

Today	Tuesday	Wednesday
High: 47 Low: 44 Precip: 100%	High: 48 Low: 41 Precip: 100%	High: 54 Low: 47 Precip: 70%

**IN BRIEF**

**Bus ambush leaves 17 civilians dead in Iraq**

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Gunmen ambushed a bus carrying unarmed Iraqis to work at a U.S. ammo dump near Tikrit on Sunday, killing 17 and raising the toll from three days of intensified and bloody insurgent attacks to at least 70 Iraqi dead and dozens wounded. The attacks, focused in Baghdad and several cities to the north, appeared to be aimed at scaring off those who cooperate with the American military — whether police, national guardsmen, Kurdish militias or ordinary people just looking for a paycheck.

**Insurer will refund Oregon school districts**

PORTLAND — The scandal engulfing the world's largest insurance brokerage firm has reached Oregon.

The Portland office of insurance broker Marsh USA — the firm at the center of a corruption investigation in New York — has agreed to reimburse six Oregon school districts and one community college for \$1.2 million in insurance overcharges stretching back to 2000.

Marsh officials told school districts in Beaverton and in Eugene that they each had been overcharged \$180,000 dollars over the last four years, district officials said.

Officials at the Salem-Keizer and Reynolds school districts confirmed they each had been overcharged by \$200,000. The Oregon City School District, Springfield School District and Lane Community College said they too had been billed thousands of dollars more than they should have paid for property and casualty insurance.

State insurance agents and the attorney general's office have opened an investigation into Marsh's dealings with Oregon schools.

Marsh, the target of a sweeping white-collar corruption investigation by New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer, has admitted it improperly charged the districts commission payments.

But the insurer is vigorously attempting to distance the overbilling error in Oregon from Spitzer's broader bid-rigging lawsuit against Marsh's New York-based parent company, Marsh & McLennan Cos.

Spitzer sued Marsh in October, claiming the company collected more than \$800 million from insurance companies in return for engineering sham bidding and steering them new business.

Spitzer filed his lawsuit Oct. 14.

— The Associated Press

# DPS revises draft of motor vehicle pursuit policy

*Director Tom Hicks said some of the policy's language needs to be less restrictive before it can be finalized*

BY JARED PABEN  
NEWS EDITOR

Six months after the Department of Public Safety released a pursuit policy rough draft that effectively prohibits officers in patrol vehicles from chasing suspects, DPS Interim Director Tom Hicks said he still must reconcile his concerns about what he views as overly restrictive language before moving forward with a final draft in the next two weeks.

DPS decided to create a pursuit policy — the first ever for the department — in October 2003, three months after an officer in a patrol vehicle drove on a sidewalk and struck a fleeing suspect riding a bicycle.

The policy rough draft, which hasn't changed since it was first released at a Public Safety Advisory Group meeting in early June, prohibits all pursuits in a motorized vehicle.

Hicks said Friday he will probably change some of the draft's language because some of it is too restrictive, but was hoping to get a final draft assembled within two weeks. If he does make those changes, he will take the new language to PSAG in January for public input and send it to University General Counsel Melinda Grier's office for legal advice, he said.

"Right now, the real hanging point is we have a statement that says DPS officers will only pursue persons who have committed or whom the officer has probable cause to believe have committed a crime," Hicks said. "The thing that I'm trying to clarify in my mind is, do we want to revise the wording to say something like 'or have reasonable suspicions to have

committed a crime.'"

As an example, Hicks said a DPS officer who sees a suspect pop up from behind a bicycle rack late at night and take off running has a "reasonable suspicion," but not "probable cause."

Hicks also said he is unsure whether to change the language of the clause to allow officers to pursue suspects who commit a violation such as smoking marijuana. The draft also prohibits officers from using motorized vehicle to block another vehicle, but Hicks said there may be situations where that should be allowed. Lastly, Hicks said he'd like the policy to allow officers in patrol vehicles to follow, not pursue, suspects driving a motorized vehicle in order to gather vehicle information.

"The way this is written now, even that would be questionable whether the officer would have that discretion, and I have a little bit of an issue with that, and I need to resolve it before we finalize this," Hicks said. "It could be, and probably will be, that the officer shall receive approval of some sort to initiate that."

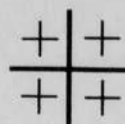
The policy has been in the works for more than a year, Hicks said, adding that he hopes to get a final draft instituted by February.

Hicks said there have been no DPS pursuits since the July 2003 officer-suspect collision. Since that time, DPS officers have been operating under a verbal directive stating that pursuits won't be initiated in a motorized vehicle, while allowing bicycle pursuits, Hicks said.

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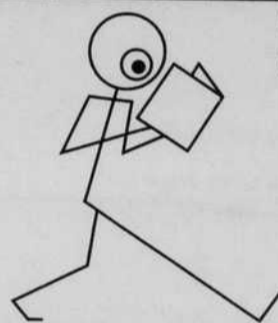
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The Testing Office is located on the 2nd floor (Rm. 238) of the University Health and Counseling Center, 1590 E. 13th Ave., Eugene OR.

The period of greatest demand is usually Sept. through March, so it makes sense to **plan ahead.**

For more information visit the Testing Office web site at <http://www.uoregon.edu/~testing/>

