

NEWS BRIEFING

A LOOK AT THIS MORNING'S HEADLINES

California tribe opens casino in fear of federal budget cuts



MEDFORD (AP) — The success of the Cow Creek Indian Gaming Center in southern Oregon and the fear of federal budget cuts led a Northern California tribe to open its own casino.

The Elk Valley Rancheria, which combines various Northern California tribes, was scheduled to open its Elk Valley Casino tonight outside Crescent City, Calif., with two blackjack tables and 90 video slot machines.

"The way we're looking at it, with the funding cuts coming down, it's pretty much going to devastate us," said tribal chairman John Green. "We're hoping this might be a tool for economic development."

The casino means jobs for about 65 people, half of them Indians, as well as money to finance education and economic development.

New drug for AIDS patients may extend their survival time



SILVER SPRING, Md. (AP) — AIDS patients taking the drug d4T got reassurance Wednesday that it could slightly improve their survival time.

The Food and Drug Administration conditionally approved d4T in June 1994 because it increased advanced patients' immune cells. But under federal law, manufacturer Bristol-Myers Squibb still had to prove that translated into a real benefit — either a longer life or more time until the disease progressed — or the drug could be withdrawn from the market.

Wednesday, an FDA advisory committee voted 4-3 that d4T works, albeit slightly. The vote makes d4T, sold under the brand name Zerit, the first conditional AIDS drug to qualify for full FDA approval.

Afghan radicals force U.N. to fire women from staffs



UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Under pressure from Islamic radicals, the United Nations is cutting women from its staff in Afghanistan. A human rights group accused the United Nations Wednesday of discrimination.

The Taliban militia objects to women working outside fields such as health and education, and there have been reports of threats against women and offices where they work, said Kevin Kennedy, a U.N. spokesman.

Some U.N. agencies tried to let Afghan women work from their homes, "but in the long run that proved unworkable, and in the end their contracts were not renewed" when they expired, Kennedy said.

He didn't know how many women lost their jobs.

Scandal's Lounge
PROUDLY PRESENTS
Lil' Lynn & The Smoking Soles
Featuring: Suburban Slim
LIVE BLUES/JAZZ
Every Thursday • from 9 pm-1 am
No Cover If You Come Before 9 PM
2222 Centennial Blvd. • 343-4734

Rideshare
Traveling soon?
Need a ride?
Offering a ride?
Rideshare brings together people needing and offering rides anywhere in Oregon or throughout the country.
For more information call
345-7600.

New space telescope will scan for signs of alien life forms

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — Astronomers have proposed launching a new space telescope into orbit near Jupiter to help answer one of humankind's most basic questions: Are we alone?

As scientists envision it, the telescope — actually, an array of telescopes — would be out far enough to detect faint images of any Earth-like planets outside our solar system and identify any telltale sign of life.

"You can't think of a more basic question," Edward Weiler, chief scientist of NASA's Hubble Space Telescope, said Tuesday. "Are we alone? Are we the only living thinking things in the universe?"

Weiler will soon assume the management of NASA's effort to search for other planets — a project NASA Administrator Daniel Goldin has identified as one of the space agency's principal goals in the coming years.

Roger Angel, a telescope builder and astronomer at the University of Arizona, discussed one leading telescope proposal at a briefing that took place at Duke University by the Council for the Advancement of Science Writing.

Angel and Arizona colleague Neville Woolf have proposed four 1.5-meter telescopes mounted on a beam that would rotate slowly like a giant, single-blade fan, with its four large, polished eyes directed at a nearby star.

The telescope array would have to be near Jupiter to put it outside of the dust that muddies the view from the closer reaches of the solar system, Angel said. It could be built to open up and assemble itself in space, or it could be launched in pieces and assembled on a space station.

At this early stage, the cost of such a mission is unclear, Angel said. But he gave a rough estimate of \$1 to \$3 billion. Weiler said the telescope would probably cost less than the Hubble, in 1990s dollars.

Weiler said the necessary technology already appears to exist, but putting all the pieces together and making them work, even if pursued aggressively, could take maybe 15 or 20 years.

The telescope's search for life should be more likely to succeed than earlier efforts to look for

STRANGER THAN FICTION

radio signals from other civilizations. The reason is that the new mission has a more modest goal: to find ozone in other atmospheres, an almost certain indicator of photosynthesis from alien algae, forests or flowers.

Placing the telescope near Jupiter makes it possible to use much smaller telescopes because the sky there is 300 times darker than it is near Earth, where the view is far too murky, Angel said.

Scientist finds spider silk better than silkworm's for medical use

MIAMI (AP) — Spiders, symbols of fright and death, may not be such bad critters after all, said a scientist who has found that one variety spins silk so remarkably strong and germ-resistant that it could someday be used in sutures.

The orb-web weaving spider, a common, nonvenomous arachnid, spins filaments that are stronger than those of silkworms, whose silk often is used in surgical thread, said Dr. M. Delwar Hussain, an assistant professor of pharmacology at the University of Wyoming.

The spider's silk might also someday help hold torn tendons and ligaments together while they heal, Hussain said Tuesday at meeting in Miami Beach of the Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists.

The scientist is studying the molecular structure of the silk in hopes of developing a synthetic form that can be grown in the laboratory. That would be far easier than raising hordes of the spiders, which are found all over the world and are about the size of a quarter.

Hussain said he studied the spider's silk for two years using rats, and plans about five more years of work involving human blood and larger animals such as dogs and rabbits.

The orb-web spider's silk is nontoxic and does not stimulate an immune response, which raises the possibility of its use in implants, he said.

FUTON



EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY AMERICAN MADE
RUSTIC ASH LIVING ROOM **\$1158⁰⁰**

Sofa, Chair, Coffee and End Table.

SE PORTLAND
3200 SE
Hawthorne
236-0921

NEW LOCATION!
NW PORTLAND
602 NW 23rd
274-4217

EUGENE
1231 Alder
(U of O Campus)
686-5069

— FINANCING AVAILABLE —
90 Days Same As Cash with Credit Approval



**ROCK SOFT
FUTON**

It was incorrectly reported in the *Emerald* Nov. 8 that the campus recycling program recycled 155 tons of material last year. It should of read 100,000 tons of material were recycled by the University. The *Emerald* regrets the error.