

COULD IT HAPPEN HERE?

Risk: Though chances of a quake in Eugene are minimal, people should prepare in advance

Ben Moebius
Oregon Daily Emerald

Eugene residents should not worry about being hit by an earthquake, a University geology professor said.

"If you're a student in Eugene for about four years, you have less than a 1 percent chance of experiencing an earthquake in this area," said Ray Weldon, associate professor of geological science.

"On the other hand," said Weldon, "this is not Kansas. There is a risk, but it is more pertinent to the long term."

Weldon said the only people who need to worry about the risks of an earthquake in Oregon are those who are building long-term structures, like bridges and buildings.

According to Weldon, the most earthquake prone areas of the state have only about a 35 percent chance of experiencing an earthquake in the next 100 years. The most prone areas include most of the coastal regions of the state and the Willamette Valley.

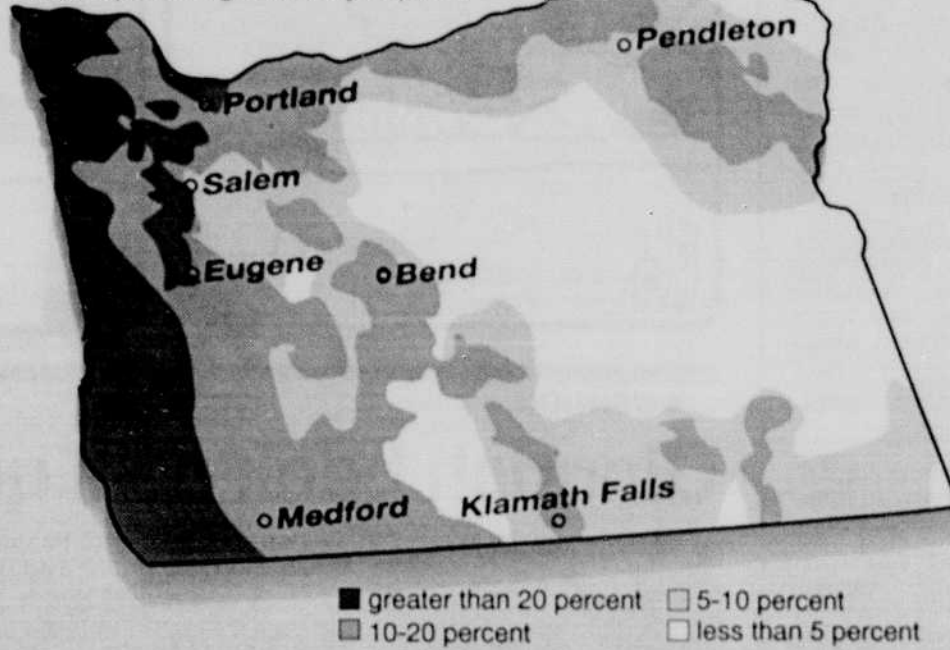
"Eugene may have around a 30 percent chance of experiencing an earthquake in a hundred years," he said. "But Los Angeles has about an 80 percent chance of going through another earthquake in the next 30 years. Many people in California would love to be in the same category as the Willamette Valley."

The largest threat of an earthquake comes from the Cascadia Subduction zone, which lies about 50 to 100 kilometers off the coast of Oregon. The zone represents a plate boundary, where the

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QUAKE ALERT

Probability of damage in a 100-year period



■ greater than 20 percent
■ 10-20 percent
■ 5-10 percent
□ less than 5 percent

MAJOR EARTHQUAKES THIS CENTURY

Some of the 20th century's strongest earthquakes. The magnitude is followed by the location and number killed.

- 9.5, May 21-30, 1960, Chile, 5,000.
- 8.9, March 2, 1933, Japan, 2,990.
- 8.7, Aug. 15, 1950, India, 1,530.
- 8.6, Dec. 16, 1920, China, 100,000.
- 8.6, Aug. 16, 1906, Chile, 20,000.
- 8.4, March 27, 1964, Alaska, 131.
- 8.4, Dec. 21, 1946, Japan, 2,000.
- 8.4, Jan. 15, 1934, India, 10,700.

- 8.3, Jan. 24, 1939, Chile, 28,000.
- 8.3, May 22, 1927, China, 200,000.
- 8.3, Sept. 1, 1923, Japan, 100,000.
- 8.3, April 18-19, 1906, San Francisco, 452.
- 8.1 to 8.2, Aug. 8, 1993, Guam, none.
- 8.2, May 23, 1989, Macquarie Islands, unknown
- 8.2, Nov. 23, 1977, Argentina, 8.2, 100.
- 7.8 to 8.2, July 28, 1976, Tangshan, China, official figure: 242,000, unofficial estimates: as many as 800,000.
- 8.1, Sept. 19, 1985, Mexico, 9,500.

- 8.1, Sept. 12, 1979, Indonesia, 100.
- 7.8, Aug. 17, 1976, Philippines, 8,000.
- 7.7, Sept. 16, 1978, Iran, 25,000.
- 7.5, Feb. 4, 1976, Guatemala, 22,778.
- 7.3-7.7, June 21, 1990, Iran, 50,000.
- 7.3, Oct. 10, 1980, Algeria, 4,500.
- 7.3-7.7, June 21, 1990, Iran, 50,000.
- 7.2, Nov. 23, 1980, Italy, 4,800.
- 7.1, Oct. 30, 1983, Turkey, 1,300.
- 6.9, Dec. 7, 1988, Soviet Armenia, 25,000.
- 6.4, Sept. 30, 1993, India, 6.4, 9,700.

STEVEN ASBURY AND MATT GARTON/Emerald

Kobe devastated after earthquake

Ben Moebius
assisted by AP wire reports
Oregon Daily Emerald

Takumi Niitsuya, a undergraduate student at the University, found out about the worst earthquake to hit Japan in 40 years through a phone call from her family.

Niitsuya's husband called from her family's home in Osaka to tell her about the disaster and to reassure her that the family was all right.

"They called me one hour after it happened and told me many people are dead and missing," she said. "We were lucky. Everyone from my family is safe."

Survivors with blank expressions wandered streets

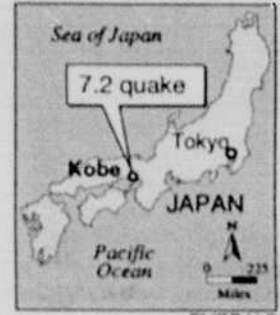
Tuesday in a city that was supposed to stand up to earthquakes, their faith in technology smashed by a disaster that killed at least 1,800 people.

Elevated roads and bridges that Japanese engineers boasted were quake-proof were broken at crazy angles, flung to earth by the force of nature, crushing whatever was beneath them.

Motorists perished as their cars skidded off the collapsing highways. Tracks and bridges for Japan's famous "bullet" trains were damaged badly enough to be out of action for months. Hundreds of thousands of survivors struggled to live without electricity, gas or water.

Hardly a block in this industrial port city of 1.4 million people had a house or building intact. Many streets were reduced to piles of rubble by the strongest quake to strike an urban area of Japan since 1948.

Osaka, Japan's second-largest city, was also



EMERALD

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Three students fight residency policy

Court: Lawsuits result after attempts at other options

Tiffany Smith
Oregon Daily Emerald

Three University students are challenging the Oregon State System of Higher Education's residency policies by going to court.

Jaimee Dawson and Linda Hancock filed lawsuits Tuesday in the Lane County Circuit Court. Audrey Harris is expected to file her suit by Friday. The students are asking for residency status, a refund for back out-of-state tuition paid since 1993 and an amendment of current residency policies.

The students have exhausted the appeals process and are faced with three choices, said Gary Christensen, assistant vice chancellor for student services and academic affairs. They can forget it, reapply or take legal action.

The women say the state system is

presuming their primary reason for being in Oregon is for educational purposes. Dawson said they moved to Oregon primarily for a better environment in which to raise her children.

The fact that she goes to school full-time and lives in student housing was key in her denial of residency. "Don't exclude someone from your program because they took advantage of your benefits," Dawson said.

She said that she was attending the University during summer term in 1993. But the new residency rules went into effect in November 1993, so she said her residency request should be considered under the old rules, not the newer and stricter rules. She said some law school students were granted residency under the old rules.

The three students were denied residency status on the campus level, the

Interinstitutional Residency Committee level and finally by Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Shirley Clark.

They had requested and were granted a meeting with Clark and Christensen, but say they were met with the attitude that nothing would change Clark's decision. The students then canceled the meeting.

Dawson expressed frustration with state system officials.

"We are asking for open-minded listening," she said.

Christensen said he was contacted by the Office of Student Advocacy for a meeting with the students.

"There is nothing we can discuss that could enable us to go back and change the decision made by Vice Chancellor Clark," he said. "I have never done anything to discourage or avoid a meeting to discuss the residency policy."

GOOD MORNING

► SANDERSVILLE, Ga. (AP)

An 11-year-old boy was arrested Tuesday after he robbed a bank with a .38-caliber pistol and made his getaway on a bicycle, police said.

Most of the money was recovered, and police said they were searching for an adult male accomplice.

The boy, who was not identified, was being held in the Washington County jail until he could be transferred to a juvenile lockup.

Witnesses told police the youth was wearing a ski mask when he walked into a Citizens Bank branch and brandished the pistol, demanding money from a frightened teller. He left on a bike and was arrested about 20 minutes later, Price said.