the costs and schedule of the improve-

ments is spelled out.

How is the utility managing this repair task? Reports so far have been favorable.

"We feel (STPUD) is making a good faith effort," said John Short, a staff engineer at LRW-QCB's South Lake Tahoe office. "It is hoped that when they upgrade the plant, they will be in compliance with the clean up and abatement order and the water discharge requirements."

Tom Martens, executive director for the League to Save Lake Tahoe, agrees with Short's assessment. "We are pretty satisfied (STPUD) is making progress as fast as it can." He

added, "You want to allow them enough time to fix their problems, but you don't want to let them get off scott free."

After the flurry of sewer spills in recent winters, the Lahontan board issued STPUD a "cease and desist" order, which requires the agency to submit a detailed schedule on how they intend to fix the sewer problems. The utility hired James Montgomery consulting engineers of Walnut Creek to develop the master plan.

Besides the inflow and infiltration problem, the master plan will also discuss the problem of the leaking emergency retention basin, a 13-acre pond

near the corner of Black Bart and Pioneer Trail. Utility manager/engineer Jim Cofer said the pond needs to be lined on the bottom to prevent chronic leaking. The exact amount of leakage has not been nailed down. Cofer agreed a state estimate of a 20 million gallon leak is in the ballpark.

So far, the leak hasn't posed a public health threat, according to STPUD and Lahontan groundwater tests. Lahontan executive director Ossian Butterfield said the wastewater's filtering through the soil probably reduces the bacterial levels in the groundwater.

The water quality threat,

however, is dissolved nitrogen from the pond seeping into the ground water, and that nitrogen-rich groundwater making its way to Lake Tahoe, where it fuels algae growth.

Cofer expects the utility won't be relying on the emergency retention basin as much once it finishes constructing the \$15 million Harvey Place Reservoir in Alpine County and the \$25 million sewer plant upgrading program. Completing these two projects tops the district's priority list, said Cofer, since the projects are hoped to increase the reliability, and reduce the cost, of operating South Tahoe's sewage treatment facility.



Renee Halvorson

Decorating

Students in Douglas High School's Honor Society are making the Cottonwood Care Center their community service project this year. On Monday, they decorated the commons room for Christmas and talked to the residents. In front of the students are

residents Beula Tatum, Bertha Courtwright and Mabel Tietje. President of the group is Gina Jenkins; vice president, Susan McKibben; secretary, Michelle Hall, and treasurer, Tom Gregory. R-C photo

STPUD improvements costly

By ROB WELLS
Tribune Staff Writer

South Tahoe Public Utility District directors had a peek at the future Thursday, and it looks expensive.

The major improvements to the STPUD system are pushing over \$28 million dollars — retrofit the sewage treatment plant, construct the wastewater storage reservoir in Alpine County, seal the leaky emergency wastewater storage pond near Black Bart Road, and study how to upgrade the sewage collection system. Local costs for these projects, including the up-front cash needed before grant reimbursal, is hovering in the \$7.4 million range, just about gobbling up STPUD's \$8 million reserve.

The projects will help prevent future wastewater discharges in the Tahoe Basin. The sewer plant and collection system has spilled millions of gallons of treated wastewater into

Local tab could come to \$8 million

streams leading to Lake Tahoe in recent winters.

At special workshop Thursday, STPUD staff and a consulting engineer sketched a plan to upgrade the collection system, as mandated by a cease and desist order issued by the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board last summer.

Cofer said the collection system master plan and other efforts to improve the plant should show Lahontan board members the utility is taking "positive steps" toward improving South Tahoe's sewer system.

The utility staff wants to tackle the cronic flooding into the sewage collection system that exceeds the sewage plant's capacity and leads to spills. To this end, STPUD has spent \$81,500 to have James Mon-

gomery Engineers of Walnut Creek begin an analysis of the utility's collection system and present a master plan for its repair and upgrade.

Plugging and sealing manhole covers, beefing up emergency response patrols, pipe inspection and cleaning programs were a few suggestions offered by Charlie Joyce, senior engineer at Montgomery Engineers. He outlined a four-phase program for inspection and eventual repair of the sewage collection system. The full price of the repairs won't be known until a flow monitoring and computer model evaluation of the system is well underway, which will take about two years, said utility manager/engineer Jim Cofer.

The computer model also would assist the utility in plann-

ing for the city's redevelopment project, said Cofer.

STPUD could go out an try to plug the holes in the collection system without the study, said Cofer, but the analysis will tell the utility where to best spend its repair dollar, said Cofer and Joyce. So far, Montgomery Engineers has recommended the utility spend an extra \$103,400 to bolster maintenance and inspection of the collection system.

Priority projects are the sewer plant upgrade, the Alpine County dam and irrigation project, study and repair of the collection system and lining of the emergency storage pond, said Cofer. Additional money for bonds or loans to pay for the projects will be seriously considered for the 1988-9 fiscal year, said Cofer, as the district would barely be able to cover the costs of the projects with its current reserve.

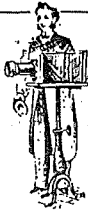
(See STPUD, Page 11)

STPUD

(Continued from Page 1)

Recognizing these restrictions, Cofer said the staff is not recommending lining the emergency storage basin until 1988 at the earliest. Since existing work on the plant causes the wastewater to be routed into the emergency pond, Cofer said it isn't feasible to proceed with sealing the leak-prone pond until the extensive plant modifications are complete.

You said it!



What does
Christmas
mean
to you?



MARJORIE HALLQUIST
Retired
The birthday of Jesus, giving presents and love for everybody.



CHRISTOPHER CLOUTIER
5 years old
I don't know. Santa Claus. Presents.



BEVERLY REEVES
Personnel clerk
Lots of love and Jesus Christ.



HOWARD ARMSTRONG
Cemetery maintenance
Christ and the everlasting peace he's given us, the joy it gives to the little ones and the innocent ones.



MELISSA BAKER
5 years old
Going to bed because Santa Claus brings presents for me.



SHERI BELL
Housewife
It means I miss Idaho in the snow. It means God's son was here many, many years ago, and that's what we're celebrating more importantly than anything else.

High-speed chase ends in Markleeville

Two men in a stolen taxi led police on a high-speed chase through three counties Monday, ending in Alpine County when a sheriff's patrol car was rammed into the cab.

David Dobbs, 18, and Charles Samson, 20, both of Reno were arrested after the cab veered off a 15-20 foot embankment on Highway 88 and came to rest against a tree. The cab caught on fire but both men escaped injury.

The pursuit started about 4 a.m. in Lemmon Valley, north of Reno, after the men robbed a taxi driver and took the car, according to Washoe County Sheriff's Sgt. Jeff Wise. The taxi driver escaped, he said.

Washoe County sheriff's deputies spotted the taxi heading south and followed at consistent speeds of 80-90 mph over an 80-mile stretch, Wise said. The men continued toward Douglas County, speeding down Highway

88 toward Woodfords.

Three Douglas County units joined the pursuit on U.S. 395 but turned around at the state line. Alpine County Sheriff's Deputy Tom Nagel said the chase ended near Crystal Springs, after Washoe County sheriff's deputies received permission to stop the taxi by ramming it with a patrol car.

Samson, the passenger, was taken into custody immediately.

Dobbs took off on foot but later turned himself in when deputies announced over a PA system they were going to release an Alpine County Search and Rescue attack-trained dog, Nagel said.

Dobbs and Samson were booked into the Eldorado County jail on charges of robbery, assault with a deadly weapon and transporting stolen property into the state.

Population

Continued from page A1

The summary is part of a much larger population report due in January. The Finance Department's population research unit prepares the report so that state services can be adjusted to meet the changing needs of the population.

The projection is 7.5 percent higher than one produced by the research unit in 1983.

Department spokeswoman Mary Heim said the projection assumes no changes because of wars, epidemics or natural disasters such as a great earthquake.

It also assumes California will attract an average of 215,000 newcomers each year — including illegal aliens.

The illegal alien forecast is a particularly hard figure to estimate, she

said, given the recent enactment of a new national immigration law. It is assumed that fewer aliens will be moving to California and many people who are illegally in the state now will eventually become citizens. But the new citizens probably will attempt to bring relatives to California, she said.

Although final projections on age demographics are still being refined, Heim said it appears that people 85 and older will be the fastest growing age group by 2020.

In 1985, there were 253,800 Californians who were 85 or older. By 2020, that figure should be 620,700.

Also in 1985, Kings County had the youngest median age and Lake the oldest. By 2020, Merced will have the youngest and Alpine the oldest.

El Dorado's population to double

By ROB WELLS
Tribune Staff Writer

The populations of El Dorado, Placer and Alpine counties will double in the next 35 years, according to a state report released last week.

Overall, Californians will see an extra 13 million people living

here by 2020; currently, some 26,365,000 people call the California home.

El Dorado County will see about 118 percent growth — from 104,700 in 1985 to 229,000 in 2020 — in the next 35 years, mostly on the western slope along the Highway 50 corridor,

said Bruce Walters, senior El Dorado county planner. El Dorado is expected to be the state's seventh fastest growing county in the coming years, the state report said.

Growth in Placer County will increase by 108 percent during the same period, from 138,400 in

1985 to 228,000 in 2020, according to the study. Dave Mirtoni, senior planner for Placer County, said growth will take off in the southwestern portion of the county, in Rocklin, Roseville and Auburn areas.

The wide open and lonely (See El Dorado, Page 15)

California's people boom

39.6 million expected by 2020

By Stephen Green
Bee Capitol Bureau

For every two Californians you see today, there will be a third one by the year 2020, according to a projection issued Friday by the state Department of Finance.

California's population will jump by more than 13 million, state researchers reported — from 26,365,000 in July 1985 to 39,619,000 in July 2020.

Sacramento County, which had 893,800 people in 1985 will grow to 1,511,700.

The fastest-growing area of the state will be Lake County, which is becoming an increasingly popular area for retirees. Lake had 48,300 residents in 1985. That number is expected to jump to 121,300 in 2020, which represents an average annual increase of 4.3 percent.

The Sierra Nevada foothills also will be a major growth area, with Nevada and Calaveras counties leading the way. Nevada will have an annual growth rate of 4.1 percent and 167,400 people by 2020. Calaveras will have a growth rate of 3.8 percent and 62,400 people.

The two other fastest-growing counties will be Riverside and San Luis Obispo, increasing at annual rates of 3.9 and 3.5 percent, respectively.

The only county expected to lose population is San Francisco, which had 735,000 people in 1985. That number will drop to 684,200 in the 35-year period for an annual loss of 0.2 percent.

Los Angeles County will still be the largest in 2020 with 10,119,300 people compared to 8,085,300 in 1985. But the rate of growth will slow to an average of only 0.7 percent annually. Statewide, the annual average growth rate is 1.4 percent.

Alpine will still be the smallest of the counties in 2020 with 2,500 people. But that is more than double Alpine's 1,200 residents in 1985. Sierra will be the next smallest with 4,800 people compared to 3,500 in 1985.

El Dorado

(Continued from Page 1)

Alpine County — California's least populated county — will more than double in size, from 1,200 in 1985 to 2,500 in 2020, said Earl O'Neil, consultant to the Board of supervisors. The Kirkwood and Woodfords communities will probably bear the brunt of the growth, he said.

Growth in the Tahoe Basin will be controlled by the soon to be approved Tahoe Regional Plan. A 1983 Tahoe Regional Planning Agency study said Tahoe's resident and non-resident population could grow anywhere from 93,371 in 1983 to 125,669 by the year 2000.

The Tahoe portions of El Dorado county could grow from 51,595 in 1983 to 71,722 by the year 2000 under a high growth plan, and Placer county's portion could swell from 17,840 in 1983 to 24,736 over the same time span, said the TRPA study.

Tahoe Daily
Tribune 12/24/86

Sacramento Bee 12/20/86