

Oregon State president announces retirement

CORVALLIS (AP) — John V. Byrne, president of Oregon State University since 1984, has announced his intention to retire at the end of the year.

In a letter sent to OSU faculty and staff on Monday, Byrne said he plans to retire Dec. 31, but is willing to stay through March 31, 1996, "for an orderly transition with my successor."

Byrne, 67, joined the OSU faculty in 1960 as an associate professor in the Department of Oceanography. He later became a professor and chair of the department. When the department evolved into the School of Oceanography in 1972, Byrne became dean.

Byrne was appointed vice president for research and graduate studies in 1980.

In 1981, President Ronald Reagan named Byrne head of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, a position he held until becoming OSU's 12th president in 1984.

Byrne said that since he nearly has reached his goal of overseeing a period of budgetary adjustments at OSU, it is the appropriate time to allow room for new leadership.

SATURDAY SPECIAL

39¢
Cheeseburger
(Limit 10)

Saturdays Only
East Broadway Location Only



Carl's Jr.

East Broadway
& Hilyard
(Limited time only)

WANTED

INTERNATIONAL PEER ASSISTANTS

- Assist new international students with cultural adaptation issues
 - Gain experience in cross-cultural communication and programming
 - Receive internship credits from the International Studies Program
 - Apply to Office of Int'l Education & Exchange, 330 Oregon Hall (346-1238)
- Deadline: June 2, 1995

Medicinal marijuana debated

SEATTLE (AP) — The scientific community may be split on the medicinal value of marijuana, but don't tell Tacoma lawyer Ralph Seeley it doesn't work.

Seeley said he smoked pot for the first time to combat nausea from chemotherapy treatments for bone cancer.

Marinol, a synthetic version of the active ingredient in marijuana, kept him from vomiting only if he took it well ahead of time, generally was useless once nausea set in and got him too high for too long.

"You take a tablet at 10 a.m., at noon the next day you're still losing arguments with the door-knob," Seeley said.

"What I discovered is if I relied on legal medication, I would be very sick for a very long time and watch a lot of \$3.11 tablets disappear down the toilet — and if I got one down I'd ruin the next day, be so damned stoned I couldn't function," he said. "If I smoked marijuana, 5 or 10 minutes later I'm done; I'm fine."

Seeley's physician, Ernest Conrad, a Seattle orthopedic surgeon who specializes in cancer patients, said he was concerned about the effect of the smoke on his patient's lungs but still would prescribe marijuana to him if he could.

"I don't personally feel like withholding that from him," Conrad said. "It's a matter of what you think is reasonable for a terminal patient."

Because marijuana appears to help some, there's been a boom in "buyers clubs" that supply patients who insist it gives them relief from their ailments and

medical conditions.

Law enforcement officials counter that there is no hard scientific evidence to support that claim, and marijuana remains illegal to prescribe. Now police have raided one of the clubs.

Especially prominent among the complaints eased by pot is loss of appetite among AIDS patients, nausea from chemotherapy for treatment of cancer and pressure from fluid within the eye from glaucoma.

"There are people who are starving to death because they can't get the medicine they need," says Joanna McKee. "There's nothing in science that works as good as the munchies."

She and her partner, Ronald "Stitch" Miller, supplied seven-gram pill bottles of pot at little or no charge as "Green Cross Patient Co-op" until police raided their trailer on Bainbridge Island earlier this month. More than 160 marijuana plants were seized, in the biggest drug raid in memory on the island, Bainbridge Police Chief John Sutton said.

Allen St. Pierre, deputy national director for the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, said it was the first raid nationwide on any of the more than two dozen buyers' clubs. One in San Francisco has 4,300 members, St. Pierre said.

McKee, who uses a wheelchair to move more than a few feet, says she smokes pot to ease muscle spasms, migraines and epilepsy from head and back injuries.

Until two years ago, she merely grew her own.

"I'd heard about AIDS patients," she said. "I thought I

could share."

Wrong, said Sutton, spokesman for the multi-agency West Sound Narcotics Enforcement Team.

"What they're doing is in violation of the law," he said. "We've never had any kind of policy other than marijuana is illegal."

Holly McNeill, case manager for the Kitsap County Health District HIV-AIDS Program, said she referred AIDS patients to Green Cross.

"I don't condone it. I don't judge it," McNeill said. "I let people know if they ask about it that there is a way for them to get it if they want to."

In San Francisco, the Board of Supervisors has ordered police to assign the lowest priority to enforcing the marijuana ban in medical cases. McKee sought similar action without success on Bainbridge last year.

She and Miller said they supplied only patients who present a note signed by a doctor who usually identifies the condition being treated and agrees to monitor the patient's marijuana use.

Now they're set for trial in July on felony charges of manufacturing a controlled substance.

Bruce Stubbs of the Drug Enforcement Administration in Seattle said the medicinal use of pot has never been advocated by a substantial medical organization.

"There is no valid mainstream medical evidence that supports the contention that marijuana ... has medical benefits that cannot be achieved by using other drugs that are legal," Stubbs said.

Tornado kills three, injures 24

GREAT BARRINGTON, Mass. (AP) — A team of psychologists visited a school for troubled boys Tuesday, a day after a deadly tornado careened through this picturesque mountain town, killing two of the school's students and a staff member.

"I don't think the kids really grasp the magnitude," Paul Shafiroff, education director at the Eagleton School, said Tuesday as the 43 surviving boys watched television, played cards, cleaned up after the storm or visited with the half-dozen counselors.

"It's beyond their real understanding," said Shafiroff, whose school is for mentally retarded boys with emotional and behavioral problems.

Two teen-agers and a 61-year-old staff member were returning to the school from a shopping trip when the tornado hit, its 200-mph winds hurling their car into a stand of trees. They were the only people confirmed killed, though two hikers were still missing Tuesday.

School counselor Seung "Sonny" Choi, who was driving, was thrown from the car and critically hurt. He was hospitalized at Berkshire Medical Center.

"He said 'The children were belted in but I don't know where the car is,'" said School Director Bruce Bona, who found Choi dazed and walking along a highway looking for the car.

The tornado, meanwhile, ripped a swath hundreds of yards wide from the eastern New York county of Columbia to the Berkshire mountain town of Otis, about 15 miles away, as it rolled through the Berkshires of western Massachusetts.

The tornado blew down power lines and snapped trees 2 feet thick. It killed the three people from the school, injured 24 others and damaged more than 1,200 homes and 15 businesses.

A nursing home that lost part of its roof was among the buildings damaged in Great Barrington, a tourist town of 7,725 residents just across the state line from New York. The home's 120 residents were evacuated.

Damage to Great Barrington and neighboring towns was estimated in the millions of dollars. Lt. Gov. Paul Cellucci said state and federal officials were trying to work out how much disaster aid the area may receive.

Heralded by a gush of rain, the tornado roared past the Eagleton School around 7 p.m., wrecking three student dormitories in seconds. Most of the students were in the dining room at the time.

"They were just frightened," said Rue Staton, the chief administrator on duty. "I yelled for everyone to lay on the floor."

About three miles away, in a commercial district near downtown, brothers Kenny and Joe Race saw the storm blow their house partly off its foundation and take down the second story.

"We just looked out and I saw the trees falling like dominoes," said Kenny Race. He and two others in the house fled to the basement. One of them, his brother's girlfriend, Crystal Caponigro, said, "It just seemed like the rumble wouldn't stop." But within about 20 seconds it was over.

None of the three people in the home was injured, but the brothers said it would probably be impossible to rebuild.

Hair salon owners Richard and Ann Klein, who lost their business, were wondering how much their insurance company would pay to rebuild.

"What are you going to do?" asked Klein. "Rebuild and hope the insurance company covers. We could be going to a funeral."

Do your parents need a car for the weekend?

Have them call A-Way.

\$54⁰⁰

Weekend Special

Friday-Monday 400 Free Miles

We rent to college students.

Must be 21 years of age.

No additional charges.

A-WAY
RENT A CAR

683-0874 110 W. 6th

(by the Hult Center)

Study Japanese this Summer!

Intensive six-week program at Lewis & Clark College in Portland July 18-Aug 27. Study Japanese language (all levels) & culture courses in economics, literature and history. Earn 12 hours of UO credit while living and studying with Japanese students. Outdoor wilderness trip included. Prior language study not required. Financial aid, scholarships available.

Oregon/Japan Summer Program

222 SW Columbia, Suite 1750

Portland, OR 97201

1-800-823-7938 opieann@aol.com