

Lebanon students mourn loss

LEBANON, Ore. (AP) — Starting at the two empty desks in study hall was more than 15-year-old Angela Johnson could bear, especially when a classmate started crying.

Talia Ufford and Katie Weinman used to sit in those desks. But when classes resumed after spring break Monday, the two girls weren't there. They and two boys from the school were killed in separate traffic accidents over the weekend.

"I couldn't stay in my study hall. It was so sad," Johnson said. "You still can't get over the fact that they're dead. You think they're on vacation and they'll come back."

Ufford and Weinman, both 17, were returning Saturday morning from a trip to Bend, where they had gone to visit friends. Police say the car, driven by Weinman, hit a patch of ice near the Santiam Pass and slid into a pickup.

The night before, another accident killed students Brett Christenson, 16, and Matthew Graves,

15. Also killed was Floyd Goodenough, 38, of Lebanon.

Christenson was driving Graves and two girls home from a movie when his car crossed the centerline and struck Goodenough's pickup about three miles northeast of Lebanon.

Police said alcohol or drugs did not appear to be a factor in either accident.

School officials held a news conference Monday to fill a stream of media requests for interviews with students and staff.

"All four students we've lost will be greatly missed in body and spirit," student body president Sarah Jolley said.

"These four individuals touched the lives of many, and their memory will live forever in our hearts," she said. "Students are grieving in their own individual manner, but most are turning to one another for support."

School officials have set aside a bulletin board to keep students updated on the tragedies. A

large piece of paper about 8 feet long and 3 feet wide was posted in a hallway to allow students to write personal notes to the victims' families.

Tom Thomas, Christenson's best friend, sat quietly with several of his friends outside the store during lunch period.

"I just can't believe it happened," he said. "I don't want to believe it happened."

The Ufford house was full of family and friends Monday afternoon.

Michael Ufford sat on a couch with his wife, Ronda, talking about their daughter's death.

"Talia was a beautiful person," Michael Ufford said. "She was so young and so well-liked. It's very, very hard. We're not taking it well at all."

A memorial service for Ufford and Weinman will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Lebanon Mennonite Church. Graveside services for Christenson and Graves are scheduled for 2 p.m. Wednesday at Lebanon IOOF Cemetery.

GM attempts to reverse support for liability law

SALEM (AP) — General Motors Corp. has launched an effort to prevent the Oregon Legislature from helping a woman who had her face burned off in a fiery wreck involving a Chevrolet pickup.

Anne Kirkwood suffered life-threatening burns last August when her sedan struck the side of a 1976 Chevy C-K pickup, rupturing its sidesaddle gas tank and showering her in flaming gasoline.

Kirkwood's granddaughter, Erin Tureck, 10, died in the crash. The 66-year-old grandmother now faces \$500,000 in medical bills.

The world's largest automaker has hired former House Speaker Hardy Myers and seven other lobbyists to try to persuade lawmakers to reject the bill, SB447, on the House floor Thursday.

The lobbyists face House Speaker Bev Clarno, R-Bend, and other legislators who want to give Kirkwood and other victims of sidesaddle-related accidents a means of seeking damages in court.

NOMINATION DEADLINE: APRIL 7, 1995

Faculty Awards For Distinguished Teaching

Now is the time to make nominations for awards which will be presented at Spring Commencement to University of Oregon faculty members for distinguished teaching. Graduate teaching fellows, who have their own competition, are ineligible for these awards. Each of these awards will be accompanied by a monetary prize. Students, faculty, staff and alumni can submit nominations. If you wish to make a nomination, you should send it to the following address using the form below or another sheet of paper:

Lorraine G. Davis, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
207 Johnson Hall, University of Oregon

Please send your nominations no later than April 7, 1995

Eligibility for Awards

Ersted Award for Distinguished Teaching

The late Mr. A. J. Ersted established the Ersted Award for Distinguished Teaching so the University of Oregon could annually honor faculty members "who have taught comparatively short periods and have demonstrated exceptional abilities to induce students to reason and not merely memorize." The Ersted Award can go only to faculty who are early in their teaching careers. This teaching may occur at the undergraduate or graduate level.

Thomas F. Herman Faculty Achievement Award for Distinguished Teaching

This award honors senior faculty members who have achieved outstanding records as teachers. The Thomas F. Herman Award can go only to faculty members who have held academic rank at the University of Oregon for at least seven years, and who have demonstrated excellence in teaching at the undergraduate or graduate level. The criteria for this award are similar to that used in the past for the Burlington Northern Award.

I nominate _____ for the

- Ersted Award
- Thomas F. Herman Award

(Check one)


The reasons for this nomination are as follows:
(Please feel free to attach an additional sheet, if necessary.)

Signature of nominator _____

Address _____

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Please indicate your status: Student Faculty Alum Staff



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