



University freshman Candace Landua pushes fellow freshmen Keirstin Beck (front) and Cori Driver down a hill below the tennis courts near the music building.

Photo by Jeff Paslay

Closures rare for University

□ Icy conditions in 1985 extended Thanksgiving break for one day

By Pat Malach
Emerald Editor

University students hoping for an unexpected day or two off because of inclement weather probably shouldn't make plans in case of canceled classes.

In its 116-year history, the University has only closed campus two times because of bad weather. The first cancellations were in January 1969 when Eugene and surrounding areas were hit with 34 inches of snow during a three-day period.

Charles Johnson, acting president at the time, closed the campus from Jan. 27-29.

In 1985, classes were canceled Dec. 2 as Thanksgiving break was extended so students would not have to travel back to Eugene over the state's ice-covered highways.

University Vice President for Administration Dan Williams, the person responsible for deciding whether to cancel classes, said it takes "a pretty severe circumstance for us to seriously entertain the possibility of shutting down."

"It's very much a judgment call," Williams said. "The question I ask myself generally is can a

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Crash kills students

Two University students returning from Corvallis were killed in a collision Friday afternoon on Highway 99.

Donald Howard Leff and Charmaine Tiara Joslin, members of the University Club Sports sailing team, were driving when Leff's Chevrolet Camaro slid into the oncoming lane and hit a tractor-trailer rig head-on.

Leff and Joslin, both 20, were found dead at the scene. Julie Sparlin, a member of the sailing team, said Joslin was a transfer student from the University of Maine who just came to the University last week. Joslin met Leff, a native of Long Beach, Calif., at a sailing team meeting Tuesday, Sparlin said. She said Joslin joined the team Tuesday.

Leff was a resident of Burgess Hall and is listed in the *University Student Directory* as a pre-business major.

Brian Megert, a Burgess resident, said Leff was an "amazingly great guy" who had many friends in the dorms.

Professor draws criticism for economic assessment

□ Whitelaw believes timber, tourism and agriculture not Oregon's largest employers

By Demian McLean
Emerald Reporter

To read *The Register-Guard* lately, it seems that University economics professor Ed Whitelaw is making enemies.

The newspaper has run three editorials in the past two weeks charging

Whitelaw with short-sighted and misleading research.

Among his detractors have been the National Forest Products Association, the Oregon Tourism Division and *The Register-Guard* editorial writers.

Nevertheless, Whitelaw today stands firmly by the assertion he made in the winter issue of the University's alumni magazine, *Old Oregon*: Oregon's timber-based economy is a myth.

Citing figures from a 1989 state employment report, he notes that timber

employs only 4 percent to 6 percent of the state's total work force. Given that statistic, timber doesn't even rank among Oregon's top five employers.

As for job growth, timber also fares poorly. Employment in lumber and wood products declined almost 17 percent between 1979 and 1989, Whitelaw said.

But during that same 10 years, the state's total employment grew 23 percent.

"If the 'dominant' industry is declin-

ing and the state's economy is growing," Whitelaw said, "common sense tells us that something else is driving the economy."

Con Schallau, chief economist for the National Forest Products Association, disagreed in a Dec. 24 editorial in *The Register-Guard*. While acknowledging the low employment and growth figures, Schallau stressed timber's importance in rural areas.

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WEATHER

Temperatures will remain well below normal across the Northwest this week. Expect variable cloudiness today. High near 40, low down to 28.

Today in History

In 1964, U.S. Surgeon General Luther Terry issued the first government report saying smoking may be harmful to one's health.



Archives Photo

FROM THE PAST

The first University women's basketball team played in 1894. Players could dribble the ball only once before they were required to pass. After each point scored, the game would continue with a jump start in the middle of the court.

SPORTS

PHILADELPHIA (AP) - Teams that used to be pushovers for the Chicago Bulls are standing up to the NBA champions this season.

After going 41-4 against losing teams in 1991-92, the Bulls are 12-6 against sub-500 clubs this season, including Saturday night's 104-91 loss to the Philadelphia 76ers.

"We had a very strong record against losing teams the last few years," Michael Jordan said. "Teams we should beat, we beat. Now, maybe it's changing."

Coach Phil Jackson says the Bulls won so many important games while capturing the NBA title the last two years that he's confident they will play well again if they have to.