

Oregon Daily Emerald

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 1992

EUGENE, OREGON

VOLUME 94, ISSUE

Water walkin'

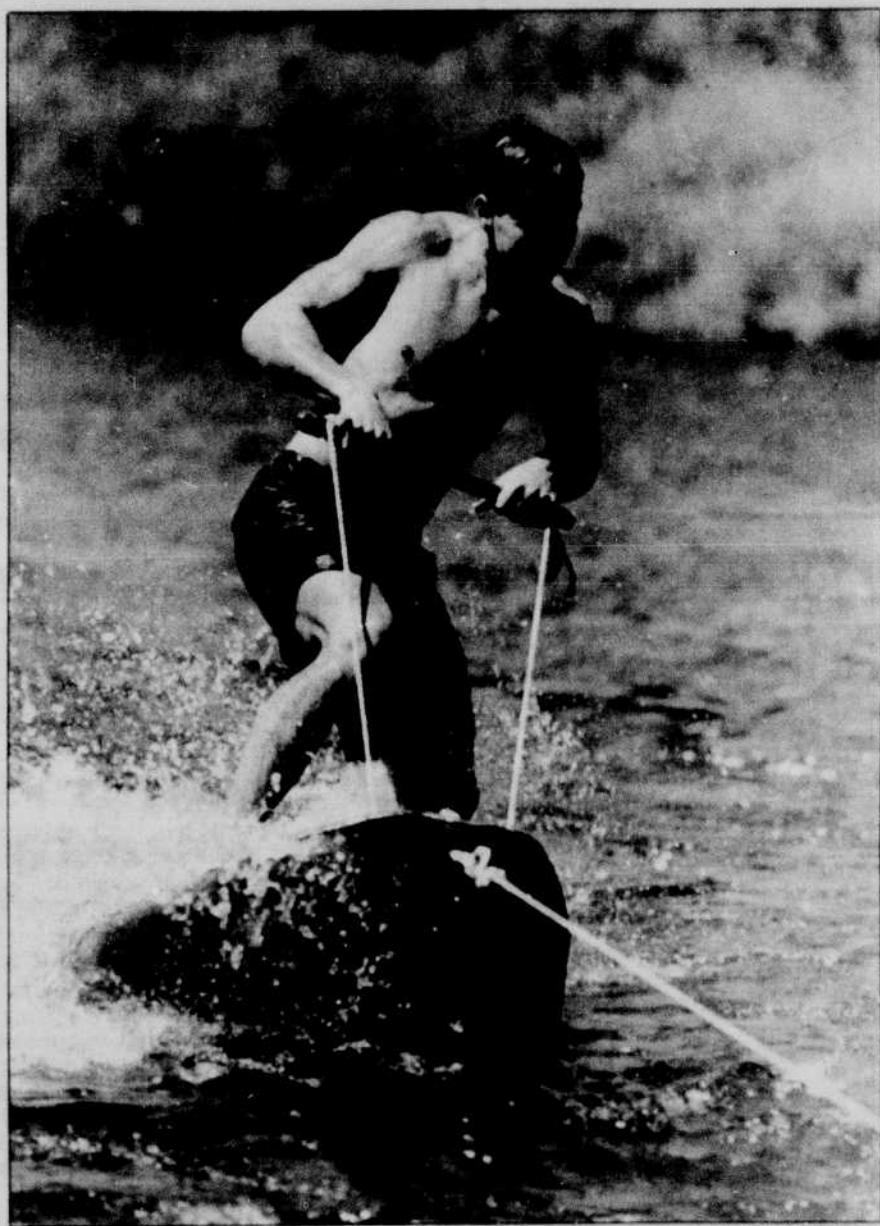


Photo by Jeff Paslay

Jack Vaughn of Eugene rides his river board to beat the heat Monday below the Autzen Footbridge. Vaughn said he hits the water a couple of times a week whenever the temperature climbs.

Will gamble on Brooks in dual roles pay off?

□ The University has taken a chance by trying a new way to run the athletic department

By Rene DeCair
Emerald Associate Editor

The University got itself a bargain when it hired the new athletic director last month.

But shortly thereafter, some people started questioning whether the man hired to do the job is a good investment.

The administration says Rich Brooks is the right man. Brooks says the scrutiny is valid until he proves his worth.

Brooks, who is entering his sixteenth season as head football coach for the Ducks, will make one-fourth the salary that his predecessor Bill Byrne made for doing the same job. Byrne earned about \$88,000 a year, and Brooks will make about \$20,000.

Brooks will continue to be head football coach while also serving as athletic director.

Critics believe the position could have been used to advance the status of women and minorities. Others wonder if Brooks will play favorites with football.

Dan Williams, vice president for administration, and University President Myles Brand said after the announcement of Brooks' appointment July 30 that they expected some flack.

A month before hiring Brooks, Williams said the search for a new director wouldn't seriously begin until September when faculty and staff return.

And, he said, the search for Byrne's replacement would stretch beyond the University.

Later he recanted.

Brand admits the economics of the issue was "not irrelevant" but says it wasn't a major consideration either. "It wasn't the driving force," he said. But "it

definitely was a factor."

Moreover, Brand said the criticism that has come has been minimal.

"Rich Brooks has a very visible position," he said. "Those who don't think he's doing a good job will complain."

Despite the complaints, Brooks is here to stay, or at least until June of 1994 when his contract expires.

One week after the hiring announcement, Brooks offered his view of the criticism and explained just what his athletic director's job will entail.

"I'm used to criticism," he said.

"I feel like I have to prove myself to everybody and not just the critics," he said. "We still have to make this work."

Moreover, he said, he doesn't mind getting paid less for doing the same job Byrne did because he would prefer to see his salary cut rather than have funds taken out of the sports.

"I make, obviously, a lot of money as a football coach," he said. "I think it's a statement in these economic times that I'm trying to do what's best for this university and the department. I feel like it's the right thing to do."

In his job, Brooks will oversee the entire athletics department, with a \$12 million budget and 14 sports.

He'll be the man, he said with a chuckle, who determines "whether you finish in the red or the black."

One of his main concerns, he said, is how to maintain a strong athletics department with the prospect of a shrinking budget.

Mostly, he said, he wants all students — players and fans — to enjoy the activities that come out of the athletic department.

"I'd like for us to continue making the activities as the student athlete a positive one." And of course, "stay competitive in all sports."

Radio time Deadiated to concerts

□ KLCC will broadcast two Grateful Dead shows live from Veneta

By Daralyn Trappe
Emerald Associate Editor

You want to hear the Grateful Dead when the legendary band finally comes around again for two shows Aug. 22 and 23. But a \$30 ticket is too much, you have other commitments or you don't want to sit out in the blistering sun.

Whatever the reason, KLCC 89.7 FM in Eugene has a solution. Both Dead shows will be broadcast live in the local area. KLCC and its sister station, KLCO 90.5 in Newport, have combined resources with Grateful Dead Productions and local promot-

ers to broadcast the shows live from the Oregon Country Fair site in Veneta.

In addition, other stations across the Northwest may carry the shows as well so people as far away as Seattle or Portland may be able to tune in.

Plans are in the works to uplink the broadcast to a satellite, providing access to many other public radio stations on the west coast and maybe further across the nation. Listeners can contact their local public radio stations for carriage information. KLCC is offering the broadcast free to any public radio station that wants it.

Steve Barton, KLCC general manager, said the idea came about after KLCC set up equipment to

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County may up ante on hotel room tax

□ Increased revenue would be used to promote local tourism

By Tim Neff
Emerald Associate Editor

Lane County may dig deeper into tourists' pockets

to cover the cost of luring them to the region.

The Board of Commissioners is considering a proposed ordinance change that would raise the county's hotel room tax from 7 percent to 9 percent. The additional money would help

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WEATHER

Blazing sunshine.

A heat wave moved over the Northwest Monday and will send temperatures rocketing into the 100s throughout the interior Willamette Valley.

Moisture needed to produce afternoon thundershowers will remain well south of Oregon.

Sizzling heat is on tap through the week.

NEVER FORGET THE BLOOD

BELLINGHAM, Wash. (AP) — A man who disappeared for six weeks and then claimed to have lost his memory admitted he tried to fake his death so his family could collect his \$200,000 life insurance.

It's unlikely James Lang will be charged with a crime, but he will be required to get counseling.

Among the reasons police suspected Lang was that investigators found two small plastic bags of blood in his car. Lang intended to smear them inside the car but forgot them before setting the car in motion toward the Nooksack River.

Lang decided to fake amnesia and rejoined his family after learning his wife was unable to collect the insurance.

REGIONAL

PORTLAND (AP) — The Trojan nuclear plant should be shut down by 1996, the board of directors for Portland General Electric Co. decided Monday.

A statement by the utility's chief executive officer, Ken Harrison, said the board's decision would be the least costly alternative for taxpayers.

But the leaders of a state initiative to close the plant immediately repeated their charge that the PGE option will end up costing more than \$1 billion.

The Don't Waste Oregon Committee has collected signatures for one of two ballot measures that would for a closure of the plant. Both measures will be on the November 3 ballot in Oregon.