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Coalition prepares testimony on salmon

Concern: Organization fears the fish will become extinct if action isn't taken soon

Natasha Shepard

For the Oregon Daily Emerald

This year has been the worst year ever for runs of Columbia River and Snake River wild salmon, according to the Save Our Wild Salmon Coalition. If something isn't done soon, they said, wild salmon will be facing extinction.

In response to this problem, the Northwest Power Planning Council will hold a public hearing in Eugene tonight about proposed amendments to its "Strategy for Salmon." The council, which is made up of representatives from Columbia River and Snake River states, including Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana, has held a series of hearings in the Northwest, most recently throughout Oregon. The Eugene hearing will be the last one in Oregon.

To encourage people to testify at the hearing in Eugene and to voice their opinions about the salmon issue, the Survival Center and the Save Our Wild Salmon Coalition sponsored a workshop Thursday. The workshop helped people with the fundamentals of testifying and gave them information about the council and the plight of the wild salmon.

Save our Wild Salmon Coalition is an organization of 43 environmental, energy and fishing groups concerned with wild salmon conservation. The Sur-

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Trick or treat?



Lauren Sharp, 6, (right) and her brother Austin, 4, braved the inclement weather Monday night to go Trick or Treating in their neighborhood with their father Jeff.

MICHAEL SHINDLER/Emerald

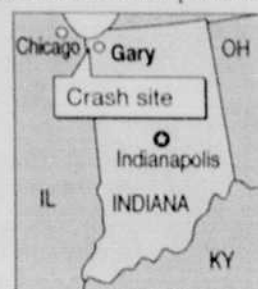
68 dead after crash in Indiana

Weather: Harsh conditions prompt authorities to delay crash investigations

ROSELAWN, Ind. (AP) — An American Eagle commuter plane crashed Monday in a cornfield during a driving rainstorm, killing all 68 people aboard.

Flight 4184 from Indianapolis to Chicago went down 30 miles south of Gary in northwest Indiana at about 4 p.m., the Federal Aviation Administration said.

Heavy rain forced authorities to quickly halt the search of the area until Tuesday.



JEFF PASLAY/Emerald

American Eagle would not speculate on the possible cause of the crash, airline spokeswoman Debbie Weathers said. State police and airline officials said nobody survived.

Larry Midkiff said he was driving along a highway when he spotted a black puff of smoke and the plane banking sharply before it plunged to the ground. "It didn't look like it had a left wing on it," Midkiff said. "It just looked like a black streak coming down."

People on the scene said there was driving rain at the time of the crash and that it was too dark to see much in the area. Winds were gusting to 49 mph in Gary, the closest reporting station, the National Weather Service said.

"Debris was so scattered, you really couldn't tell if there was an airplane out there," said Michael Schwanke, a reporter with WLQI radio in Rensselaer who was at the site.

The plane was descending from an altitude of 10,000 feet to 8,000 feet when it disappeared from radar screens at

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Springfield marching band works hard for perfection

Payoff: Practice gives Springfield a musical edge

Heatherle Himes

For the Oregon Daily Emerald

School of Music graduate student Tom Mullen stood on the sidelines and looked onto the soggy Springfield High School football field. The second quarter of the Friday night game was winding down.

He looked at the scoreboard clock.

Less than three minutes until nearly 200 students clad in blue-polyester marching band uniforms were to go onto the field and perform a halftime show Mullen created.

Five minutes later, the band broke into a second song. Mullen was exhilarated to see two

months of practicing in motion on the field.

The band looked united, and they looked like they were having fun. For Mullen, that meant his student teaching was a success.

Teaching band, Mullen says, means watching kids learn teamwork skills that will help them throughout their lives.

"They are able to develop not only individual growth through learning to play an instrument and learning to experience music, but they are also developing group interactions that make them a more viable part of society," he said.

Kids who don't participate in sports or clubs might not learn this type of teamwork, Mullen

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■ GOOD MORNING

▶ LOS ANGELES (AP) — A CBS movie about an asteroid striking Earth triggered hundreds of phone calls nationwide Sunday night from confused viewers concerned the depicted events might be true.

In the disaster movie *Without Warning*, the fictional *Evening World News* reports asteroids hitting in Wyoming, France and China, supposedly bringing information to viewers as it's occurring.

The news "reports" had a realistic ring, since the word "live" appeared on the screen and the actors were often experienced local and national TV reporters, anchored by Sander Vanocur, an ABC newsmen for 16 years.

Hundreds of calls poured into television stations in Wyoming, Minneapolis, Los Angeles, Tennessee, Louisiana and Los Vegas. Calls also were made to news organizations and authorities in New York, Atlanta and Chicago.

"CBS broadcast disclaimers at every commercial break, but in spite of that we got almost a hundred calls from people alarmed, upset, some in tears," said anchorwoman Amy Marsalis. "We called CBS network. They said they had very few calls from alarmed viewers across the nation, but for those of you who called here, we're sorry for any bad moments."

An advisory reassured audiences that *Without*

Warning is a "realistic depiction of fictional events. None of what you are seeing is actually happening."

However, after the opening warning, the first 15 minutes of the movie which established its format and mood, ran without the advisory.

A disclaimer opened and closed Orson Welles' legendary 1938 radio broadcast "War of the Worlds," but none was included during the program. The realistic drama about an alien invasion of Earth induced panic among some listeners.

In Cheyenne, Wyo., which suffers a direct hit from the meteorite in the movie, the police department received a single call from a confused viewer. But the phone company U.S. West told police of a high influx of calls into the area.

In Los Angeles, KCBS was "flooded" with calls, said Sybil MacDonald, the station's spokeswoman. "A rival channel called because they were receiving complaints they weren't on the scene reporting about the meteor," she said.

Veteran reporter Vanocur said he had no qualms about lending his journalistic credibility to the drama.

"If you can explain to me what that O.J. Simpson highway ride was all about, please do," he said.