

Philippines: Mud makes return difficult

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blocked roads prevented officials from delivering relief supplies and rescuing people from rooftops in parts of the province, located 40 miles east of Manila.

"The current is still strong and the water is still high," she said. "The

rains caused the flash floods, and the soil could not hold up the water in the mountains."

Soliman said officials told residents to seek high ground because rain was continuing in the mountains, threatening more floods and landslides. She said most of the dead were in three Quezon towns:

Real, Infanta and General Nakar. Officials were arranging for a coast guard boat to reach the towns.

Soliman said 114 people died in Real and 150 residents were missing.

Last week, a typhoon and another storm killed at least 87 people and left 80 missing.

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Where are they now?

Math professor views his subject as pursuit of joy

William E. Pfaffenberger has spent the past 35 years teaching at the University of Victoria

BY AMANDA BOLSINGER
NEWS REPORTER

Starting as early as middle school, math is often a class many young pupils see as a necessary evil, but for University graduate William E. Pfaffenberger, math has been a pursuit and an enjoyment.

Pfaffenberger attended the University for seven years, completing both his undergraduate and graduate studies. After earning his Ph.D. in math, Pfaffenberger became a professor at the University of Victoria in Canada where he has taught for the past 35 years.

Pfaffenberger began his studies at the University in 1962. He chose Eugene for college when his parents moved to the city the summer he entered college.

"I grew up in California," Pfaffenberger said. "Then my parents moved to Eugene and it was just the natural choice for me to do my undergraduate studies there."

When Pfaffenberger entered the University, he was a chemistry major but was "recruited" to math from a professor who noticed Pfaffenberger seemed more suited to his math studies.

"A famous Canadian mathematician, Ivan Niven, was a professor and recruited me to math," Pfaffenberger said. "He picked up that I was more interested in math. He was an active faculty member and convinced me to enter the math department."

Pfaffenberger chose to continue his studies at the University because he liked that GTFs taught first-year courses.

"The connection between teaching and research was natural, and I went to the University because it combined the two," he said.

Pfaffenberger was a dedicated student but remembers the tumultuous years on campus during the Vietnam War.

"There was one sit-in connected with the war," Pfaffenberger said. "Students took over the administrative building, but instead of causing a big fight, administrators just waited until the students got sick of being there and left."

Pfaffenberger also enjoyed football games as a diversion from his studies.

"I was in offices and studying a lot," Pfaffenberger said. "But I enjoyed the football games and became, and still remain, a fan."

One of his professors, Kenneth Ross, remembers Pfaffenberger as a good student.

"He still sticks out in my mind," Ross said. "I visited him in the '80s in Victoria and he is still young at heart."

Pfaffenberger recommends that new students thoroughly research their prospective schools and the various programs offered.

"Get on the Internet," Pfaffenberger said. "Look at not just the university, but also the small programs offered. Talk to faculty, look at different connections. Students will be surprised at all of the different opportunities out there."

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IN BRIEF

November U.S. death toll in Iraq sets record

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Fueled by fierce fighting in Fallujah and insurgents' counterattacks elsewhere in Iraq, the U.S. military death toll for November equaled the highest for any month of the war, according to casualty reports available Tuesday.

At least 135 U.S. troops died in

November. That is the same number as April, when the insurgency flared in Fallujah and elsewhere in the Sunni Triangle, where U.S. forces and their Iraqi allies lost a large measure of control.

On Nov. 8, U.S. forces launched an offensive to retake Fallujah, and they have engaged in tough fighting in other cities since then. More than 50 U.S. troops have been killed in Fallujah since then, although the Pentagon has not provided a casualty count for Fallujah for more than a week.

— The Associated Press

Bush: Embargo on cattle sales with Canada might be lifted

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The Bush administration has since opened its border to some Canadian beef, but live cattle remain prohibited. Canadian ranchers are desperate, estimating they have lost more than \$2 billion.

Bush hinted strongly that he already has decided Canadian beef should be allowed back into the United States. At a Tuesday dinner with Martin, he said with a smile that he was "pleased to see when I opened up the menu that we'll be eating Alberta beef."

"I believe that, as quickly as possible, young cows ought to be allowed to go across our border," Bush said at the news conference. But, he said, "There's a bureaucracy involved. I readily concede

we've got one."

The latest study rests with the White House's own Office of Management and Budget, and Bush said he had ordered the OMB to "expedite that (process) as quickly as possible."

Yet a resolution is months off. The Office of Management and Budget has three months to study a rule that would allow into the United States boxed beef and live cattle younger than 30 months; the deadline for completion of the study is mid-February. Then Congress has two months to scrutinize the proposed rule, a senior administration official said.

The trip to Ottawa opened a broader reconciliation tour he plans to continue in Europe early next year.