

news Briefs

JOHN BALDWIN REMEMBERED

Family, friends, colleagues and former students of John Baldwin are gathering in his memory from 3 to 5 pm Friday, March 18 in Gerlinger Hall on campus. The internationally noted environmentalist, sustainability pioneer and UO professor died at home March 7 of natural causes at the age of 54.

"His passion for protecting the natural environment took him around the globe many times — to places like Africa, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Russia, Kyrgyzstan and Ukraine," says Eben Fodor, a Eugene planning consultant, author and longtime admirer of Baldwin. "He was a big picture thinker," he says. "No field of study was outside his reach, whether science, philosophy, business or politics. He knew the past and the present and brought these to bear on shaping the future. He never got lost in the details, but never lost sight of them either."

Baldwin helped establish the Environmental Studies Program at UO in 1982 and later founded the Institute for a Sustainable Environment. He was president



John Baldwin

of the North American Association for Environmental Education and was a keynote speaker at many environmental conferences worldwide.

Baldwin's widow, Karen, says he spent his final days with his family and working with his students. She says his sudden illness was not related to his environmental work. Baldwin did spend time in Chernobyl, but "they took every precaution," she says.

Fodor says Baldwin "made a real difference in this world and will always be an inspiration to those who knew him. We will dearly miss his clear voice, brilliant mind and hearty laugh."

Fodor's 1,000-word commentary on Baldwin, written for *Inside Oregon*, the UO campus faculty e-mail newsletter, can be found this week at www.eugeneweekly.com

— TJT

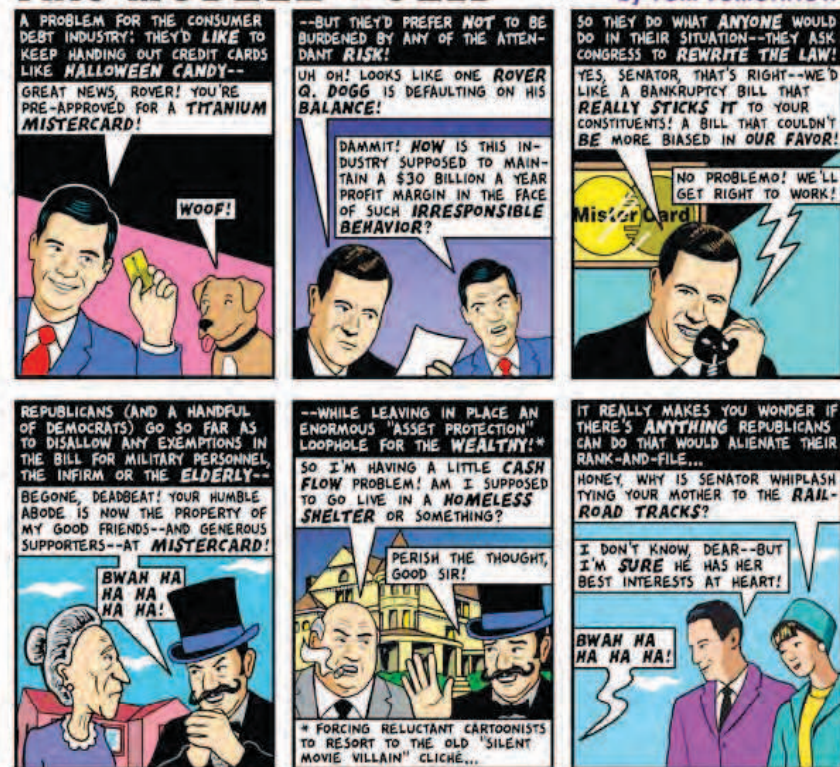
PROTESTERS DEFEND FOREST

Grandmas and young punks, loggers and tree-sitters united to protest a massive salvage logging operation at the site of the Biscuit fire, which burned 500,000 acres of forest in southwestern Oregon in 2002. The logging began on March 7 after the expiration of a federal court injunction.

Eugene attorney Lauren Regan filed for a temporary restraining order, citing Forest Service contracts that prohibit logging during the rainy season. Federal District Judge Michael Hogan scheduled the hearing for March 9, giving the Silver Creek Timber company a two-day head-start on logging. After hearing the case, Hogan told the plaintiffs he would rule on it within a day or two. On March 15, he finally ruled against the restraining order.

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



Logging continues, while protesters stage direct actions to stop it. Since March 7, about 40 activists have been arrested for trying to prevent logging trucks from entering the wild old-growth area of the proposed 14.5 million board-foot Fiddler timber sale, a part of the Biscuit fire salvage. "Perusha," a Eugene activist, has taken residence in a Douglas fir tree in an active logging zone. "My message is simple," he wrote in a statement lowered by a rope from the tree. "Leave these forests alone ... and let them stay wild!"

Logging burned old-growth increases fire hazard, harms the economic future of local communities and destroys native forest habitat, says Laurel Sutherlin, spokesman for the conservation group The Oxygen Collective. "The Forest Service wants to turn this place into another government-controlled tree plantation," he says. "We need more fresh minds and bodies to defend this wild important place." — Kera Abraham

PROCESSION FOR PEACE

Major cities around the world are observing the second anniversary of the invasion of Iraq with massive protests this weekend, including an 11:30 am Friday "direct action of civil disobedience" to be held at a location in Eugene to be announced to media just before the gathering. Organizers say they are willing and expecting to be arrested.

But a quieter protest is also being planned — a weekend of educational events and a procession in Cottage Grove. It appears the tone of the Cottage Grove gathering is drawing people from as far away as Ashland, the coast and Portland, according to Birdie Hoelzle, one of the organizers.

Events begin at 6:30 pm Friday with a free program on "The Health Effects of War and a Sensible Approach to a Safe America" at the Cottage Grove Community Center, 7th and Gibbs. The nonpartisan program will be put on by Physicians for Social Responsibility/Beyond War.

On Saturday at noon, the Memorial Peace

Procession begins at noon at Cottage Grove High School. The procession includes bell-ringing, chanting and carrying a half-mile string of prayer flags. It's followed at 3 pm by a community forum on "Responses to Military Recruitment in Our Schools" at the Community Center. Music and entertainment begin at 6 pm at the Community Center.

For more information, contact Stand for Peace at 767-0770.

ELECTION TIME AGAIN

The filing deadline is March 17 for the May 17 Lane County special elections and numerous local school, fire and utility board positions will be on the ballot, many uncontested.

This week Rich Cunningham joined Rob Spooner and incumbent Paul Holman in a contest for LCC Board Position 1. For the 4J Board Position 6, incumbent Eric Forrest is unopposed, but a last-minute filing is expected from Aria Seligmann, former associate editor at *EW*.

Lane County ESD Position 6 (at large) looks like a four-way open race between Tom Lininger, Mark Boren, Chris Edwards and Linda Phelps.

A complete list of positions, races and declared candidates can be found at www.lanecounty.org/Elections

BEACH CLEANUP

Saturday, March 19 is the 20th annual Great Oregon Spring Beach Cleanup from 10 am until 1 pm along the entire Oregon Coast. Volunteers can check in at one of 42 meeting sites, pick up a litter bag, and head down to the beach to help improve the coast for wildlife and visitors. Call SOLV at (503) 844-9571 for a brochure or check the web site at www.solv.org for a list of meeting sites and zone captains.

