

Professor improves environment in Zaire

Strain: Sudden deforestation by nearly one million refugees harmed African land

Colleen Pohlig
Oregon Daily Emerald

Dropped in the midst of a massive refugee camp for Rwandans in Zaire last fall, Professor Barry Wheeler knew he was racing against the clock to curb the frightening environmental destruction brought on by close to one million refugees.

The sudden deforestation of the area alerted Wheeler, a University adjunct professor and specialist in international development, to his first task in the camp: imple-

menting a cookstove program that would demand less fuel wood and thus alleviate some strain on the land.

More than half a million pounds of wood were being taken out of the surrounding forests to make cooking fires, and the threat of desertification hovered over the four sprawling camps in Goma, Zaire, Wheeler said.

The camps housed much of the Rwandan Hutu population that slaughtered an estimated 1 million rival Tutsi clan members in this tiny central African country's tribal war last year.

Wheeler, who was dispatched by the American Refugee Committee to find solutions to the environmental crisis, drew from his former work in the Peace Corps

in West Africa, and immediately began constructing simple stoves from locally available resources — donated food tins, volcanic rock, gravel and sand.

"An important part of this process is that this respects the local, cultural cooking traditions," Wheeler said.

Five months after Wheeler launched the Improved Cookstove Program, it has grown to 10,000 thermal mass-and metal stoves in the four camps. Today, some refugees are employed and trained to build the stoves, which will allow them to eventually be independent of foreign aid in this area.

"It's a real success story," Wheeler said. "Engendering

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Some banks offer low fees, many services to students

Finances: Checking account charges aren't a burden at several banks

Ben Moebius
Oregon Daily Emerald

University students usually worry more about the amounts in their checking accounts than the account itself.

However, not all student checking accounts are created equal and some students may notice their small balances dwindling even further due to mysterious fees and charges.

According to Sharleen Carter, president of Carter and Carter Financial Services, students should be careful when choosing a checking account.

"They should look for some of the basics that can end up costing them money," Carter said. "There should be low fees and there should absolutely be free ATM usage. Banks will offer a good deal on an account then charge \$1.50 every time a student uses the ATM. That's a rip-off."

Extra services, like overdraft protection, are also important, she said.

"Some banks have the ability to pay car payments or Visa bills for students," she said. "So if you take a trip you do not have to worry about missing a bill and getting bad credit."

Gina McNaughton, the marketing director of U-Lane-O Credit Union, said one of the nonprofit organization's goals is to avoid "feeling students to

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Jenna Huckvele pulls out some cash from the ATM machine outside of U-Lane-O. She began banking at U-Lane-O because her father is a professor at the University.

Students challenge OSPIRG, call group 'illegal'

Hearing: The organization will go before the finance committee tonight at 8:45 p.m.

Patrick Minford
Oregon Daily Emerald

If the confrontation at last Thursday's Programs Finance Committee meeting was any indication, the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group's budget hearing tonight should be a very contentious battle.

More than 200 students are expected to attend OSPIRG's hearing, which will be held in Room 123 Pacific at 8:45 p.m. Many student government officials are paying close attention to the hearing because the finance committee's decision could set a precedent that would alter the incidental fee process statewide.

"The ability to collect student fees is key to campus diversity," ASUO Vice President Mark Rhinard said. "This is a place where we should foster different types of student groups who are allowed to have a different point of view to foster a market place of ideas."

The University's OSPIRG chapter, the oldest of 60 PIRG chapters nationwide, will ask the finance committee for a zero percent budget increase. OSPIRG has come under fire recently from a new University student group that wants the finance committee to reject OSPIRG's goal statement, making the group ineligible for incidental fees.

Students for Legal Government, a month-old organization led by Friederich von Carp, claims that OSPIRG is illegal under a 1985 Oregon Attorney General's opinion. Von Carp sent a 10 page letter to the ASUO Executive Feb. 17 detailing Students for Legal Government's accusations.

Von Carp wants the finance committee to reject OSPIRG's goal statement on the grounds that the group focuses its efforts on "the community at large and does not benefit the collective interests of students."

OSPIRG's goal statement would then be sent to the Student Senate, which would decide the group's future.

"Right now it's all a matter of people

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GOOD MORNING

► **LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Bruce Springsteen's brooding "Streets of Philadelphia" won two songwriting awards and Tony Bennett scored the third consecutive pop performance award of his revived career at Wednesday's 37th annual Grammys.

Springsteen won for best rock song and best song written specifically for a movie or television (the 1993 film *Philadelphia* about a lawyer with AIDS).

Bennett's MTV *Unplugged* album followed "Steppin' Out" and "Perfectly Frank," which rocketed the 68-year-old singer back into wide popularity after last being honored with Grammys in the 1960s.

The song "I Swear" brought All-4-One

the Grammy for best pop vocal performance by a group or duo and was named best country song for the version recorded by John Michael Montgomery.

In rhythm and blues, jack-of-all-trades Babyface won Grammys for best male vocal performance for "When Can I See You?" and for writing "I'll Make Love to You," the popular hit recorded by Boyz II Men. The Boyz claimed the R&B album trophy for *II*.

Bonnie Raitt won best pop album for *Longing in Their Hearts*, while newcomer Sheryl Crow claimed the female pop performance Grammy for "All I Wanna Do."

The Rolling Stones' *Voodoo Lounge* won the rock album trophy and Aerosmith's "Crazy" received a Grammy for

rock performance by a group with vocal.

Melissa Etheridge captured the female rock performance Grammy for "Come to My Window." Green Day grabbed the award for best alternative music performance for their album *Dookie*.

"Black Hole Sun" by Soundgarden earned the hard-rock performance Grammy.

Eric Clapton, who soared back into the Grammy limelight two years ago with his *Unplugged* album, captured the traditional blues album award for *From the Cradle*.

The film *The Lion King* produced three Grammy winners, including Elton John's male pop vocal performance award for "Can You Feel the Love Tonight."