

# Regional

## Board to request more money for legal defense of the poor

SALEM (AP) — The state Indigent Defense Board says it may disband if the Legislature does not provide it with more money for legal defense of the poor.

The board estimates a deficit of \$8 million to \$10 million in the defense fund appropriated by the Legislature for 1985-87.

Members voted Saturday to present documentation of defense costs to the Legislature's Emergency Board in September. If the Emergency Board fails to approve more money, the defense board will cancel all its contracts for indigent defense.

The defense board then will tell the state's circuit judges, "The ball's in your court," said Richard Forcum, a Bend lawyer who proposed

the plan.

"If there is no money and no one does anything, then our job is done," he said.

The board's vote was a rebuff to a proposal from Oregon Chief Justice Edwin Peterson, who appointed members of the independent board. Peterson proposed canceling indigent defense contracts and scrapping the existing "case unit" defense system, in which law firms take on a certain number of cases for a negotiated fee.

Peterson's proposal had been criticized by James Hennings, director of Metropolitan Public Defenders Service Inc., the state's largest criminal defense contractor.

## Nader says SAT fails to test students

PORTLAND (AP) — Standardized, multiple-choice tests are causing U.S. education itself to become standardized, consumer activist Ralph Nader says.

The Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) does not test students' aptitude, judgment, experience and wisdom, Nader told the Northwest regional council of the National Council of Teachers of English on Sunday.

Nader said the SAT also fails to test students' idealism, imagination, persistence, stamina and creativity.

Nader was critical of the New Jersey-based Educational Testing Service, which distributes the SAT. Colleges use SAT scores to help determine whether a student has the potential for academic success.

Because the service is a non-profit, tax-exempt service, it has an unregulated monopoly on student testing nationwide, he said.

In addition, Nader said, students who prepare for the SAT are not required to analyze

or criticize life around them.

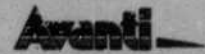
"Students can go through 16 years of education . . . and at the end they don't know anything about negotiating their dollars in an economy for health, safety and economic value; they know nothing about studying City Hall; they know nothing about how to negotiate their civic rights through a process of change and challenge in the government. They know nothing about anything that counts," Nader said.

He suggested that teachers start a "civic skills" curriculum, "so by the time they get out of high school, (students) have some of the civic skills that are indelible in their own out-of-school experience as well as what they learned in books and what they observed in the courts and in the legislature.

He urged educators to spend time with their students to develop talents that cannot be displayed in a multiple-choice test.

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## Spraying begins this week to eradicate gypsy moths

PLEASANT HILL (AP) — This year's battle against the gypsy moth in Oregon is scheduled to expand to a second front this week, when helicopters begin spraying a biological insecticide over much of Lane County.

Aerial spraying of *Bacillus thuringiensis*, or B.t., began last week over several hundred acres near Glide in Douglas County. A total of 5,000 acres is scheduled to be sprayed in Douglas County, but weather conditions limited spraying there last week.

On Tuesday morning, the first of 195,000 targeted acres in Lane County are scheduled to be sprayed with B.t., weather permitting, spokesman Mike

Barsotti said Sunday. The spraying had been scheduled to begin there Monday, but was postponed because of expected rain.

The foliage-eating gypsy moth caterpillar is considered a threat to Oregon's timber industry. It was first found in Oregon four years ago in the Salem and Portland areas.

This year's spray program, at a cost of \$8.4 million, is the second-largest eradication effort undertaken using B.t. exclusively, officials say. Last year's program in Oregon was the largest.

B.t., a naturally occurring bacteria, grows in moist soils and in the tissues of infected insects.

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