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TODAY

If you haven't sent off your commencement announcements, mail them today.
Etiquette requires a 10-day lead time for the Post Office



INSIDE

Becky Sisley, an Oregon professor, is the holder of four current American track and field records

Surprise, Surprise. The Bulls take a 2-0 lead over the Jazz with a 97-85 win Wednesday night



WEATHER

Mostly cloudy.
High 70. Low 50.

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THE ENVIRONMENT

Protesters call for end of public logging

RALLY: The protest staged at the federal building was one of 20 similar events across the nation

By Daniel Pearson
Higher Education Reporter

Hundreds of protesters gathered in front of the federal building in downtown Eugene on Wednesday to voice their support of proposed legislation in Congress that will end all logging on public lands.

"You've heard of drawing a line in the sand?" said keynote speaker and former Oakridge Mayor Ronel Paddock. "I say

ORGANIC ACT

■ WHAT IT IS:

The Organic 'Act' was the first salvage rider bill passed 100 years ago.

■ SO WHAT:

There is legislation in Congress right now, which should receive bipartisan support, that would repeal the act, cut the tax burden on citizens by \$300 million and cancel all remaining timber sales.

it's time we put up a chain across the road and keep loggers off our public lands for good."

The rally was one of more than 20 events taking place across the country on June 4 calling for an end to corporate welfare on public lands. Protesters held signs, blew air horns and presented a play titled "Ripped-off van Winkle," a tongue-in-cheek account of the original deal

made between foresters and the U.S. government in 1897.

It has been 100 years since the passage of the "Organic Act" that first opened national forests to logging. This was not an actual legislative act but the first salvage rider, said Thoreau Institute senior associate Karyn Moskowitz.

"A century of logging on public lands has heavily degraded our irreplaceable natural heritage while wasting billions of taxpayer dollars," Moskowitz said. "We're paying out of our own pockets and getting back budget deficits, clear cuts and mud slides. There are only two logging operations in the country that are

Turn to RALLY, Page 3



Protestors perform a skit titled "Ripped-Off Van Winkle" at the Federal Building Wednesday morning. More than 250 people gathered in support of the non-violent rally.

CHAD PATTESON/Emerald

House OKs bill to lower property tax

MEASURE: The new bill increases property tax cuts mandated by Measure 50 from 15.6 to 17 percent

By Charles Beggs
The Associated Press

SALEM — A bill to increase the property tax reductions in a ballot measure passed by voters last month is through the House, but not without scars.

"We're reaching an all-time low, changing something while voters are voting on it," said Rep. Mike Lehman, D-Coos Bay, referring to actions by the House Revenue Committee shortly before the May 20 election.

On May 16, the committee approved the implementing bill that would change the amount of tax cuts provided in Measure 50.

The measure, a constitutional amendment, was passed by voters on May 20.

Measure 50 revised Measure 47, a property tax cut initiative narrowly passed by voters last fall.

Rep. Tom Brian, D-Tigard, chairman of the panel, said the implementing bill was needed because lawmakers realized that while Measure 50 was promoted as reducing property taxes by 17 percent statewide, the actual cut would be only 15.6 percent.

The panel revised the implementing bill to raise the tax cut to 17 percent, which will reduce tax revenue to schools and local governments by \$67 million in the 1997-99

MEASURE

50

Turn to MEASURE, Page 6

LGBTQA has plans to take advantage of extra space

■ CENTER:

Stephanie Carnahan will receive the Spirit of Pride award from Pride Northwest Incorporated

By Autumn De Poe
Student Activities Reporter

The Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Association has a number of events and good news to celebrate. The LGBTQA has applied to become a center for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgenders, and a University and community activist who works with the association was chosen to receive the state's Spirit of Pride award for outstanding participation in the homosexual community.

The LGBTQA will be more than just an office next year. According to 1997-98 co-director Karen Vittek, the office will be "kind of like one stop shopping." Gay



LGBTQA space next year.

In order to be more accessible, each of these homosexual groups applied to have a desk in the space that the LGBTQA will occupy next year. Each of the groups will keep their current offices.

fraternity Delta Lambda Phi, the Queer Film Fest, the Lesbian Gay Law Student Association and the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Educational and Support Services Program may all have individual desks in the new

Turn to CENTER, Page 6

Icy planet found in solar system

No, there aren't aliens bee-bopping around the Earth, but scientists found a new planet that orbits the sun much farther out than Pluto.

The planet has no atmosphere and is made of the same material as other outer solar system objects.

The planet is amazingly small, only 300 miles in diameter. Scientists estimate it has the same surface area as Texas.

Scientists found the planet about a year ago and have been tracking it using telescopes in Hawaii, New Mexico and Arizona.

See story, page 4

