

NEWS BRIEFING

A LOOK AT THIS MORNING'S HEADLINES

Added conservation fee may appear on state electric bills



PORTLAND (AP) — Electricity bills may go up slightly to save energy.

A coalition of environmental groups, utilities, government officials and large energy users are proposing a small, new fee to pay for energy conservation programs.

The fee would include public education, residence weatherization, residential and commercial energy code enforcement and training. It would not include efforts to spur wind and solar power.

The fee might look like a tax, but it's in lieu of rate impacts, said Ron Eachus, a member of the Oregon Public Utility Commission.

Iran tests military hardware, indicates signs of build-up



WASHINGTON (AP) — Iran has test-fired a new low-flying missile designed to attack ships, adding to its potential for disrupting the Persian Gulf, the commander of U.S. naval forces in the Gulf said Tuesday.

Vice Adm. Scott Redd, commander of the Gulf-based U.S. 5th Fleet, said Iran also expanded its network of anti-aircraft and other missiles based on land and is likely to add a third Russian-made submarine to its fleet this year.

Taken as a whole, Redd said, these developments point to an increasingly advanced Iranian naval capability but leave unclear whether Iran's leaders intend to try to choke off the vital oil lanes of the Persian Gulf.

More gunfire, Pakistanis killed on disputed border



JAMMU, India (AP) — India accused Pakistan Tuesday of ratcheting up tensions along their disputed border, even though the latest victims of the conflict were unarmed Pakistanis killed by Indian troops.

A government spokesman in New Delhi said India has shown restraint despite Pakistani provocation and accused Pakistan of lying about firing by the armies of the two uneasy neighbors.

Troops on the heavily guarded border around Jammu-Kashmir — the Indian part of Kashmir — often shoot at one another, but the attacks have intensified recently. More than two-dozen people have been killed in the past week.

Attacker: Man is still at large

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the suspect suddenly turned around and began walking toward her.

He then grabbed her breasts, and the student pushed the assailant away.

"For the first few seconds, I just stood there because I was so surprised," she said.

The attacker grabbed her again; she pushed him away and screamed. Then, she turned around and ran home. Although she could not give exact physical details of the suspect, the description she gave to police matched the description given by two other victims later that day.

Police are encouraging people to report immediately any sexual assaults or any suspicious activity involving anyone matching the suspect's description. Sgt. Dave Poppe, who handles police reports for the University area, said there may be more unreported incidents. "My real concern is that his behavior might escalate," he said.

The LCC student said this incident will not change her daily routine.

"I'm not going to stop going on walks," she said. "I guess I should start carrying Mace. But I shouldn't have to. Maybe walking isn't the safest thing to do, but I don't want to be confined to just the inside."

Democrats: 'We're feeling good'

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O'Leary said. "We are winning the Willamette Valley, which was very key to the campaign."

"It's going to go down to the wire," he said. "I'll be glad when there is a [Democratic] majority vote in the Congress again."

Blocks away, the Eugene Hilton was the gathering point

for the ardent supporters of Gordon Smith.

About 20 of the local Smith supporters surrounded a portable radio listening to the results.

Haly Reed, a Smith supporter, said he voted Republican because "it's an opportunity to try and elect a good man to the U.S. Senate."

"Smith is an honest, non-politician-type person," Reed said. "And look at the other option we have."

Gail Johnson, a University international studies student and member of College Republicans, voted for Smith because "he's a very trustworthy candidate, and he seems to be a very honest man."

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Join us Thursday, February 1st
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for a presentation by:
Current Law Students and
Katherine Jernberg, Director of Admissions: School of Law