

SAIF overhaul looks likely

SALEM (AP) — A Salem newspaper said Thursday that the secretary of state will recommend that legislators begin a study of whether the state workers' compensation system should be overhauled.

The Statesman-Journal also said Secretary of State Norma Paulus will tell a legislative task force Thursday that the State Accident Insurance Fund Corp. has significant problems. Some of the problems cited involve internal audits, computer security and automobile costs.

Paulus' report is based largely on her staff's audit of SAIF. She declined to comment on her recommendations, saying they are still in draft form.

Students raise telefund money

Student volunteers raised over \$45,000 from alumni pledges in the telefund conducted for the University Foundation.

Some 368 volunteers from student organizations on campus called about 15,000 alumni and gained 2,374 alumni pledges.

"The number of pledges shows that even in a poor economy people are willing to support the University," says Joe Farmer, annual fund director.

"The success of the program depends a great deal on volunteers and I think the turnout we had indicates a strong willingness on the part of not only students but faculty alumni and parents to get into this program to help the University," says Farmer.

Farmer says it works well to have students calling students because they already have the University in common.

Library gets \$20,000 gift

University News Bureau

Jean Twohig, who died at age 87 this month in Eugene, has left bequests to the University to support the Library and scholarships.

In her will she left an additional \$5,000 to \$8,000 for the scholarship fund.

Clifton Cole, director of planned giving for the University Foundation, says Twohig established a scholarship fund worth \$14,000 in 1973 to assist students in the Wallace School of Community Service and Public Affairs. The first scholarship was awarded in 1976.

Although the CSPA program has been eliminated as a separate school, its academic programs have been transferred to several other University schools and colleges. Students majoring in the fields formerly included under CSPA are expected to remain eligible for the scholarships.

In 1980, Twohig established a \$20,000 gift annuity for University Library acquisitions.

The gift will be added to the library's small but growing endowment, says University Librarian George Shipman.

"We are very much concerned about building an endowment for library acquisitions," he says. If an endowment had been started earlier, the library would have made it through the last several years in better shape, he added.

Oregon Daily Emerald

However, the newspaper said that after meeting with Paulus Wednesday SAIF leaders revealed that she is concerned about problems affecting the quasi-public workers compensation insurance company.

The story said new SAIF general manager Ralph Faulkner and top board members expressed interest in dealing with Paulus and her staff to correct deficiencies uncovered by the audit begun last fall.

They said Paulus expressed concern about:

Suppression of audits by SAIF personnel that revealed underpayments to the company by politically powerful customers.

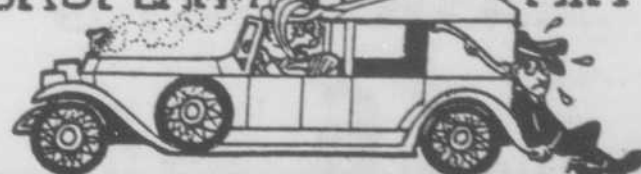
Lax control over employee access to sensitive client information in SAIF's computer files.

Rapid increases in SAIF's expenses for automobiles, maintenance and fuel since the company left the state Motor Pool three years ago.

SAIF leaders said Paulus questioned the need to examine not only SAIF but the entire system of laws and agencies that is supposed to help Oregonians injured on the job.

Paulus will make her recommendations at the last scheduled meeting of the task force. The body, made up of 13 state senators and representatives, has been looking at SAIF off and on for the last three months. It is expected to make recommendations to the 1983 Legislature, which convenes next week.

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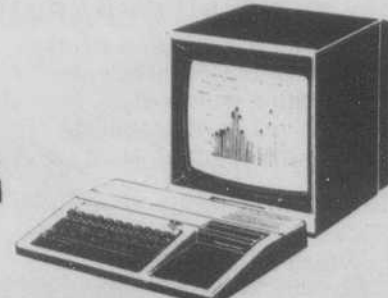


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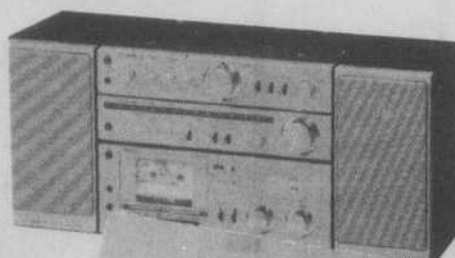
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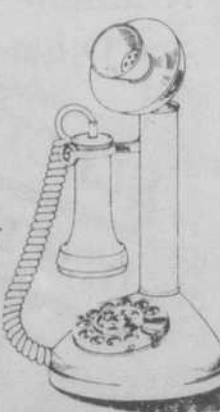
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