

# Dock Workers Join Italian Protest Surviving High Fuel Prices

(AP) - Union workers refused to unload an Italian-managed cargo ship at the Port of Portland last week, protesting the death of an Italian activist during last month's riots in Genoa, Italy.

About 150 longshoremen and 20 iron workers left the Port of Portland and would not unload the Cielo Di San Frisco, said Elisa Dozono, spokeswoman for the Port

of Portland.

The vessel was supposed to unload Italian oil and wine in Portland and pick up northwest products, Dozono said.

About 20 local activists were at the port to protest Italian police handling of demonstrations last month at the Group of Eight summit in Genoa.

Dozens of activists, including

23-year-old Sherman Sparks, of Salem, and 20-year-old Morgan Hager, of Portland, say they were physically and mentally abused by police in Genoa after being arrested at the summit protests.

On Tuesday, Sparks and other detained Americans filed formal complaints against the Italian authorities after a judge ordered their release.

## Hopes Rise For Keiko's Freedom

(AP) - Keiko frolicked for several hours Thursday amid fellow killer whales in the North Atlantic, raising hopes that he may finally be ready to join his own species for good.

Keepers for the star of the movie "Free Willy" say it's possible that the whale will leave with the pod this year. Ocean Futures, a nonprofit organization, brought Keiko to Iceland from the Oregon Coast Aquarium to try to reintroduce the long-captive show whale to the wild.

If Keiko's going to do this summer, he'll have to go it soon. By the last week of August, the



Keiko, the whale made famous by Hollywood and the attempts to set him free, swims with his handlers off the coast of Iceland.

killer whale migration is expected to move away from Iceland's Westmann Islands for the winter.

That's not much time for keepers to determine if a pod of wild

whales has accepted Keiko and if he could survive with them at sea.

Meanwhile, divers are preparing Keiko's floating pen for winter, although they're hoping not to need it.

## No Quick Fix for Leaking Chinese Garden

(AP) - Less than a year after it opened, the city's Classical Chinese Garden needs a major improvement.

The garden's pond has been leaking water - lots of it - since the attraction opened last September. Gloria Lee, garden executive director, knew there was a problem

when the first water bill came in at \$7,000.

"The findings mean we will probably have to do some major retrofitting," she said.

The \$12.8 million Suzhou-styled classical garden, created with public money and private fund-raising, is a nonprofit, self-sustained

corporation that leases the city block it covers. It has been successful in its first year, earning net revenue of \$570,000, according to the Portland Development Commission.

The water has been seeping into the ground and flowing to the Willamette River.

## PGE's New Policy Director

Portland General Electric has promoted Robin Tompkins to the position of director of federal and regional policy affairs.

Tompkins will oversee the utility interaction with the federal government and federal regulatory agencies, such as the Federal Regulatory Commission.

She will be responsible for making sure the interests of PGE customers are represented at the local, regional and federal levels, company officials said.

Tompkins has served nine years as an attorney in the PGE legal department. She is a former deputy in the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office.

Tompkins holds a Doctor of Jurisprudence from Pace University School of Law in White Plains, N.Y. and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Southern California, where she was a National Merit Scholarship recipient.

An active member of the community, Tompkins had been involved with a variety of organizations including the United Way, the Columbia Willamette Girl Scouts Council, Boys & Girls Aid Society, the Oregon Epilepsy Foundation, Equity Foundation and the Juvenile Rights Project.



Robin Tompkins

## Rural Freeway Limit Holds at 65

(AP) - A bill to raise the speed limit to 70 miles per hour on rural Oregon freeways was vetoed Friday by Governor John Kitzhaber, who cited safety reasons.

The freeway speed limit now is 65 miles per hour, the lowest of any Western state.

Kitzhaber has long opposed raising speed limits. He says there aren't enough state troopers on the highways to adequately enforce the laws. And legislators refused his request for two \$2 million for more patrols.

Kitzhaber also vetoed a capital gains tax cut sought by business, saying it mainly would help higher-income households "without a demonstrated benefit to Oregon's economy."

Friday was the deadline for vetoing or signing measures passed by the Legislature during the session that ended July 7. Kitzhaber vetoed 17 bills and portions of two others.

## Is a Gas, Gas, Gas

(NUE) - Americans have a real love affair with their cars. For that reason, it's important to save gas any way you can - prices seem to be going up every day.

The experts at YouWinIt.com can help you do just that by giving you lots of great tips for saving gas and money. Fortunately, the surest way to improve your fuel cost problem isn't by buying expensive add-on equipment - it's by changing your motoring habits.

It's easier than you might think. Start with engine warm-up. Avoid prolonging this process, even on the coldest mornings - 30 to 45 seconds is really all you need. Avoid revving the engine, especially just before you switch it off, because this wastes fuel and washes oil down from the inside cylinder walls.

Another good idea is to eliminate jack-rabbit starts. Accelerate slowly when starting from a dead stop, and don't push the pedal down more than a quarter of the way. This will help your carburetor operate at peak efficiency.

The gasoline you buy - and where and when - can also help you

save gas. Buy it during the coolest time of day, either early in the morning or late in the evening. Gas is most dense at these times, and because gas pumps measure volume of gasoline, not density of fuel concentration.

The way you drive also can help you be more economical. Exceeding 40 miles per hour makes your car work harder to overcome wind resistance. Obeying speed limits also gives you better efficiency. For example, driving at 55 mph gives you up to 21 percent better mileage, compared with former legal speed limits of 65 and 75 mph.

Manual shift driven cars allow you to shift to the highest gear quickly, which saves gas. Automatic transmissions should be allowed to cool down when your car is idling. Put the gear into the neutral position, which reduces the strain on your transmission and allows it to cool off. Driving steadily is another good idea, because slowing down and speeding up waste fuel.

And don't overlook carpooling, which helps reduce gas expense in addition to other benefits - it helps keep the driver alert and reduces traffic congestion.

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