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Available to amateur astronomers

Telescope used for total eclips

United Press International GOLDENDALE, Wash. — Goldendale, a farming town, population 2,500, just east of the Cascade Mountains, looks like an unlikely spot for an observatory that draws astronomers from all over the

But because its telescope is one of the largest in the world available for use by amateurs, the observatory has members from throughout the Northwest, including Canada, and is frequently visited by amateur astronomers from elsewhere, including Europe.

'They read about us in astronomy publications and some who have the money have come here just to use the telescope," said Terry Tolan, assistant director of the observatory.

Most amateurs, he said, have telescopes of only four to 10 inches.

Any others, 18 to 20 inches or larger, are owned by universities or research institutes and are not available for amateur use.

Goldendale is on U.S. Highway 97, a two-lane route, 30 miles off Interstate Highway 80N, which runs along the south bank of the Columbia River in Oregon. Despite being off the major tourist routes the observatory will have an estimated 13,000 to 14,000 visitors this

A good share of the observatory's 300 members plus amateur astronomers from throughout the world are expected to crowd into the observatory and its grounds Feb. 26 for the last total eclipse of the sun to be visible in the United States this century. A few professional astronomers, including some from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, also will be there because the Goldendale Observatory is dead center in the path of the eclipse.

Tolan said about 1,200 persons are expected to view the eclipse from the observatory and its grounds. In addition to the big telescope, the observatory's 10 smaller portable telescopes will be available for use by visitors and an additional 20 to 30 small telescopes will be supplied by Brad Myers, of Issaquah, Wash., a major maker of

The crowd also will include people taking advantage of observatory-arranged bus tours from Portland 100 miles southeast of

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The Goldendale Observatory's 24½-inch telescope was bull amateurs and was put in Goldendale almost by accident.

The builders were four retired residents of Vancouver, W W.K. McConnell, now 79, one of the four, said they began wo 1963 with the idea of presenting the telescope to Clark Comm College at Vancouver. All had mechnical backgrounds and an inte

We got no encouragement at all from the experts," McCom

Tolan said when the men got the instrument built seven year Clark College found it couldn't afford to build the facility need house it. So McConnell and his partners — John Marshall, no Don Connor, now 74, and O.W. VanderVelden, now decease

began looking for a home for their prize. They went east of the Cascades because there are more clear there than west of the mountains. "When we came to Goldenda stopped for lunch," McConnell said.

They told a waitress in the cafe what they were looking for told her husband, a member of the City Council. He arrived to the telescope to Goldendale.

The city put in \$25,000, corporate donors provided \$25,000 the Economic Development Administration put up \$156,000 to the observatory. The observatory was completed in 1973 and the said Tolan, it sat unused for three years for lack of operating fund.

Opened in the summer of 1976, it has an annual budget of \$25.00 to the said to the same of the said to the said to

all raised through memberships, admission and use charges an nations, Tolan said. Director William Yantis, who has degree astronomy and physics from the University of Washington, is the

Tolan, whose degree is in geology from Portland State University of the staff about a year ago and is scheduled to remain until the eclipse. In the summer, when the number of visitors increase. the staff grows to three or four and one more will be added for

eclipse period.

Tolan said the observatory staff isn't worried about having people on the grounds for the eclipse. "We figure we could be 2,000," he said.

'Thin life' frightenin smaller a for overweight peop

United Press International
TORONTO, Canada — Studies by a New York psychologist suggest seriously overweight people may find a life of thinness frightening —

so much so that many who shed excess pounds later gain weight for a more comfortable identity. Dr. Sandra Haber says her studies showed people who lose great amounts of weight experience

anxiety about their relations with members of the opposite sex, with their spouses, with their friends and even with their own image of them-

She says her findings came as a

"Subjects felt that when they were heavy, they knew exactly what choices they could make and the few options that were open to them were clear," Ms. Haber said in a paper presented the American Psychological Association. "As they became thin, many new

possibilities appeared, from physical activities to new interpersonal relationships. Subjects felt torn between the different choices that were suddenly available and they often found themselves wrestling with decisions that never needed to be considered before."

epidemic proportions, with The dolla 80 million overweight people century s United States alone, Ms the first v

She said for most over U.S. M people obesity remains "who caug

roune

Bryan

condition resistant to treat thony dol subject to relapse" despite ver mint tention the subject has lighter from doctors, psycholo

others.

Ms. Haber's studies focus
people who lost a minim
pounds each in a medical

vised weight program.
"These subjects showed tendency to have been one in childhood and were chronically obese by ado the obesity often occurring junction with problems in significant," she said.

"More surprising, hower that subjects expressed am feelings about their wei While they reported feeling citement and rebirth, they pressed anxiety about the sibilities that being thin

Many subjects expressed over their new, slimmer Ms. Haber said.

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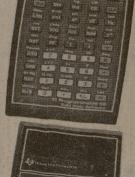
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