

# Bomb shakes Oklahoma City

**Locally:** Eugene Federal Building searched for explosive devices as a precaution

Marcelene Edwards  
Oregon Daily Emerald

When Joe Cascio arrived at the Eugene Federal Building on Wednesday to begin his shift as supervisory security officer he had no idea that three hours later he would be looking for explosive devices around the building.

At 8:15 a.m. he received reports that a bomb had exploded in the Oklahoma City federal building possibly killing dozens of people.

Cascio and officer Larry Woodcum from the Federal Protection Service searched the grounds looking for suspicious material and items that were out of place.

Fears about what he could find flew through Cascio's mind as he searched the interior and exterior of the building. If he found something, he said, laughing, he would take the first plane to Walla Walla, Wash.

Security officers at the feder-

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## FEDERAL BUILDING TRAGEDY

### ■ THE BUILDING:

Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, nine-story federal office building where more than 500 people work. Houses day-care center and offices of Social Security Administration, General Accounting Office, General Services

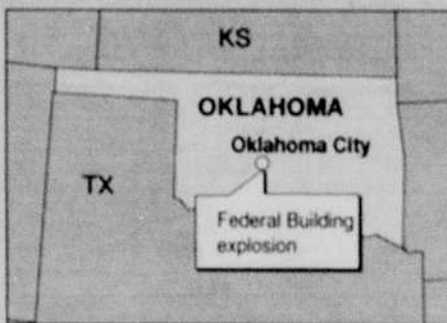
Administration, Drug Enforcement Administration, Small Business Administration, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and Secret Service among others.

■ **THE BOMB:** Believed to be 1,000- to 1,200-pound car bomb. Exploded outside building about 9 a.m. local time.

■ **CASUALTIES:** 31 dead, including at least a dozen children, and more than 200 injured. Another 200 unaccounted for, and authorities said bodies seen in the wreckage are not all included in the death toll yet.

■ **SUSPECTS:** No one claimed responsibility. Federal authorities said terrorist act is possibility.

■ **IN WASHINGTON:** President Clinton called bombers "evil cowards" and Attorney General Janet Reno said government would seek death penalty against them. Clinton administration ordered tightened security at federal buildings throughout the country and dispatched law enforcement investigators to scene.



MATT GARTON/Emerald

## Car bomb kills at least 31, destroys federal building

**Explosion:** 12 children died in the day-care center and 200 people unaccounted for at office

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — A car bomb ripped deep into America's heartland Wednesday, killing at least 31 people and leaving 200 missing in a blast that gouged a nine-story hole in a federal office building.

The dead included at least 12 youngsters, some of whom had just been dropped off by their parents at a day-care center.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack, the deadliest U.S. bombing in 75 years.

At least 200 people were injured — 58 critically, according to Fire Chief Gary Marrs. Scores were feared trapped in the rubble of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

Three people were pulled from the rubble Wednesday

night but two died a short time later, said Assistant Fire Chief Jon Hansen. He said a 15-year-old girl was taken from the building in critical condition. He also said a woman trapped in the basement said there were two others with her. She didn't know if they were dead or alive.

The death toll was certain to rise.

"Our firefighters are having to crawl over corpses in areas to get to people that are still alive," said Hansen, who updated the death toll to 31 late Wednesday.

Attorney General Janet Reno refused to comment on who might have been behind the attack. President Clinton called the bombers "evil cowards," and Reno said the government would seek the death penalty against them.

A police source, who requested anonymity, said FBI agents were trying to piece together a van or a truck that was believed

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## OPEU members show overwhelming support for statewide strike

**Vote:** Dissatisfied union employees say they were forced to approve strike

Samantha Martin  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Members of the Oregon Public Employees Union showed their overwhelming dissatisfaction with current contract negotiations by a 93 percent margin in favor of a statewide strike.

At the Lane County Convention Center Wednesday evening, local OPEU members flexed their voting muscles as the general consensus proved to be in support of a statewide strike.

Glenda Sample, a case manager with

the Eugene Adult and Family Services, said she gave a "holler of excitement" as she placed her vote in support of a statewide strike in the ballot box.

"The legislature has made us the bad guys," Sample said in reference to Oregon state employees. "The public is listening to what the legislature says and not to what we have to say."

Sample said she had a small savings account to draw funds from for the duration of the strike.

"If I have to sling hash or work nights I will," said Sample, who is also a shop steward for her local union.

Chet Willis, a mechanic at the Department of Administrative Services in Eugene said that the "strike was unne-

cessary," but he was ready and willing to strike.

"If Bob Tiernan would move to another state, that's all it would take to solve the problem," Willis said.

Willis said he would "fish, live off the land and forward all bills to the state legislature" during the strike.

Susan Osterman, a property specialist at the University Physical Plant said that she was "definitely, militantly ready to strike."

"If I have to file bankruptcy I'll do it," said Osterman. "I'm not excited to strike, but I will."

Striking state employees are not eligible for unemployment benefits or food

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Chris Short, an OPEU worker, checks to make sure Terry Lanaday, an auto mechanic, is registered with OPEU to vote.

## ■ GOOD MORNING

GRANTS PASS, Ore. (AP) — The skulls are missing from the ancient remains of two Indian children stolen from graves in the Nevada desert and reburied in the garden of a Grants Pass man, state police said Wednesday.

Investigators believe the remains were intact when Jack L. Harelson originally buried them in his yard in the early 1980s after digging them out of a cave in the Black Rock Desert, Lt. Bernie Giusto said.

At some point the remains were dug up again and the skulls removed, and investigators believe that Harelson did it, though they have no witnesses to say when that happened, Giusto added.

"The question really is, why

they were redug and what value they had to be separated from the rest of the skeletal remains, which were pretty much intact otherwise," Giusto said.

"Recovering the skulls is important because they probably could tell us a lot about the investigation and may also mean that there were other things taken from the Nevada site that were eventually either sold or given away," he said.

Authorities also wanted to be sure to find the skulls so the full remains can be returned to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe in Nevada once the investigation is done, Giusto said.

Contacted at his home, Harelson said he couldn't comment on the skulls until he talked to his lawyer.

## House approves aid package

**Legislature:** The bill passed by the narrowest possible margin

Colleen Pohlig  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon House's passage of a \$3.55 billion aid package for kindergarten through 12th grade Tuesday has left many wondering what crumbs will be left for higher education.

"It will be harder now for the Legislature to add back money to higher education because they are limiting their options," said Randy MacDonald, director of legislative and community relations for the University. "Without revenues, they're going to have to cut programs."

Higher education and human services will likely be the main state services to suffer under the House's decision, MacDonald said.

Democrats were united against the bill, which is the largest appropriation package in state budget history for K-12, as the House passed it 31-25. The House requires at least 31 votes to pass a bill.

Saying he is encouraged by the narrow margin of the passage, MacDonald is looking at the bright side of what lies ahead for higher education funding.

"The narrow margin tells me a lot about the concern for higher education funding among Democrats," MacDon-

ald said. "It says legislators understand there are other priorities, including higher education."

However, MacDonald said unless the Legislature takes advantage of other revenue opportunities — such as General Fund and lottery dollars — this vote will translate into dramatic cuts to state higher education and many human services.

The Legislature remains in session for two more months, although a budget for higher education is expected in the next two weeks. MacDonald said he is hopeful that representatives will find replacement revenue before the end of the session.