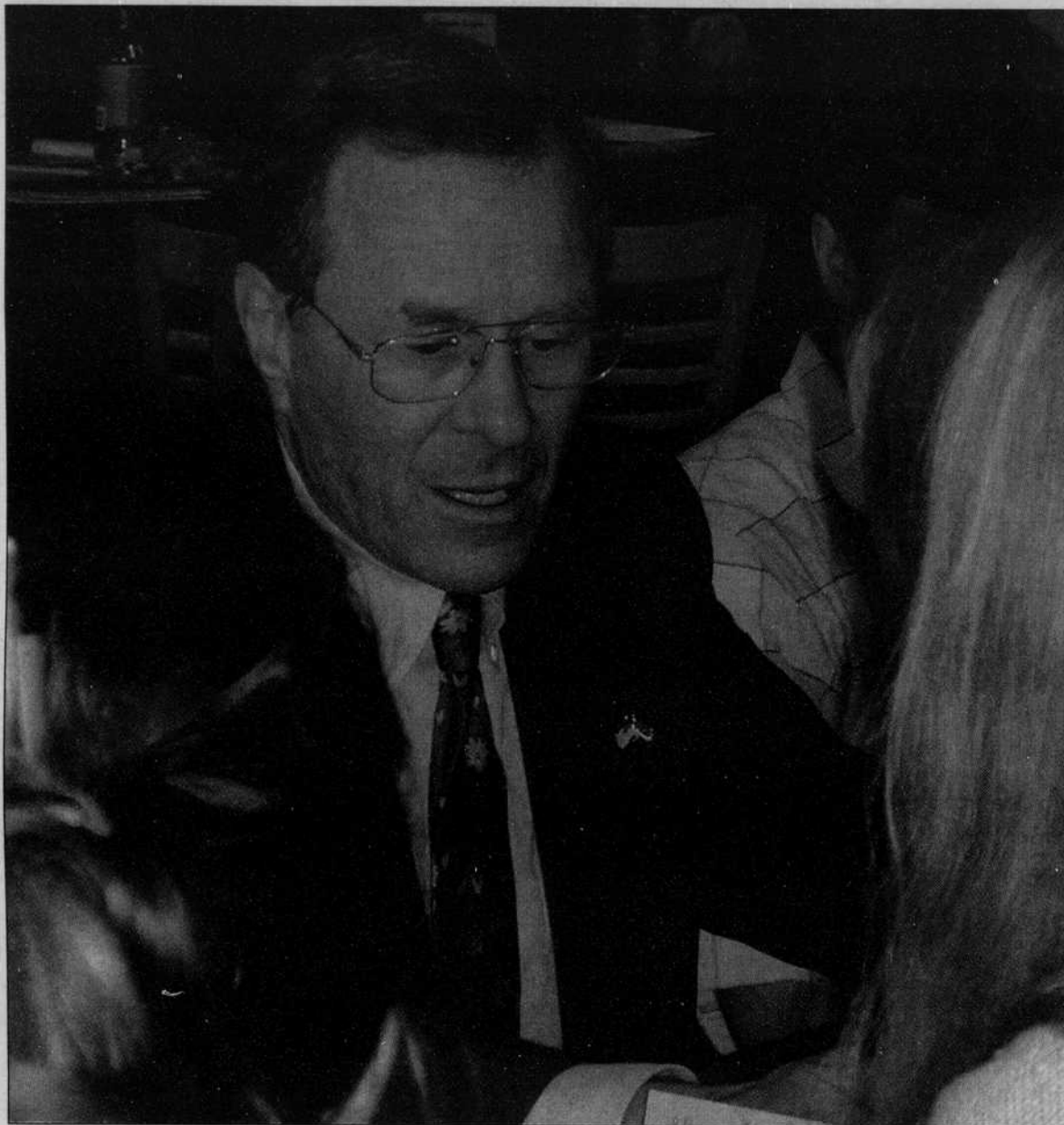


Kulongoski meets with students



Democratic gubernatorial candidate Ted Kulongoski talks with students at lunch Tuesday afternoon in the EMU Fishbowl. He sat with a small group of students for about an hour, answering questions about various policy issues, including forests, the environment and the state's education budget woes.

Jessica Richelderfer Emerald

News Briefs

Consumer confidence outlook 'fairly bleak'

Consumer confidence plunged to a nine-year low Tuesday, casting more gloom on the already uncertain holiday retail season.

"Without the likelihood of a pickup in consumer spending, an already weak economic recovery could weaken further," said Lynn Franco of the Conference Board, the New York-based business group that conducts the monthly confidence survey. Franco called the outlook "fairly bleak."

The decline marked the fourth consecutive weakening of the Conference Board's confidence index. The index now stands at 79.4, down from 93.7 in September and well below its post-Sept. 11 low of 85.5.

The last time the index fell this far was in November 1993, when it stood at 71.9.

Yet for all the buildup about the confidence survey as an important real-time signal about fourth-quarter economic conditions, Wall Street seemed to shrug off the results. Major stock indexes fell early on the news, then rallied late to a narrowly mixed finish.

Economists said the survey detected consumers' worries about a sluggish economic recovery, the prospect of war with Iraq and continuing fears over terrorism.

—Angela Shah, *The Dallas Morning News* (KRT)

Fed may consider cut to interest rates

WASHINGTON — A sagging consumer confidence report Tuesday looks to be the first in a series of disappointing economic releases that could shake Wall Street and push the Federal Reserve to cut interest rates next week.

A consumer confidence index plunged to 79.4 this month, according to a monthly survey of 5,000 house-

holds by the Conference Board. The focus now turns to Friday, when analysts expect more bad news in reports on unemployment and manufacturing. If they're right, the data from this week and last week would confirm a weakening economic recovery.

The dilemma facing the Fed will be whether to cut interest rates to try to stave off a possible recession or to do nothing and assume the economy is strong enough to bounce back on its own.

—Ken Moritsugu, *Knight Ridder Newspapers* (KRT)

Brazil's president-elect tries to calm markets

SAO PAULO, Brazil — President-elect Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on Tuesday named a close aide who is widely liked by Brazilian and foreign investors to head his transition team, a move intended to calm the nervous financial markets.

The transition team leader will be Antonio Palocci, a doctor and former mayor of Riberao Preto in Sao Paulo state. Palocci coordinated da Silva's campaign platform, moving the veteran leftist toward the political center with more moderate positions.

"He's been one of the key members of a team of advisers, which has been giving a very positive spin to markets," said Christopher Garman, a political analyst in Sao Paulo.

During the presidential campaign, Brazil's currency lost about 70 percent of its value against the dollar on investors' fears that da Silva, the Workers' Party candidate, would lead Brazil away from free-market economic reforms if he became president.

Palocci said da Silva would maintain broad economic policies such as low inflation and balanced budgets. He also promised that Brazil would not follow Argentina's ruinous example of defaulting on government debt.

—Kevin G. Hall, *Knight Ridder Newspapers* (KRT)

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR PARTY STARTS TO GET OUT OF CONTROL



1. Call the police yourself if uninvited guests disrupt your party or if your guests won't pay attention to your requests to behave and obey the law. Call before things get too out of control. Police will view your trying to keep things under control as a preventive measure.
2. Respond positively if a police officer comes to your house. The officer is most likely responding to a complaint. Make sure the person interacting with the police officer at the front door is sober and able to be responsive to their requests. Do as much as possible to comply with what the police are asking you to do. Enlist the help of your friends and housemates.
3. Interfering with a police officer makes a bad situation worse. Do not physically resist the officer under any circumstance. Use common sense and cooperate. Don't throw bottles at or near police officers. If you have committed a crime and a police officer asks you to identify yourself, you need to do so. Always tell a police officer your name if asked. Giving a false name is a separate offense and will likely escalate what might have been a citation into a trip to jail.
4. Understand that you can be arrested. A police officer may take someone into custody for any violation of law that carries a potential jail penalty. This includes most state criminal laws and many city ordinances. For some violations, an officer may detain you while verifying your identity and issuing a citation.
5. When a police officer asks you to clear an area, leave right away. If you stay around after the warning to watch what's happening, you may be cited for interfering with a police officer. If police warn that they are going to use tear gas, you need to get as far away as fast as you can.

Brought to you by: Office of Student Life, ASUO, and Eugene Police Department