

NEWS BRIEFING

A LOOK AT THIS MORNING'S HEADLINES

Oregon's jobless rate steady at 4.9 percent, three months in a row

NORTHWEST
SALEM, Ore. (AP) — Oregon's unemployment rate held steady at 4.9 percent in January for the third month in a row, the state Employment Department said Thursday.

"The number of jobs in Oregon continues to grow rapidly, which is a major factor in keeping the unemployment rate low," said department economist David Cooke.

The department said 95,200 Oregonians were out of work in January, and employment stood at 1.55 million.

In all of 1995, 54,100 jobs were added in the state.

Service jobs accounted for 20,900 of new jobs, and trade added 14,600 jobs. General building construction was at 17,100 jobs last month, up by 4,500 jobs from two years earlier.

The timber industry employed an average of 52,100 workers last year, down 2,100 from 1994.

Other job reductions included declines of 1,100 position in federal government and 400 in food products.

DeFazio won't run in Senate election

SALEM, Ore. (AP) — Despite his strong showing in the special election to replace Bob Packwood in the Senate, U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio has decided not to run for Mark Hatfield's Senate seat this year, The Associated Press learned today.

DeFazio was scheduled to announce his political plans later today at a Eugene news conference.

A political ally of DeFazio, Lane County Commissioner Jerry Rust, said today that DeFazio was leery about the prospect of facing millionaire opponents in both the primary and general elections.

Plus, Rust said, DeFazio felt that he could better help the Democrats regain control of the House by running for re-election instead of gambling everything on a shot at the Senate.

California regents adopt compromise on affirmative action

NATIONAL
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — After a dispute that nearly cost the new University of California president his job, regents quietly approved a compromise plan Thursday on when to drop affirmative action.

By voice vote, the regents voted unanimously to get rid of race and gender considerations in undergraduate admissions by spring 1998.

Student regent Ed Gomez, a supporter of affirmative action, said later he had meant to vote "no" but the voice vote caught him by surprise.

Last July, the regents voted to drop race and gender from admissions decisions effective Jan. 1, 1997.

Last month, UC President Richard Atkinson said the new policy wouldn't take effect until fall 1998.

UC officials explained that the university admissions year begins in November, so a change in January 1997 would affect students applying in November 1997 for the following year.

Blacks claim higher death rate from AIDS

ATLANTA (AP) — AIDS is exacting a growing toll on blacks. The virus is now responsible for a third of all deaths among black men ages 25 to 44, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) said Thursday.

AIDS also accounts for about a fifth of the deaths among black women in the same age range — a higher proportion than among young white men, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

The CDC report is the latest to demonstrate changes in the epidemic since the first cases were reported 15 years ago among gay white men.

"This is an epidemic that is affecting every segment of society," said Cornelius Baker of the National Association of People with AIDS.

Mandela determined to ban Zulu weapons despite public outcry

WORLD
CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP) — President Nelson Mandela challenged Zulu nationalists to defy him Thursday, announcing that a ban on the clubs, spears and other weapons they insist on carrying in public would take effect within days.

The ban is part of a broader anti-crime campaign. Mandela argues that such weapons make it too easy for political rallies and marches to deteriorate into bloody riots.

When Mandela first raised the possibility of a ban during a speech to parliament last week, Zulu nationalist leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi warned that his followers would fight to protect their "God-given right to carry their cultural accoutrements whenever they wish to do so."

Thousands have died over the last decade in the ANC-Inkatha power struggle in the Zulu stronghold of KwaZulu-Natal province.

Mandela has called for a peace conference to calm the province, but his weapons-ban proposal showed he was determined to battle the violence on several fronts.

Oil tanker leaks 1.8 million gallons of oil

SAINT ANN'S HEAD, Wales (AP) — An oil supertanker ran aground in western Wales on Thursday, leaking more than a million gallons of oil.

The Sea Empress, which sails under a Liberian flag, lost 1.8 million gallons of its 37.6 million gallon cargo, according to a statement from the Milford Haven coast guard. By contrast, the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill was 11 million gallons.

It was the second time in four months that a tanker ran onto rocks in western Wales.

Last fall, another large oil tanker, the Borge, ran aground in the same area and was refloated without any spillage.

ISA budget debate ends in increase

FUNDS: PFC gives international organization's groups differing funds

By Kristin Bailey
Student Activities Reporter

The ASUO Programs Finance Committee (PFC) met Thursday night for five hours in the EMU Boardroom to discuss the International Students Association's (ISA) 1996-97 budget.

ISA, which represents 1,700 students from 86 different countries, had a budget consisting of nine different sub-budgets.

The organization requested more than \$32,000, but received \$29,175 and a 2.09 percent increase from the PFC for the 1996-97 fiscal year.

The group's umbrella fund received \$13,067, which is a 1.74 percent decrease from this year's budget.

PFC members said they decreased ISA umbrella funding

WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES		
The 7-member ASUO Programs Finance Committee, which includes three student senators, will recommend how incidental fees are allocated to student groups next year.		
ORGANIZATION	AMOUNT	% CHANGE FROM LAST YEAR
International Student Assoc.	\$29,175	+2.09%
Money given this week:	\$489,417	
Money given to date:	\$1,138,220	

because they did not spend their full allocation last year. ISA requested \$300 to go toward sponsoring speakers, but because of previous spending history they received only \$150 for that line item.

PFC members told ISA members that if they had problems with their level of funding, they could go before the larger Senate body.

"You can always go through a special request at the Student Senate," said PFC member

Shamus Lynsky.


Another sub-group of the ISA, the Association of Norwegian Students Abroad (ANSA), also took a cut in funding. ANSA received \$613, which is a 9.5 percent decrease from this year's budget.

Other ISA groups received slight funding increases. The Japanese Student Organization received one of these, getting \$3,695. This increase, however, fell short of the organization's request for \$3,863.

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