

Clinton praises former logger



WASHINGTON (AP) — A former California logger who now teaches woodworking to children was singled out in President Clinton's Earth Day address as an example of how timber-dependent towns must adapt to changes in the logging industry.

"He understands that in order to survive, his industry and his community have to embrace change," Clinton said in his Earth Day speech Thursday.

Eric Hollenbeck of Eureka, Calif., was one of the participants in Clinton's Northwest forest conference in Portland, a year ago. Clinton said that input from individuals at the forest conference was crucial to development of his new Northwest logging policy.

"When I asked for the presidency two years ago, I met people whose lives were literally torn apart because government refused to resolve the tensions between protecting our ancient forests and logging on federal lands," Clinton said.

"Just over a year ago at a conference in Portland, Ore., we brought together loggers, environmentalists and community leaders from the great Pacific Northwest and Cabinet officials responsible for environmental policy, for commerce and for labor," he said.

"Most of the people I met out there had differences of opinion on a lot of these issues, but they

wanted an end to the posturing, an end to the conflict. They wanted us to make some tough decisions so that people could move on with their lives and move on with a common goal of making a living and preserving the environment," he said.

Hollenbeck, who attended Clinton's speech at a Washington, D.C., park Thursday, was a good example of the kind of people affected by logging cutbacks in the region, Clinton said.

"His family business was logging. ... When hard times hit the logging industry Eric changed his company from logging to woodworking. And that's why today he's teaching young people woodworking, masonry, home building, metal working and printing. He has made a change to help save the environment and preserve the economy of his community and we owe him a lot for his courage. Thank you, sir," the president said.

The Clinton administration last week asked a federal judge in Seattle to approve its new Northwest forest plan and lift a three-year-old injunction banning logging across millions of acres of federal forests in Oregon, Washington and Northern California.

Clinton's plan would protect about three-fourths of the remaining old-growth in the region while allowing for logging at about one-fourth the average of the 1980s. United States District Judge William Dwyer is expected to rule on the plan next month.

Urban gorilla needs place to call home

TACOMA, Wash. (AP) — Within three months, Ivan — the urban gorilla who's spent most of his 30 years in a cage at a shopping mall — should find out where his next home will be.

"There will be a resolution. It is a burden on us to have Ivan under our care," lawyer Paul Larson said Wednesday in federal bankruptcy court. Larson represents Blanca Harrison, liquidating trustee for B&I Realty Co., which owns Ivan and the B&I Shopping Center where he lives.

U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Philip Brandt turned down a request for an immediate ruling on Ivan's future from the Lynnwood-based Progressive Animal Welfare Society.

But he noted that legal snarls in the case are likely to get more tangled unless something happens soon.

PAWS said Wednesday it plans to file a lawsuit in U.S. District Court contending that B&I's owners are using Ivan as a moneymaker in violation of the Endangered Species Act.

PAWS wanted Brandt to order Ivan's owners to explain why the primate shouldn't be moved promptly to Zoo Atlanta, the site recommended for him in December by a group of national gorilla experts.

The daughter of B&I founder Earl Irwin, Yakima businesswoman Mary Lou Borgert, asked the judge to consider Ivan's best interests.

Borgert said she turned down a \$200,000 movie offer and a chance to be portrayed by Cher because the producers wanted to cast some of her family as villains in the Ivan

saga.

She said family members have cared for Ivan like a child since he was captured in the Congo at age 3 and brought to the circus-theme shopping mall.

"If you were making a choice for a child, you would take his emotional, physical and psychological well-being into account first," Borgert said.

"The zoos put his sperm first," she said.

Ivan's value as a source of fresh genetic material for zoos — an issue due to the dwindling wild gorilla population and limited captive breeding stock — has been cited by experts in the case.

Harrison and Borgert said they're still not convinced Ivan would not be shipped from zoo to zoo for breeding or subject to electroejaculation for sperm collection.

In a letter to Harrison last week, Zoo Atlanta director Terry Maple said he didn't intend to move Ivan from Atlanta, but might do so if it was "in the best interests of Ivan and the whole gorilla population."

PAWS has offered to pay Ivan's moving expenses to Atlanta, where he would live in a natural habitat and have the company of other gorillas for the first time since his capture.

Ivan's fate became a legal issue more than a year ago when the company that owns the B&I filed for reorganization under federal bankruptcy laws. The court approved a reorganization plan filed by Borgert that included a pledge to move Ivan to a zoo.

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Police suspect patient sold crack from hospital

SPOKANE (AP) — A man being held today for investigation of drug charges is suspected by police of selling crack cocaine in the hospital where he was recovering from surgery.

Erick T. Lane of Spokane was arrested as he checked out of Deaconess Medical Center.

"It's unusual, yes, but it doesn't surprise me one bit," police Lt. Steve Braun said Wednesday. "A dealer is going to deal no matter where he is. He's in the hospital, he's paying for the room, he gets visitors, he sells drugs."

Lane, 22, was being held in the Spokane County Jail in lieu of \$10,000 bail. He was in custody for investigation of two counts of delivery of a controlled substance and one count of possession of a controlled substance with intent to manufacture or deliver.

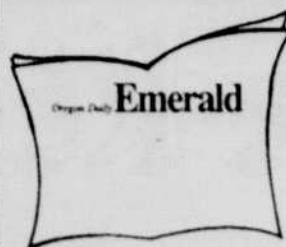
Members of a police investigative unit bought crack several times from Lane while he was in his private hospital room, Braun said.

Lane was recovering from surgery for a bite wound to one of his hands, police and hospital officials said. The wound, suffered in a fight, had become infected.

Hospital security officers helped police monitor visitors to Lane's room, and alerted officers to Lane's release Tuesday, Braun said.

When Lane was arrested, he was carrying \$1,210 in cash and two bags of crack that had been stuffed inside a deodorant can, Braun said.

"It's just another rare occurrence that shows Spokane is changing and we've got to realize that," hospital spokeswoman Priscilla Gilkey said.



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