

NEWS BRIEFING

A LOOK AT THIS MORNING'S HEADLINES

Premature deaths linked to local cities' air pollution levels



PORTLAND (AP) — An environmental group says air pollution contributes to the premature deaths of hundreds of people each year in Portland, Medford and Eugene.

The locations were among 239 U.S. cities studied by the Natural Resources Defense Council for levels of dust, smoke and microscopic particles formed from emissions of sulfur and nitrogen oxides as well as from volatile organic compounds.

The study says the pollution contributes to an estimated 307 premature deaths from heart- and lung-related illnesses occurring annually in Portland, 96 in Medford and 89 in Eugene-Springfield.

Medford, with a history of air pollution resulting primarily from wood stoves, ranks 11th nationally for its death rate from particulate air pollution. The high ranking comes even though the city has reduced its pollution levels by nearly half since the mid-1980s.

Medford ranked ahead of such major cities as New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and Detroit for daily particulate readings in 1994.

Eugene was not ranked among the top 50 for death rate but did rank in that range for daily particulate readings in 1994.

Whitewater court hears president's videotape testimony



LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — In dramatic video testimony to a hushed courtroom, President Clinton insisted Thursday he had nothing to do with a \$300,000 loan at the heart of the criminal case against his former White-water partners.

"These things are simply not true," the president said, disputing, as he always has, the account of the prosecution's chief witness.

A witness for the defense, Clinton was questioned in the White House on April 28 and the tape was shown to rapt jurors, some of whom took notes.

Although Clinton is not charged in the case, his videotaped appearance marked one of few times in history that a sitting president has testified in a criminal trial.

And it thrust Clinton into a criminal case involving issues from his days as Arkansas governor that have dogged him since the 1992 political campaign.

James McDougal and Gov. Jim Guy Tucker are being tried on charges of conspiring to defraud McDougal's savings and loan of nearly \$3 million in government-backed loans in the mid-1980s, including one to McDougal's former wife, Susan. The McDougals are former business partners of the Clintons; Tucker is Clinton's successor in the statehouse.

India's Congress Party concedes in election to Hindu nationalists



NEW DELHI, India (AP) — After guiding India's 50-year transformation from a colonial backwater to a rising Third World power, the secular Congress Party conceded Thursday that it lost a parliamentary election to Hindu nationalists.

Political blunders and social changes combined to topple the Congress Party and Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao — who, for a reputed political survivor, proved surprisingly inept at keeping his party in power.

Rao began preparing his resignation. The biggest winner in three days of voting, the Bharatiya Janata Party, started seeking partners to form a coalition government.

But incomplete election returns — and troubles the party could have in forming an alliance — left it unclear who would govern this nation of 920 million people, the world's most populous democracy.

Rao met President Shankar Dayal Sharma and told him he would resign, Indian media reported. Rao is expected to submit his resignation after a Cabinet meeting Friday.

Because no party won a majority, the president has some discretion in choosing which party gets the first chance to form the next government.

Culture: Festival showcases black art

Continued from Page 1

dents filtered in and out of various booths Thursday. Cobi Smith, the festival coordinator, said things couldn't be better.

"I think it's going really good," she said. "We got so lucky [with the weather]."

"I'm really happy."

The booths and performances are open from noon to 6 p.m. in the courtyard today. Jazz, gospel, R&B and rap groups will perform on a revolving basis.

"We've got a little bit of everything," Smith said. "It's almost like a street fair." BSU Director Kenya Luvert said. "It's featuring black artists and black culture."

An exhibit of various paintings, sculpture and photography in the Multicultural Center features the work of black visual artists. The display includes work by University artists as well as local high school students.

To wrap up the festival, students will perform in "An Evening of Black Entertainment" from 7 to 9 tonight in the EMU Fir Room. Performances will include a skit, singing, an instrumental duet, poetry and storytelling. Various sororities will also present the "Unity Dance," a traditional celebration.

"Historically, black sororities come together on one accord," Luvert said about the dance. Luvert said all the festival's events, which are free, highlight an area of black history not always discussed or featured.

"There's a different aspect of black history — black culture and the black experience," she said. Smith said she hoped students will come away from the festival with an increased awareness of all cultures.

"We're trying to expose UO's culture to something different for once. There's more than one culture on this campus," she said. "Hopefully, it's working."

NCAA Track & Field Championships
ODE Special Section

RESERVE YOUR SPACE NOW
CALL 346-3712
Publishes Friday, May 24
Deadline Monday, May 20

CULTURE
WED MAY 22 featuring
8:30 PM

JOSEPH HILL
Jah Levi and the Higher Reasoning

Tickets @Face the Music, Balladeer, Hungry Head, House of Records, Record Garden
\$11 students \$13 public

EMU BALLROOM

Register Now for Oregon Summer and Psychology!
Department of Psychology, Summer Session, 1996
Applying Psychology to Real World Problems

Join us for an exciting summer of Psychology! Our theme for summer 1996 is Applying Psychology to Real World Problems, with special courses in Gender and Family, Intimate Relationships, Education and Law. We have great instructors and exciting plans and we guarantee small class sizes in summer (80 maximum for 200-level, 50 maximum for 300-level, and 30 maximum for 400/500-level courses). Individualized courses are available by arrangement with the instructor for both undergraduate and graduate students.

For a complete course listing and more information please visit our Web Page: <http://hebb.uoregon.edu/summer/>

THE SALVATION ARMY

LEAVING TOWN?

Will pick up your useable donations
For a scheduled pick up call 343-3341 or take donations to The Salvation Army Thrift Store, 451 W. 11th in Eugene

The Pizza Pipeline
Get the Real Deal

Any 16" Two Item Pizza
Plus Two (2) FREE 22 oz. Soft Drinks
ONLY \$8.75

Any 14" One Item Pizza
Plus One (1) FREE 22 oz. Soft Drink
ONLY \$6.50

Any 12" One Item Pizza
with Tricky Stix or Hot Wings
ONLY \$7.50
Plus One (1) FREE 22 oz. Soft

Quick Service and a Fair Price™
Eugene Hotline 686-5808
824 Charnelton Street