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TODAY

As waters continue to rise, call the Lane County Sheriff's office at 687-4141 for current flood information.



INSIDE

Lisa Bowyer and teammates hope to defeat Washington tonight at Mac Court

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Student Senate adds new members and gives money to Office of Student Advocacy

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WEATHER

Heavy Rain.
High 55. Low 50.

University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

Oregon Daily Emerald

An independent newspaper
Volume 97, Issue 90

Flood of '96 submerges Oregon



Vehicles looking for dry ground forged high water on Prairie Road near Beltline on Wednesday afternoon during the first floods.

■ **FLOOD:** Areas in Oregon declare a state of emergency as cities continue evacuations

By Sherry Rainey
Community Editor

The worst flood in about 30 years began rushing through Oregon on Wednesday, killing one 9-year-old girl and displacing thousands of people from their homes, as Oregon rivers and streams gushed over their banks.

One of the hardest hit places in Oregon was the area north of Springfield. In the Mohawk area, 180 homes were evacuated between the 1900 and 3900 blocks of Hayden Bridge Road. Rescuers used boats and helicopters to evacuate stranded residents.

The following areas have also been evacuated: Marcola, northwest of Springfield; Tillamook, on the north-central coast; Mapleton, in the central Coast Range; south of Corvallis in the Willamette Valley; and along several streams across northern Oregon.

The first reported casualty of the flood came Wednesday afternoon as a Linn County sheriff's deputy found the body of 9-year-old Amber Bargfrede near her home east of Scio after she did not return from a trip to the mailbox. She had apparently fallen into a culvert and drowned in about 3 feet of water.

Almost all of Scio, population 630, was flooded. Canoeists could be seen paddling down Main Street.

Mapleton faced further danger Wednesday night as high tides moved up the Siuslaw River.

The disaster is being called "The Flood of '96," and is comparable to the floods of '64 and '49.

Many Oregon counties declared a state of emergency Wednesday, including Multnomah, Washington, Linn, Clackamas, Wasco, Polk, Yamhill, Tillamook, Union and Marion.

The Willamette River, the major waterway that moves up the Willamette Valley through the state's population centers, was swollen to near flood stage and was predicted to crest far above its banks by ear-

FLOOD
of
'96

EVACUATED AREAS

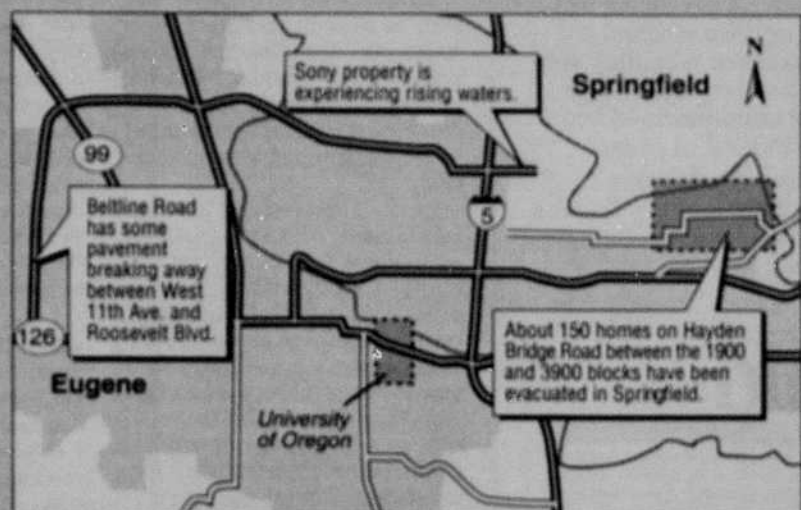
■ Residents were evacuated from numerous areas, including Tillamook on the north-central coast, Mapleton in the central Coast Range, the Mohawk Valley east of Springfield, south of Corvallis, and along several streams across Oregon.

STATE OF EMERGENCY

■ Emergencies were declared in Multnomah, Washington, Linn, Clackamas, Wasco, Polk, Yamhill, Tillamook, Union and Marion counties.

ROAD CLOSURES

■ High water closed hundreds of local roads. Major highways closed: Interstate 5 north of Albany; U.S. 20 in the Coast Range, near Albany and at the Santiam Pass; U.S. 101 near Tillamook and near Lincoln City; Oregon 36 near Mapleton; U.S. 26 east of Seaside on the northern edge of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation and near Madras.



MATT GARTON/Emerald

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MEChA students charge E&J Gallo Winery with unethical practices

■ **PROTEST:** The student group claims employees are forced to work under slave-like conditions

By Colleen Pohlig
Managing Editor

To MEChA students, the color of Gallo's wine represented the blood of their relatives who have slaved in the fields of America for decades.

About 30 members of the Hispanic and Chicano student

group protested outside the EMU lounge Wednesday night, where representatives of E&J Gallo Winery conducted an information meeting for potential student employees.

MEChA members, in keeping with the United Farm Workers of America's national protest, charged Gallo with refusing to bargain with unions and for failing to bring in labor contractors to settle controversial contract issues.

"Gallo provides no health or

other benefits to their workers, workers slave under harsh conditions and Gallo has poor environmental practices," MEChA member Consuela Zumwalt said. "Most of our ancestors and our parents have worked in the fields, and we know what it is like."

"These companies hire migrant workers because they are cheap labor and sometimes they are illegal immigrants," Zumwalt said. "Their bosses feel they don't have the same rights

as citizens."

Protest organizer Mario Garza said he hopes the protest made the students interested in Gallo think about the unethical practices of the company. "When you're anti-union, you're anti-family," Garza said. "Our philosophy is that union rights are workers' rights."

Protesters handed out flyers to students as they entered the Gallo meeting with information about the company's practices and refusal to negotiate with

unions. During the meeting, they chanted outside the room about Gallo being anti-family and anti-union.

Midway through the meeting, Office of Public Safety officers asked protesters to move to the sidewalk outside the building, or risk arrest. OPS Director Tom Hicks told the students they were disturbing the meeting and by law and by student conduct codes, they had to move outside.

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