

Gladstone crashes, frustrates students

■ **COMPUTER:** The two-day system crash was the most recent of a series of crashes

By Amy Columbo
Student Activities Editor

Students who tried to access Gladstone e-mail accounts this weekend and were unable to get through or found their messages missing, weren't alone. The entire operating system was down in what University Computing Center officials said was the worst computer crash this year.

"Since August we've been having a problem with Gladstone, where at least once a week the machine hangs and crashes," said Jon Neher, a systems programmer with the computer center. Neher said it was the longest crash to recover and that he personally worked 12 hours on Saturday to help recover students' messages from extra tapes.

He said the system was basically down all day Saturday and Sunday; they were not able to recover it until Monday. It crashed again Tuesday between 9:30 a.m. and noon. But Tuesday afternoon Neher said it was up and running again and all of the messages had been recovered.

Neher said the only difference students may notice is they have messages that they have seen before.

Heather Hardaway, a lab assistant who worked Sunday at the EMU computer lab, said she had several frustrated students in the lab and on the phone during her shift who were unable to access their accounts.

The computer center posted signs at the door to warn students that the system was down.

She said if students were able to get into their account this weekend, they found that their in-box was empty and all of their messages gone.

"It's frustrating for students, but if professors require students to turn in their assignments through e-mail, they have to accept this excuse," she said.

Neher said the computer center has been working with the support staff of Sun Microsystems, the company they purchased the software from in June. And they hope that they have identified the bug that causes the crashes by turning off part of the operating system that is not essential.

NEWS BRIEFING

A LOOK AT THIS MORNING'S HEADLINES

Three sheriffs don't like tougher sentencing measure



ROSEBURG, Ore. (AP) — Three sheriffs in southwestern Oregon don't like a proposed ballot measure that would increase sentences for less violent criminals.

Sheriffs of Coos, Douglas and Curry counties said the anti-crime measures proposed by state Rep. Kevin Mannix, D-Salem, may sound good politically, but could cause an already overburdened jail system to crash.

"If we funded some prevention measures, we'd make real inroads on crime," said John Pardon, Douglas County sheriff.

Pardon, Michael Cook, Coos County sheriff, and Charles Denney, Curry County sheriff were in Roseburg on Monday discussing continuation of their 15-year arrangement to rotate prisoners through each other's jails so that violent inmates don't get released due to overcrowding.

Mannix' new proposal would impose stiffer sentences for many property crimes. Burglars and arsonists who now might draw probation would have to serve at least 18 months in prison.

Three girls charged with assaulting, photographing woman



MOBILE, Ala. (AP) — Three teen-age girls tied up and severely beat a 66-year-old woman at a Baptist youth shelter, then took snapshots of the victim and fled in a church van, police said.

The girls were arrested Tuesday in Bayou La Batre, and the van was found parked at a fishing pier, police said. The girls, whose names were not released, face charges of assault and theft.

Florence Williams was attacked as she worked alone at the Alabama Baptist Children's Home shelter after Sunday evening church services. She was in stable condition Tuesday with bruises and four broken ribs.

The shelter offers counseling and a home environment for boys and girls during family crises. The girls, aged 13 and 14, had been at the shelter several weeks, according to director Doug McWhirter.

Of the three girls accused of the attack, two were sisters and all had been brought to the shelter as victims of neglect, but none had a history of violence.

Yeltsin returns to mixed reviews from Russian media



MOSCOW (AP) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin, who jabbed the press during his visit to the United States, came home Tuesday to mixed reviews in his own country's media.

While most Russian newscasts reported on the president's Western trip with little commentary, the feisty NTV television network declared Yeltsin's meeting with President Bill Clinton "warm but empty."

The presidents' meeting came too late for Russian newspapers' Tuesday deadlines.

All newscasts showed footage of the two presidents' news conference Monday, including Yeltsin's comment to journalists that they are a "disaster," and Clinton's laughter at the remark.

"Today," NTV's commentator added, "journalists criticize the presidents for their too general and vague comments, and ask whether they really decided anything except that friendship between America and Russia would last for centuries."



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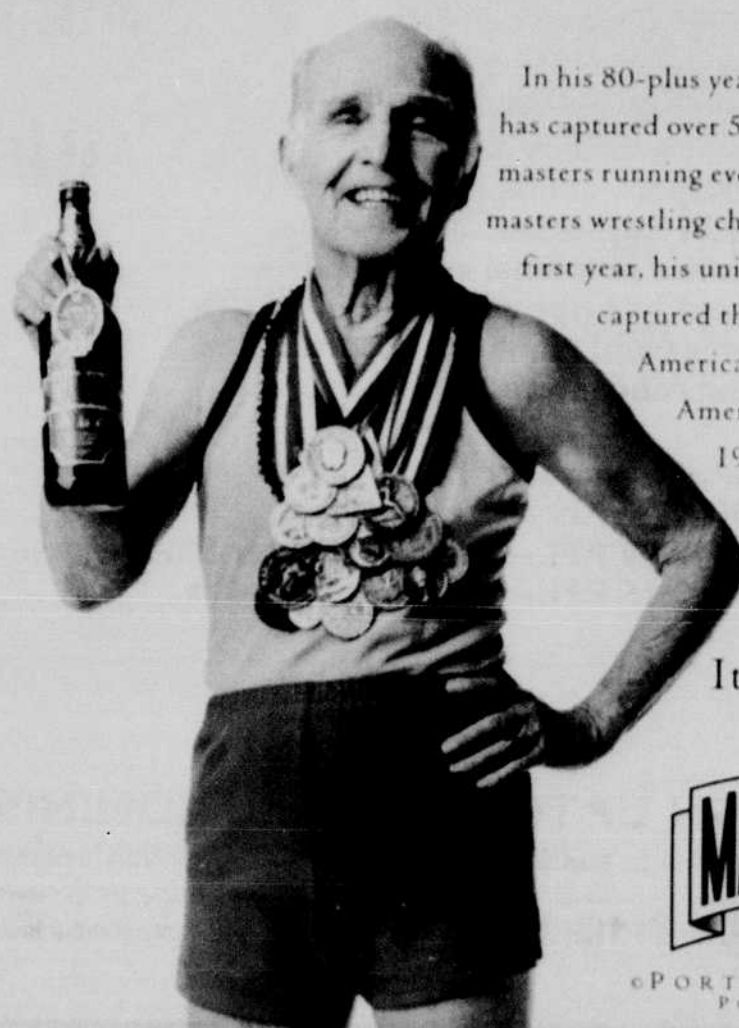
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