

NEWS BRIEFING

A LOOK AT THIS MORNING'S HEADLINES

Environmentalists arrested at Tobe Creek timber sale



CORVALLIS (AP) — Environmental protesters who entered a timber sale closed to the public were arrested Monday, but their leaders promised they would return.

"This will not be the last effort to save the old-growth forests," said Thomas Gilg, conservation chairman for the Audubon Society of Corvallis.

Gilg said 24 protesters were charged with trespassing at the Tobe Creek West timber sale about 3 miles southeast of the town of Alesia in the Oregon Coast Range. About 100 people turned out.

The protesters crossed into an area closed to the public by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management despite a warning from Benton County sheriff's deputies, a sheriff's spokesman said.

Deputies identified groups involved in the protest as Earth First!, Siskiyou Forest Defenders and the Corvallis Area Forest Issues Group.

The Tobe Creek West sale was completed in 1990.

Gilg said the sale was withdrawn under President Clinton's Northwest forest plan, but was released by the so-called timber salvage rider passed as part of a congressional appropriations bill. The rider suspends enforcement of environmental laws to increase logging on federal lands.

Gilg said the sale area provides habitat for salmon and northern spotted owl, and contains one of the few pristine streams in the Coast Range.

Onion shed burns to the ground

NYSSA, Ore. (AP) — A 40,000-square-foot onion shed belonging to Fiesta Farms burned to the ground Monday after sparks from a welding torch ignited a gasoline can inside, fire officials said.

The welder, Mark Bybee, suffered burns on his hands and legs. He was flown to St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise, Idaho, where he was in fair condition Monday night, a nursing supervisor said.

Firefighters from three Idaho towns — Parma, Payette and Fruitland — responded to the blaze. Nyssa is on the west bank of the Snake River, which marks the Oregon-Idaho border.

GOP Outguns Democrats in Congressional Competition



GLENN DALE, Md. (AP) — The crockery was flying — and getting blasted to bits — as Republican and Democratic members of Congress vied for bragging rights in a shooting contest Monday.

The Republicans were top guns.

The good-natured ribbing, excuse-making and dwelling far more on the misses than the hits made the competition seem akin to golf, although the effort was far noisier and required a lot less walking.

Rep. Collin Peterson, a conservative Democrat from Minnesota, came up with a novel excuse for his sudden trouble shooting the bright orange clay pigeons vaulting from left to right during the skeet competition.

"I spent the weekend with (Paul) Wellstone," he said, referring to his state's liberal Democratic senator. "I can't go right anymore."

After an early round showing of 19 in skeet and 14 in trap — out of a possible 25 in each — Peterson said "Brewster's going to kill me."

Rep. Bill Brewster, D-Okla., a National Rifle Association board member, "put pressure on me," Peterson said. "He's so competitive. He's worried we're not going to win."

And they didn't. When the final rounds were all over at the Prince George's County Trap and Skeet Center, the Republicans had bagged 388 birds, compared with 370 for the Democrats.

The best shooters were Brewster, with 80 out of 100, and Reps. Pete Geren, D-Texas, and Duncan Hunter, R-Calif., both with 79.

The sky was overcast during the competition that was expected to raise \$5,000 for the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation.

Sen. John Breaux, D-La., clearly off his game, nevertheless was the best shooter among the senators present. He was also the only senator present. His total score was 15 out of 50.

"You can't call what I did shooting," Breaux said, blaming a friend for lending him a shotgun with a "crooked barrel."

The 16 Republican and 10 Democratic members of Congress competing included only one woman lawmaker competed: Rep. Karen Thurman, D-Fla. She scored 10 out of 50 for the day.

Former Texas federal judge presides at war crimes trial



THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — The first international war crimes tribunal since World War II opens Tuesday with a Texan in charge, a former U.S. federal judge who worked as a civil rights lawyer in 1960s.

Gabrielle Kirk McDonald will preside over a three-judge panel trying a Bosnian Serb prison guard for murder, rape and torture — an event that marks the world community's first attempt to try violations of international humanitarian law.

Previous war crimes trials were set up by victorious nations, like the Nuremberg and Tokyo trials after World War II. But the tribunal was put together by the U.N. Security Council in response to international outrage at atrocities committed in Bosnia.

The defendant, Dusan Tadic, is not the big fish U.N. prosecutors had hoped to catch. Far from the commanders accused of ordering the murders of thousands, Tadic is an alleged thug-for-hire accused of killing and torturing Muslim inmates at a Serb-run prison camp.

He is one of 57 war crimes suspects named by the tribunal.

In the long run, McDonald hopes, the tribunal will pave the way for a permanent international war crimes court.

"These international rules of human behavior have not been enforced for 50 years," she said. "It would be a real void if it wasn't carried on, because I'm afraid that inevitably there are going to be conflicts. They are not going to stop with the former Yugoslavia."

One of two women among the Yugoslav war crimes tribunal's 11 judges, McDonald, 53, plans to draw on her background as a lawyer during the U.S. civil rights movement. Her work with the NAACP's Legal Defense and Educational Fund gave her experience with new laws — something she'll need in The Hague.

Rape will be tried as a war crime for the first time at The Hague. The 1948 Paris Genocide Convention will be put to the test for the first time. And the tribunal also will prosecute breaches of the 1949 Geneva Conventions forbidding mistreatment of prisoners of war or civilians.

ET ALS

MISCELLANEOUS

Department of History will sponsor a showing of *The Last Zapatista* at 7 p.m. in Room 100 Willamette. Producer/director Susan Lloyd, will introduce the film and have a discussion afterwards.

Career Center will offer an Effective Interviewing Workshop today from 3 to 4:30 in Room 12 Hendricks Hall. Information is available in Room 244 Hendricks or by calling 346-6001.

Career Center announces the following companies will be open for bidding beginning today Wednesday: Columbia Ultimate, Peace Corps, Intel, Automated Office, Bridgestone/Firestone, Target Stores and First Investors. Registration is mandatory for participation in the Campus Interview Program. For more information call, 346-6001.

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EURALPASSES ISSUED ON-THE-SPOT!

Naked man on tracks attacks train crew, police say

DARIEN, Conn. (AP) — After commuter train crew members suspected they ran over a body, they made an emergency stop and found a naked man on the tracks who was not only alive, but very angry.

The man, who was lying in the space between the two rails, attacked three Metro-North crew members who checked to see if he was alive early Sunday, police said.

"When the workers turned their flashlights on, he jumped up and started beating them," said Metro-North police Officer James Pymm. He said the man then ran into nearby woods. The three crew members were treated for scratches, bites and bruises.

Artay Drinks, 23, of Bridgeport, was captured about an hour later and booked on assault and trespassing charges. He was taken to a hospital for a psychiatric evaluation.

The New Haven-bound Metro-North train left New York City around 1:30 a.m. Sunday and the incident occurred as the train neared the Darien station about an hour later. The train and its passengers were delayed by more than an hour.

stranger

THAN FICTION

Courteous cab drivers may give New York City's image a boost

NEW YORK (AP) — Which of these are you most likely to hear when you hand a New York City cabbie a \$50 bill for a \$5 cab ride?

- A) Thanks for the tip.
- B) Are you out of your mind?
- C) I am sorry, but I am not required to change a \$50 bill. Please let me drive you to the nearest place where you can get change.

If the Taxi and Limousine Commission gets its way, cabbies will be answering "C," along with 49 other courteous statements such as: "Thank you for hailing me, sir (madam)."

After finally requiring drivers to speak English and know how to find Broadway, the agency now wants to banish the quintessential New York image: rude cab drivers.

"The cabdriver is often the first and last New Yorker that a tourist meets," TLC Commissioner Christopher Lynn said. "I think it will be a boost to our image and tourism."

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