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Adapted by Joseph Robinette

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For more info:
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news Briefs

scorecard's purpose is "not just to hammer the bad players, but also highlight the good players."

In Oregon, Mount Bachelor scored an A for its wind-powered lifts, second-growth tree thinning on existing runs and biodiesel-fueled Super Shuttle.

Mt. Hood Meadows, another industry eco-leader, wind-powers two ski lifts, recycles oil, has an acclaimed wildflower revegetation program and encourages visitors to buy mini green tags with lift tickets to offset travel, says Meadow's Marketing and Sales Director Dave Tragethon.

But even with these eco-practices, Meadows received a C. The resort lost points for an expansion plan covering 95 additional skiable acres, which would affect 50 to 70 acres of old growth forest, steelhead trout and a pair of Northern spotted owls. Doon points out, "Ninety percent of ski areas are on public lands."

Tragethon questions SACC's grading methodology, saying many resorts with rigorous environmental standards are docked for expansion plans while resorts that lack green policies but don't expand score higher.

Doon says one reason SACC penalizes for expansion is to address what he calls the "ski area expansion arms race": a trend of over-development to out-compete other resorts vying for more visitors. Numbers of visitors have remained flat for two decades.

Doon acknowledges that there is a concerted industry effort toward sustainability. For example, this is the first year that 16 resorts are run 100 percent by windpower.

Tragethon believes that on the whole, the ski industry comprises people who care about environmental protection. "There is not one thing that is going to change [global warming]," Tragethon says, "but a series of small things." — *Nicole Fancher*

**CLEAN AIR
 FOR ALL**

State Rep. Paul Holvey is planning to introduce legislation in Salem this session that would ban field burning in the Willamette Valley in favor of other methods of grass seed farming or alternative crops. Holvey is working directly with Oregon Toxics Alliance (OTA) and getting support from Eugene's Citizens for Public Accountability (CPA) which met this week to work on strategies and lobbying efforts. CPA has identified a field burning ban as a priority project for 2007.

The Oregon Seed Council has already hired extra lobbyists to fight Holvey's anticipated bill. "High-powered and well-moneyed lobbyists for the grass seed industry have launched an assault on local grassroots efforts to achieve clean air in the Willamette Valley," says Lisa Arkin of OTA.

"We are the catalyst behind this campaign," says Arkin, who announced this week the launching of the Clean Air for All campaign to deal with field burning and reducing Oregon's high benzene levels.

A gathering for campaign planning is set for 7 to 9 pm Saturday, Jan. 27 at Territorial Vineyards Tasting Room, 907 West 3rd St., Eugene. the event is also a fundraiser for OTA, tickets at the door will be \$15 and include wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres.

For more information or to RSVP, contact OTA at 465-8860 or email info@oregontoxics.org



**CHALLENGES
 TO HEALTH
 OF WOMEN**

Susan F. Wood, considered one of the nation's leading voices for women's medical rights, will speak in Eugene this weekend as part of the 34th anniversary observation of Roe v. Wade. Wood resigned in protest from a top position in the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 2005. She was assistant commissioner for women's health and director of the FDA Office of Women's Health. She will speak at 3 pm Sunday, Jan. 21 in 100 Willamette at the UO, and will be introduced by Mayor Kitty Piercy.

"I speak as part of the fight to restore the importance of science-based decision-making for the health of women and their families," she said in a prepared statement. "That is needed because the FDA suffers from a lack of independent leadership, clear legal authority, and adequate resources."

Her talk, "Challenges to Women's Health," will focus on her resignation from the FDA on matters of principle, spurred by what she describes as the FDA's "continued, short-sighted delay for approval of emergency contraception methods provided over-the-counter."

Wood has been a research professor at George Washington University School of Public Health and has taught women's health policy at the Women and Politics Institute of American University.

The free program is sponsored by the UO Cultural Forum in cooperation with WAND, Students for Choice, Women's Law Forum, Women's Center and Law Students for Choice and will be followed by a public reception.

**Lane County
 Herbicide Spray
 Schedule**

• Lane County Roadside Vegetation Management: Renewals of no spray area Permits are due on Jan. 31. For more information or to request a no spray area permit, call Caroline at Public Works, 682-6911.

• For more information on roadside vegetation management and the Last Resort Herbicide Use Policy see www.co.lane.or.us/RoadMaint/default.htm or call Orin Schumacher at 682-6908.

Compiled by Jan Wroncy, *Forestland Dwellers*: 342-8332, www.forestlanddwellers.org