

NEWS BRIEFING

A LOOK AT THIS MORNING'S HEADLINES

Frohnmayer suffers infection following leukemia treatment



University President Dave Frohnmayer is back in Eugene after rushing to a Minneapolis hospital to be with his daughter, Kirsten, who is suffering from an infection caused by chemotherapy treatment.

Although Kirsten Frohnmayer's medical condition is still serious, it is improving. Chemotherapy destroys white blood cells, leaving patients susceptible to infection.

Kirsten Frohnmayer's leukemia results from a rare genetic disorder called Fanconi Anemia, which can cause a variety of problems ranging from birth defects to brain damage.

Both parents must be carriers of the recessive Fanconi Anemia gene to pass it on to their children.

Kirsten Frohnmayer was diagnosed with the disease in 1983, but signs of leukemia did not show up in blood tests until 1995.

President Frohnmayer and his wife, Lynn, both work with the Fanconi Anemia Research Fund, which raises research money and provides financial assistance to persons suffering from the disease.

Ruby Ridge hero to attempt a resolution in Freeman standoff



JORDAN, Mont. (AP) — James "Bo" Gritz, who helped end the siege at Ruby Ridge, Idaho, said he and Randy Weaver are heading to the small Montana town to try to end the Freeman's month-long standoff with the FBI.

Gritz said Wednesday that he would urge members of the anti-government group to come out of their farm complex and take their chances in court.

"I want the law preserved and I think the way to do this is to bring them into federal court," Gritz told The Associated Press in a telephone interview broadcast on *Freedom Call*, a conservative radio talk show.

The former Green Beret colonel said providing a forum for the Freeman's grievances in court would avoid bloodshed.

"The FBI is not going to go away. So it is only a matter of time when [Attorney General] Janet Reno has a bad hair day and someone gets hurt a la Waco," Gritz said, referring to the death of 81 members of the Branch Davidian cult who died near Waco, Texas, in 1993 after federal agents moved in to end a 51-day siege.

Independent Palestine openly considered; Israel still in danger



TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — Swiftly answering the PLO's decision to end its call for Israel's destruction, the governing Labor Party on Thursday abandoned its long-standing opposition to a Palestinian state.

With its landmark vote, Labor discarded what was once a bedrock tenet and became the first major party in Israel to at least tacitly accept the idea of an independent Palestinian state, once unthinkable for most Israelis.

The move came a day after the Palestine National Council annulled clauses in the PLO charter that called for Israel's destruction.

The momentous exchange of gestures is expected to bolster the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, frozen since a series of suicide bombings by Islamic militants in February and March killed 59 victims in Israel.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres told about 1,000 Labor Party delegates who had assembled in Tel Aviv to vote on the new platform that it would help him "achieve a comprehensive peace in the Middle East" if he is re-elected in May 29 balloting.

Solutions: OPS feels an obligation to improve

Continued from Page 1

Brandon Sugiyama, director of the Asian/Pacific Islander Student Union. "It would let the students know that the administration is devoted to diversity in curriculum. A strong curriculum is one way to battle ignorance."

Students of color have suggested several other ways to battle the ignorance on campus. They took their requests to the administration and unveiled their proposals at a race forum on Wednesday.

The first is a full-time paid race relations advocate. This would be a position that would act as a liaison between students and faculty, as well as an advocate in racial incidents. However, retention of this advocate would also be integral.

"I think everyone always has a goal," said Jack Mills, a member of the Native-American Student Union. "Make sure that if they're accomplished they will have an impact. Once you have someone here we need to make sure they stay."

The second request has already moved toward completion. A fully-staffed ethnic-studies major was put on the recent ballot and passed.

"There was a very strong proposal which I am in agreement with," said John Mosely, the provost and vice-president for academic affairs. "I think that basically we'll be able to implement it."

Mosely and Dave Hubin, the executive assistant to the president, said the program should be available in fall 1997.

Another student request answers questions relating to the University Office of Public Safety and the administration in general: prompt and immediate response to racial incidents.

OPS' handling of several incidents has drawn student criticism, but Stan Reeves, the director of OPS, defended his office.

"[The allegations] have caused us to look inward," he said. "I think we have an obligation to improve."

We're committed to doing everything in our power."

The final part of the requests to the administration is more a statement than a demand. Many students of color have said it is not solely their job to educate the University.

"They feel that they are the only ones who are going out and are educating the students," said Bart Alexander, a Programs Finance Committee member. "What we need is a change of consciousness. We don't see the same level of effort by the University."

However, students must also take the initiative in dealing with hate, officials said. Reports, both formal and informal, must be filled out, they said.

Unofficial report forms are available in the Multicultural Center. When the Counseling Center receives an unofficial report, it takes down identifying information, enters the complaint into a computer and then shreds the actual report.

The offices of Affirmative Action and Student Advocacy carry formal report forms. If a formal complaint is between students, it will be directed to the Office of Student Life. If the problem is between a student and a staff member, the Office of Affirmative Action will investigate it, said Mark Zurich, a human rights investigator.

However, many students said they are unfamiliar with these processes and don't know the correct procedures. Furthermore, they questioned the impact such reports have.

"We would be needing to fill them out daily," said one unidentified student at a race forum.

University President Dave Frohnmayer said his administration has taken definite steps to curb these problems and considers this issue a priority.

"I hate this," he said. "I think it's juvenile. We all own the problem."

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