

# Oregon Daily Emerald

## Briefly

What's Happening, Eugene's free art and entertainment guide is on it's way to becoming more of a general newspaper.

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## On Campus

Incidental Fee Committee meets tonight at 6:30 in the EMU Board Room.

"Rethinking Huckleberry Finn" is the title of a lecture to be given at 8 p.m. in the EMU Fir Room by Jonathan Arac of the University of Pittsburgh.

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## Sports



Amber Goheen

Senior Amber Goheen has been named the women's tennis team most valuable player. The senior from Battleground, Wash., had a 17-12 singles record as Oregon's No. 3 singles player and finished her career with 56 singles wins, the fifth-most wins in school history.

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The Portland Trailblazers took a 1-0 lead over the Phoenix Suns in the best-of-seven Western Conference championship series with a 100-98 win Monday night. Game 2 will be in Portland Wednesday.

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## Weather



Showers, isolated afternoon thunderstorms, with highs in lower 60s. Scattered showers Wednesday.

## Protest draws student arrests

By Dan Eisler  
Emerald Reporter

At least two University students were among those arrested at a protest outside the Portland hotel where President Bush spoke at a fund-raising breakfast Monday.

Portland police arrested Todd Brenneman, 24, and Eric Johnson, 27, along with 23 other protesters during the four-and-a-half hour protest outside the Portland Hilton hotel.

Police charged Brenneman, of 1208 W. 11th Ave., with disorderly conduct and harassment, and Johnson, of 98 N. Monroe St., with second-degree criminal mischief and disobeying police at an assembly.

Johnson and Brenneman are scheduled to appear in Multnomah County District Court on June 5 and 6, respectively.

About 300 people demonstrated across the street from the Hilton, burning American flags and newspapers and setting off smoke bombs. They set bonfires in the street and threw firecrackers in them, outside the breakfast that raised the most money of any political fund-raiser on record in Oregon.

The demonstrators appeared to be mostly of college age and represented many groups, including peace activists, pro-choice demonstrators, environmentalists and gay rights advocates.

The group was protesting a variety of issues, ranging from the controversy over old-growth timber to abortion, gay rights, the homeless and the U.S. presence in Central America.

A contingent of more than 100 police officers kept the demonstration from the hotel, where Bush spoke at the \$1,000-a-plate fund-raiser for Republican gubernatorial candidate Dave Frohnmayer.

Police spokesman Dave Simpson was quoted in an Associated Press story as saying no serious injuries were reported.

However, Brenneman received a concussion while being arrested by police.

"I didn't do anything but point my finger and speak my mind," Brenneman said.

"The cops had me by the arm; before I knew it I had

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Photo by Eric Johnson

American flags were burned by students protesting outside of the Hilton hotel in Portland on Monday where President Bush was attending a fund-raiser for Republican gubernatorial candidate Dave Frohnmayer.

## EWEB members at odds over minutes

By Wayne Parker  
Emerald Contributor

Eugene Water and Electric Board members can't seem to agree on history.

Three board members have proposed additions to the minutes of two February meetings, held the two weeks before the majority of the board voted to fire Jean Reeder from her position as the utility's general manager.

At both meetings, the minutes reflect conflicts between EWEB board members and Reeder, as well as differences among the commissioners themselves regarding the utility's cash reserves.

Commissioner Rob Willis said EWEB's bond rating was in danger of being reduced because of low reserves. Options for increasing cash flow was the focus of both meetings.

Although every commissioner attended those board planning sessions on Feb. 16 and Feb. 22, few of them agree on what happened there. No tape recordings were made of the two meetings. It is the word of one commissioner over another as to what took place.

Willis said the minutes are scheduled for approval during a May 24 work session, but last week's resignations of the board's president, Dennis Solin, and vice president, Randall Thwing, may force that date to change.

The Oregon Daily Emerald obtained the minutes of both meetings after filing a request under Oregon Public Records Law. When the Emerald first requested the the minutes, EWEB staff said they were not available because because the board had not approved them.

"They're trying to make it so they

look good," said EWEB Commissioner Sarah Hendrickson of Thwing and Willis, two of the three board members who voted to fire Reeder Feb. 26.

Hendrickson said the additions made by Thwing and Willis effectively take the blame away from the board for the utility's financial woes and make Reeder the scapegoat.

Copies of the unofficial minutes indicate Reeder told the board at the Feb. 16 meeting that EWEB's cash reserves were low and that the utility's bond rating — the highest possible — was in danger of being lowered.

Reeder said she wanted board members to decide whether to continue with a tradition of low rates and risk a falling bond rating, or find ways to build up cash reserves.

"I wanted to get an indication from them which was most important," Reeder said. She said the commissioners had indicated the bond rating was paramount, and that she had agreed.

Reeder said she discussed with the commissioners the possibility of a rate increase, and the original transcript from the meeting verifies that discussion.

However, in the changes proposed by Thwing, the passage is altered to read, "Ms. Reeder also discussed the upcoming rate process as a possible opportunity to generate additional revenues ..."

According to the original version, Reeder had discussed the rate increase with the commissioners, but the amended version makes no references to the commissioners' participation in the discussion. Reeder and Hendrickson both say all the commissioners talked about

the possibility of a rate increase.

Former Commissioner Thwing, who resigned last Thursday to avoid a recall election in June and a runoff with Susan Smith in November, couldn't recall the exact changes he proposed for the minutes, but he stressed that his changes were made for the sake of accuracy.

"EWEB minutes are some of the best minutes I've ever seen," Thwing said. "I think the board wants to accurately reflect what happened."

Reeder and Hendrickson both say the additions are far from accurate.

Another addition proposed by Thwing brings up a conversation between Reeder and Solin that took place before the meeting. In that conversation, the addition says Reeder mentioned the possibility that the utility was in danger of bankruptcy.

Reeder said she was trying to persuade Solin to drive to the morning meeting in the snow when she mentioned the word "bankrupt." "It's not a term I would ever have used in public," Reeder said.

She said she used the word to stress that EWEB could run out of cash if corrective measures weren't taken.

Hendrickson also doubts the usefulness of that particular addition.

"You can't work with a board where you have to watch every single word you say every minute for fear that the board will use it against you," she said.

Hendrickson said she decided to make her own additions to the minutes after she read the changes proposed by Willis and Thwing. Her amendments

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