

# WATER

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as 75 million gallons per day. "If we had a real hot, dry spell and a lot of people were watering their lawns, the use would go up," King said.

Eugene has become an oasis in a state ravaged by drought.

The Eugene Airport has recorded 40.46 inches of precipitation since last October — only three inches below normal.

But other parts of the state haven't been so lucky. Nineteen counties in Eastern and Southern Oregon have declared drought emergencies. Clackamas and Multnomah counties may become the first Western Oregon counties to declare drought emergencies.

In Portland, outdoor water usage has become a crime, with offenders facing stiff money penalties.

EWEB public information manager Tom Santee said Portland's water woes are due to the inability of its system to filter sediment from the water supply.

"Portland doesn't have a water filtration plant," Santee said. "They can only draw water down to certain point before sediment gets into it and water quality goes down."

Eugene can filter the water it draws from the Mackenzie River. In addition, the system has

been gradually expanded to keep up with demand.

"Eugene has always had community support to expand the system to meet demand," King said.

Since it was built in 1954, the Mackenzie plant's capacity has been expanded twice, once in 1968 and again in 1978. The current capacity of 75 million gallons per day is still far below the plant's 200 million gallon usage right to the river.

Eugene's water supply is also buffered by the Blue River and Cougar reservoirs, which are operated by the Army Corps of Engineers.

But even though Eugene may be the soggiest city in Oregon, it is now in the process of developing a water curtailment plan as per the Oregon Water Resources Commission's orders. Last month, the commission told all cities with populations of more than 10,000 to develop strategies to cope with potential water shortages.

"It's just to get on record a strategy, should that sort of thing be necessary," Santee said. "But our local water system is healthy, and we're not foreseeing any shortage."

The plan, which must be submitted by the end of August, will provide guidelines for phasing in water restrictions. If it is ever implemented, people will be asked to voluntarily reduce water use until dwindling water supplies force mandatory compliance.

# LECTURE

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the visionary interactive computer-driven system that is able to reproduce digital images of great art.

Their lecture, "Tomorrow's Computer and Yesterday's Art," is set for Dec. 11.

• Neill Archer Roan, new executive vice president of the Center for the Arts in Escondido, Calif., and former marketing and programming director for Eugene's Hult Center. Roan is a leader in arts administration and policy, and masters of arts programming and marketing.

His speech, "Some of My Best Friends Are Artists," is scheduled for Jan. 8.

• Mason Wiley, co-author of *Inside Oscar — The Unofficial History of the Academy Awards* and contributor to *Entertainment Weekly*, *TV Guide*, *GQ*, *The New York Times* and *New York Daily News*. Wiley will take the audience inside the Oscars for an evening of facts, trivia, trash and gossip.

"Everything You Always Wanted to Know About the Oscars but Were Too Polite to Ask," is set for March 26.

For more information, call the Museum of Art at 346-3027.

# Astronauts bring in satellite



CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Atlantis' astronauts cleared a snag in a cord linking a satellite to the shuttle Wednesday and safely reeled the scientific craft into the cargo bay, averting the need for an emergency spacewalk.

The half-ton metal ball slid neatly into its docking ring on the four-story tower in the shuttle cargo bay and was secured.

"The Dream Team has nothing on you. You hit the hoop," Mission Control told the astronauts.

It took an hour for the astronauts to gingerly reel in the satellite from 750 feet away. During that time, Atlantis traveled more than halfway around the world.

Two of the astronauts had been preparing to venture outside Thursday, if neces-

sary, in an attempt to untangle the tether and save the satellite. They breathed pure oxygen to purge their blood of nitrogen, which can cause the painful condition known to divers as the bends.

The satellite had flown above Atlantis for 24 hours, never going higher than 850 feet on the tether — far short of the 12-mile target. It had gotten stuck 750 feet above the shuttle Wednesday because of the jammed cord.

Flight directors, hoping to free the jammed line without a risky spacewalk, had the crew pop the clutch on a motor that guides the tether at the end of a four-story tower in the shuttle's cargo bay. The tether never moved.

The astronauts, working controls inside the shuttle, then slightly lowered the tower and raised it back up to try to tug the snag loose near the motor. That worked.

# RELAY

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have signed up so far. Prizes will be awarded to anyone raising \$150 or more.

The relay is set to begin at 6 p.m. Friday, with an opening ceremony featuring a lap around the track led by cancer survivors. Then at dusk, luminaries featuring the names of survivors and victims or some other message will line the field.

The luminaries are small, translucent bags with a candle inside. Anyone interested in having a name or message on a luminary can do so up until about 9 p.m. The cost is \$5.

Steadman Cox said the Tacoma chapter raised \$180,000 with its latest effort in May.

The money raised will be used in the area to help cancer patients and their families and help fund University research, Steadman Cox said, but the event is beneficial in other ways.

"It gives me a 24-hour window to educate people on all the programs the American Cancer Society has, the services and programs that help patients and their families," she said.

"It's also a chance to honor cancer survivors and show that cancer does not have to be a death sentence."

For more information, call 484-2211.

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