

Area's air rated 'generally poor'

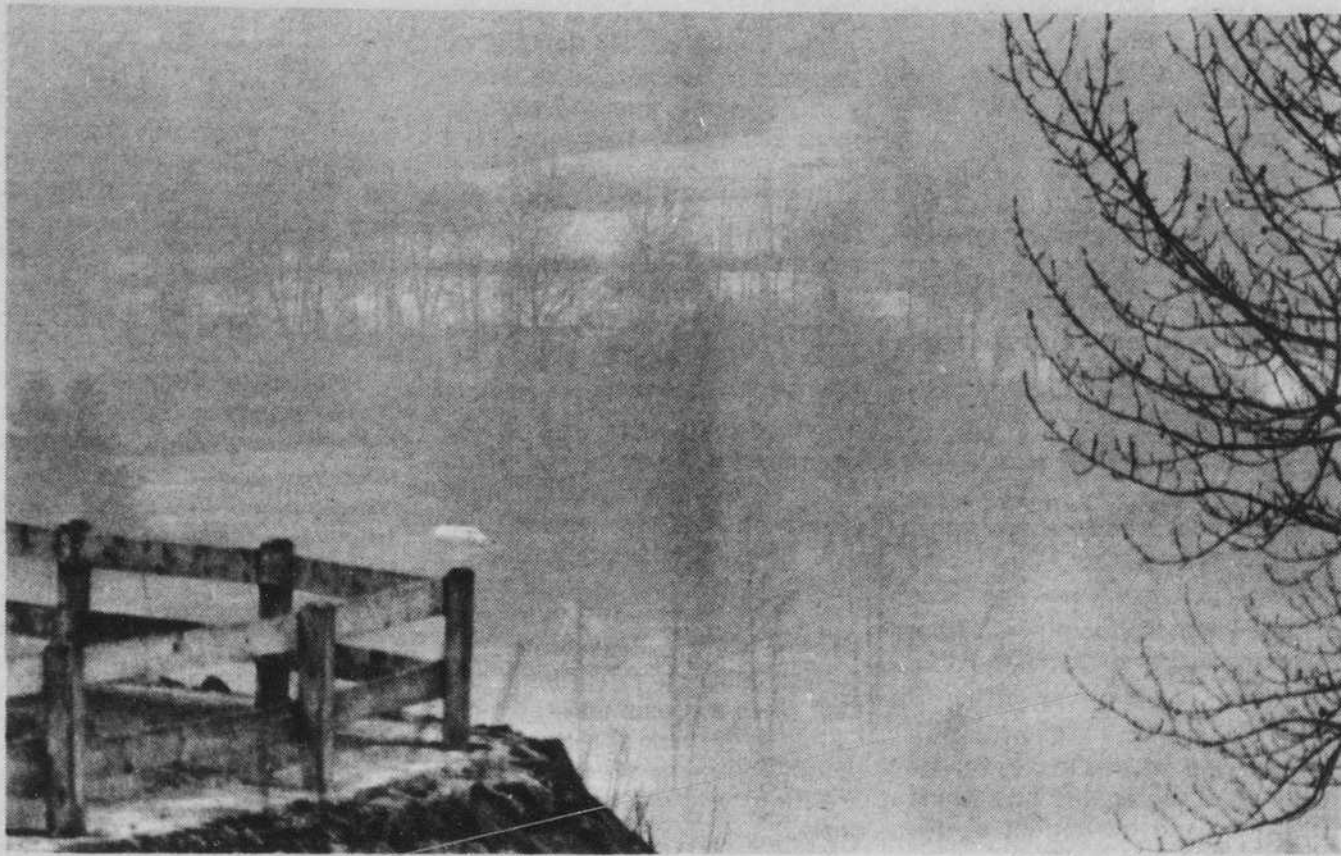


Photo by Erich Boekeheide

Look closely. Obliterating this landscape are thousands of small dirt, smoke and dust particles, Smog. According to recent tests Eugene-Springfield air has become a carrier and a possible health hazard.

Air quality in the Eugene-Springfield area during 1977 was called "generally poor" at the Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority (LRAPA) Board of Directors' February meeting.

The area exceeded federal clean air standards for three pollutants last year, according to Ralph Johnston, LRAPA Technical Services supervisor.

Photochemical oxidants, carbon monoxide and suspended particles were over the federal limits. "These excesses of course were not continuous throughout the year, but varied with season and daily meteorological conditions," Johnston said.

For three hours last August, photochemical oxidants exceeded the alert level — they violated the federal standard a total of ten times. This pollutant is formed by an atmospheric reaction between sunlight and exhaust from automobiles, veneer driers and other combustion processes.

The carbon monoxide standard was violated seven times last year; four violations occurred dur-

ing January, due to restricted air flow.

Suspended particles caused by field burning, continued in 1977. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has designated Eugene-Springfield as an Air Quality Maintenance Area for this pollutant.

The EPA has recently declared non-attainment for the levels of photochemical oxidants and carbon monoxide in the area, with control strategies required to correct the situation.

Johnston said control strategies will probably be centered around mobile sources, such as the automobile.

Details on how the requirements will be met and how LRAPA will be involved haven't been decided yet, according to Johnston.

"It was just last week that we were officially designated as a non-attainment area for carbon monoxide and photochemical oxidants," he said. The EPA didn't issue guidelines to meet the requirements until the end of December, he added.

Part-timers organized Union vote set for students

A union election for University food student workers will be held in about 25 days over a proposed extension of the legal definition of employees eligible for benefits under the current union contract.

The union contract currently does not cover employees taking less than eight credit hours. If the union's proposed definition passes, every student worker will be covered by the contract.

More than 200 student food service employees working in the EMU, the University Inn and Hamilton and Carson Halls will be eligible to vote.

If the union loses the election it will be dissolved. "One of the reasons the election will be held at this time," says Jack Condliffe spokesman for Union

1893, "is that the union negotiation team felt that the only way for the union to get the minimum wage demands is to see a strong indication of support from employees. Without such a show, there is no sense in proceeding with negotiations."

The election plans have resulted from a union petition submitted to the Oregon Employee Relations Board (ERB). University officials and employers have 10 days to file objections to the petition. If they do not, the election must be held within 15 days after that period.

Student food service employees are encouraged to attend meetings held this week as listed in their Negotiations Newsletter No. 4.

The Student Bar Association Presents: **STEPHEN MILLER**

Eugene Attorney
speaking on

"ATTORNEY ADVERTISING AND LEGAL ETHICS"

Tuesday - February 21st
12:30 PM

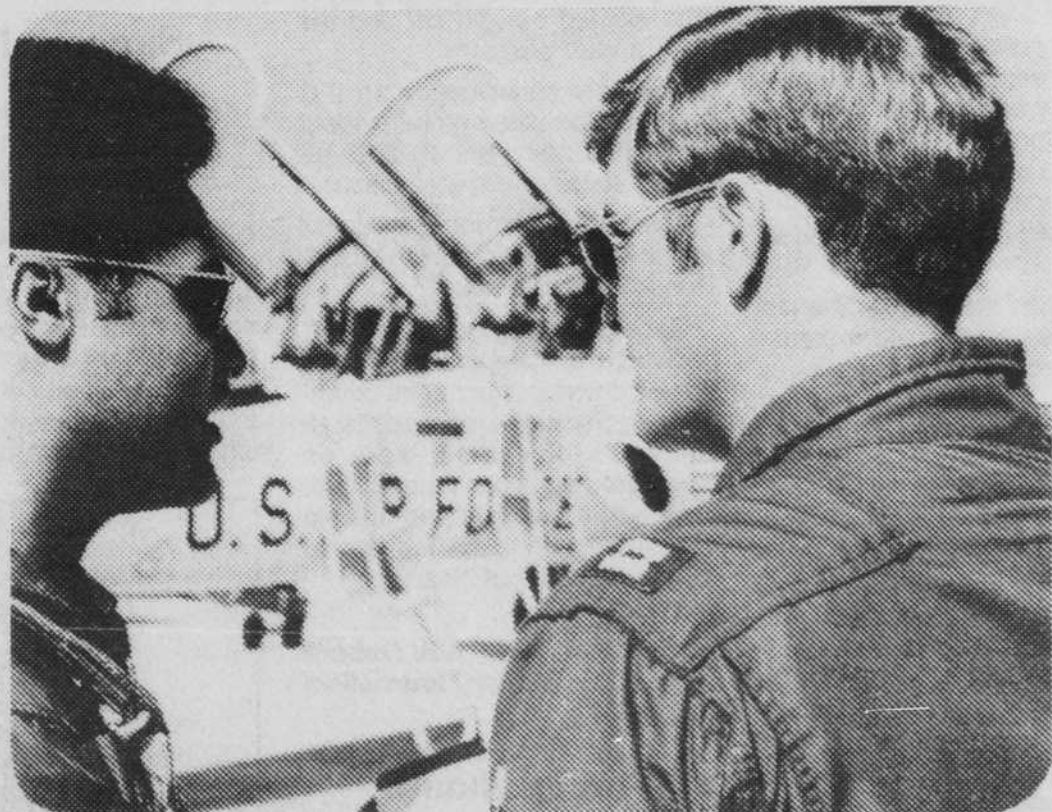
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