

■ POLICE BEAT

• Police recovered a stolen vehicle Jan. 25 on the 1300 block of Alder Street. According to police reports, a cab driver left his vehicle running while he went into Guido's to look for a fare. When he returned, the vehicle was missing.

• A 20-year-old male student was cited for shoplifting at the Bookstore Jan. 27. The suspect tried to steal Clearasil and Vaseline worth \$9.

• A 20-year-old male student was arrested Jan. 29 for burglary in the second degree on the 400 block of West 13th Avenue. According to police reports, officers responding to a silent alarm at a City of Eugene maintenance

building found a wallet belonging to the suspect next to a stolen telephone in bushes near the building. Police then went to the student's address and arrested him. He told police he was drunk and didn't know why he took the telephone.

• A 21-year-old male student was cited for petty larceny Jan. 29 on the 1300 block of East 15th Avenue. According to police reports, the suspect stole a bicycle worth \$300.

• A 21-year-old female student was cited for shoplifting at the Bookstore Jan. 30. The suspect tried to steal 10 greeting cards worth \$17.

—Compiled by Joe Harwood

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An informational seminar will be held on Tuesday, February 7th from 4-5 pm in Century Room F, Erb Memorial Union.

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Man is alone on the range

HAILEY, Idaho (AP) — Jon Marvel is fighting his modern-day range war with money and the forces of the free market, not guns.

Marvel's group, the Idaho Watersheds Project, is trying to move cattle off state-owned lands by outbidding ranchers who compete at auctions for grazing rights.

When the group makes the top bid, it leaves the land alone rather than moving cattle to graze on it.

In doing so, the group seeks to help range land recover from the environmental stresses of grazing. Marvel predicts range grasses will eventually grow lush and muddy streams will clear.

The strategy has drawn the ire of ranchers, whose families in many cases have grazed sheep and cattle on public lands for decades. They contend Marvel is grandstanding and exaggerating the environmental effects of ranching.

"It's good country, and we're taking care of it," said third-generation rancher John Faulkner, who was outbid by Marvel at an auction last November.

"I feel I'm an environmentalist, because I'm out there working all the time."

Marvel disagrees.

"I'm tired of writing letters on public policy issues and seeing them end up put in the file," said Marvel, who heads an architectural office in the south-

central Idaho town of Hailey.

"We're going to provide a laboratory to demonstrate what these streams could be. That's what they're afraid of."

Since forming his group in September 1993, Marvel has won four land bids and lost one. However, Marvel has yet to take over grazing rights for a single acre because ranchers have appealed each of his successful bids to the state Land Board.

"What's extreme about the free market?" he said. "They can outbid me."

The Land Board has considered only one appeal. The panel reversed an earlier vote in favor of Marvel and awarded the grazing-rights lease to a rancher, even though the rancher refused to bid.

Marvel is appealing the case to the state Supreme Court, and the Land Board is expected to consider the other appeals in the next month or two.

Meanwhile, Marvel on Jan. 20 announced his group plans to bid on 1,290 acres of range land near Challis that is leased to computer magnates William Hewlett and David Packard.

He said his group plans to lease 40,000 acres over the next decade, or about 2 percent of the 1.8 million acres the state leases out for grazing.

Marvel's strategy wouldn't work for federal range lands because U.S. law prohibits non-ranchers from bidding.

Tanker explodes on busy interstate

EMERYVILLE, Calif. (AP) — A tanker truck, carrying an estimated 6,000 gallons of flammable liquid, exploded on a busy freeway interchange Sunday morning, killing the driver and injuring at least seven others.

The explosion tore the tanker truck into pieces and threw a huge ball of flame into the air, damaging the highway and incinerating a car on the highway ramp above the Interstate 580 interchange.

Authorities closed the highway, known as the MacArthur Maze, which is the main interchange between Oakland, Berkeley and the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge.

It was unclear when the raised transition ramp from westbound Interstate 80 to eastbound I-580 would reopen, the California Highway Patrol said. Traffic was being diverted from the area.

About an eighth of a mile stretch of the highway was charred and strewn with debris. An overhead highway sign lay burned and twisted in the roadway next to melted metal and smoldering tires.

The rear of the tanker truck was labeled "liquefied petroleum gas: unodorized." Liquefied petroleum gas is a gas that is cooled to the point of liquid so it can be transported. The liquid is later heated back to its gaseous form,

fire Capt. Ron Clausen said.

The CHP said the cargo was a mixture of butane and petroleum, a highly flammable liquid.

The truck's cab was blown over the other side of the freeway. The driver's mangled body lay next to the charred ruins in bushes below the highway.

A preliminary investigation shows that the driver may have been traveling too fast around the interchange curve, CHP spokeswoman B.J. Whitten said. The driver's identity and company he worked for was not immediately known.

At least seven people were treated for burns and five cars were damaged from flying debris, Whitten said. Three people were brought to various hospitals but their conditions were not immediately known. An Oakland family of four was burned as it drove to church in San Francisco.

Joe and Marsha Washington were with their sons, Kenneth, 13, and Jerold, 18, heading west on the I-580 connector to the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge when their car was engulfed by flames from the accident below.

They immediately fled their car, which was destroyed. All four were treated for minor burns.

"All of the sudden there was a great humongous ball of orange fire everywhere. It seemed like we drove through it forever. It was unbelievable, something you

can't explain," said Joe Washington, to KCBS radio.

Capt. Clausen, whose station is about a mile away from the site, said he heard the explosion.

"I saw a huge ball of fire. It was a tremendous, tremendous explosion," he said.

Witnesses said the truck flipped over and then burst into flames. Others who were in the city flocked to the highway to see the damage.

Paul Bronken was on city streets and about a mile away from the highway when he felt the ground shake.

"The building shook without any noise. The guys I was talking to said 'Hey man, it's an earthquake.' The next thing was some noise and then this big glow and the heat swept over my face," Bronken said.

State Department of Transportation officials said the damaged ramp would be closed indefinitely. The accident blew a one-foot wide hole through the highway, ripped the guard rails and damaged the center divide.

The surrounding ramps were expected to be open soon.

The highway closure was expected to cause major backups Monday because it is the main connector from westbound I-80 to eastbound I-580, Interstate 880 and U.S. Highway 24. Traffic will be rerouted through city streets.

■ UNIVERSITY BRIEFS

• A nationally renowned playwright and director will deliver the keynote address at the 1995 Northwest Drama Conference, Tuesday through Saturday, co-hosted by the University Department of Theater Arts and the Lane Community College Department of Performing Arts.

Maria Irene Fornes, Obie Award-winning playwright and director, will deliver her keynote address at 3 p.m. Wednesday in the EMU Ballroom. She will also conduct a workshop that day.

Another noted and highly successful author on the conference agenda, Michael Weller, first achieved recognition with productions of his plays at the Edinburgh Festival and at Charles Marowitz's Open Space in London. He will conduct a special workshop on Friday for playwrights who entered the one-act play contest sponsored by the

American College Theater Festival.

Conference events on both campuses are open to students and the general public.

• The Department of Theater at the National Institute of the Arts in Taipei, Taiwan, will perform an original work by a University alumna during its week in residency at the University beginning Wednesday.

The visit is the first in a planned long-term exchange between the NIA and the University Department of Theater Arts and University Theatre.

Public performances of *Tales of the Mountains and the Seas* are set at 2 and 7 p.m. on Sunday at the Robinson Theatre. Tickets are \$10 for the general public; \$8 for seniors, University faculty, staff and non-University students; and \$6 for University students at the University box

office. For more information, call 346-4191.

• Rehabilitation, budget cuts, overcrowding, parole, supervision and prison subcultures will be discussed in a community forum in conjunction with a conference on "Prisons: Life Inside" beginning Thursday.

The forum will begin at 7 p.m. in the Performance Hall at the Lane County Fairgrounds, 796 W. 13th Ave.

Our Young Black Men Are Dying and Nobody Seems to Care, is an original play that will be performed Friday and Saturday.

The conference is available for college credit for graduate and undergraduate University students. An \$80 advance registration is required for students and \$99 for non-students.

For more information, call Miki Mace at 346-3397.