

Lane County runner-up in Audubon count

By MELISSA HILTON
Of the Emerald



The National Audubon Society has conducted annual Christmas counts of birds since 1901.

"It shows where the birds are and it gives an indication of changes in the range of the birds and their numbers, and the health of the species," says Harry Irons, president of the Lane County Audubon Society (LCAS).

According to Irons, this year the Christmas Count was held in more than 1,200 areas, from Canada to Central America and Hawaii to Bermuda. There were 21 counts in Oregon.

The Eugene count, sponsored by the Southern Willamette Ornithological Club, was held Jan. 1, and about 50 people participated. The LCAS sponsored the Christmas Count in Oakridge, Dec. 30 with about 30 participants.

Each count area is circular, 15 miles in diameter. The sponsors of the count choose one day out of

the 16 assigned by the National Audubon Society and count birds for at least eight hours that day.

The information is reported to the National Audubon Society and published in the spring issue of "American Birds."

"You try to attract as many people as you can who wish to participate," explains Irons. "You divide the area into parcels and give them to teams, putting some good birders with the people who are not so experienced."

The team then travels over its parcel, identifying species and counting the number of birds sighted of each species, or estimating the number of birds in a flock.

This year Coos Bay counted 146 species, the most in the state. Eugene tied with Sauvie Island for second place, with 125 species sighted.

Unusual birds sighted during the Eugene area Christmas Count include a Snowy Owl, a Burrowing Owl, a Sandhill Crane, a Prairie Falcon, eight White-tailed Kites

and some Blue Jays.

"The Blue Jay is an eastern bird that has just been moving into Oregon the last couple of years," says Irons.

"The White-tailed Kite is a bird found down in Central California and other places in the country, but not in Oregon," Irons says. "All of a sudden we have White-Tailed Kites pretty well established in the Willamette Valley and along the coast."

Another bird whose range is extending into Oregon is the Cattle Egret, sighted during this Christmas Count in Coos Bay and Roseburg.

"The Cattle Egret is an African bird introduced into South America and subsequently into Florida 30 or 35 years ago," Irons explains. "We're starting to get them in this part of the country now."

According to Irons, this year's count shows that several species are extending their ranges into Oregon, but no species are leaving the state.

Attorney predicts field burning battle

By KATHLEEN MONJE
Of the Emerald

Stan Long, Eugene city attorney, predicted confrontation with state officials over the field burning issue, starting this spring or summer.

"The decision that the Department of Environmental Quality and the Environmental Quality Commission must advocate field burning above all other Oregon industry seems to mean that there is no real hope of compromise," Long said in a six-page memo to Eugene's City Council.

Long said Eugene seems to be faced with "an all or nothing position by field burning interests."

He said grass seed growers are insisting on the 180,000 acre limit approved by the 1977 state Legislature, which the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) could approve either with or without offsets limiting pollution from other industries.

Growers claim the 50,000-acre limit, already accepted by the

EPA, would do real damage to their industry. The 50,000 limit is favored by Eugene.

"Without a compromise on acreage and/or burning practices there can be a crisis in May and June on field burning in that the amount to be burned will be unclear unless the courts settle the issue," Long said in the memo.

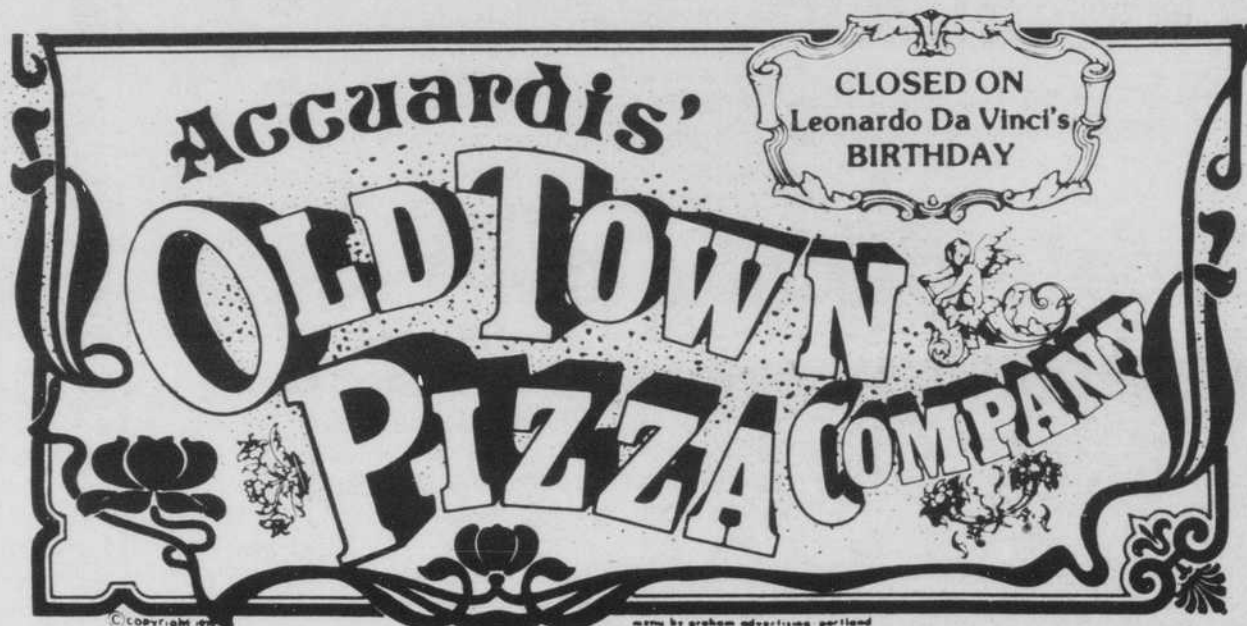
He said Eugene may be required to not only pursue its clean air policy but to act to defend other industries whose existences are threatened by the state's position that 180,000 acres of field burning is mandatory.

The state Environmental Quality Commission's decision to pursue a one-year temporary plan, rather than prepare a full-scale revision of the state's clean air plan, means some Oregon industries may have to be curtailed to allow the burning of 180,000 acres, according to Long.

"We are hopeful that the EPA will urge the state to avoid actions that provoke confrontations," Long said. "Of course, some may hope to obtain approval of 180,000 from the EPA. We do not believe this can or will happen. If it does, the confrontation will not be avoided, it will just occur in another forum."

ENJOY
A CUP OF OUR FINE ESPRESSO WITH YOUR PIZZA!
WE FEATURE:

- ESPRESSO ROMANO
- CIOCCOLATA FANTASIA
- CIOCCOLATA MOCA
- CAFE LATTE
- CAPPUCINO



114 E. BROADWAY,
EUGENE, OREGON

For Advance
Phone Order,
or Take Out,
Phone:

(503)
342-3366

OSU's Office of International Education Invites You To

LIVE & LEARN

in

FRANCE - GERMANY - JAPAN

Academic Year - No Language Pre-requisite for Japan

or

MEXICO

January - June

Don't Miss One of Your Best Opportunities!

Contact:

Apply By
March 15

(Oct 31 for Mexico)

Office of International Education
AdS A-100
Oregon State University
Corvallis, Ore. - 745-3006

International
Student Services
or: 172 Oregon Hall
U of O - 686-3007

\$300 FIRST PRIZE

Pick Oscar Winners in
six major categories

Contest entry forms and details
available with each purchase of 50
magazine-sized paged book,
"Unique Reviews." Comments
concern your favorite movie and TV
shows: "Star Wars," "Shampoo,"
Johnny Carson, Orson Welles, etc.

Book is only \$3. Mail
cash, check or money
order to:

Globe Publications
P.O. Box 14285
Portland, Oregon 97214