NORTHWEST

Though Hayes is gone, acidification project lives on

Corrosive ocean water prevent oysters, clams from developing shells

By HILLARY BORRUD Capital Bureau

SALEM — Cylvia Hayes is no longer first lady, but many of the policies she pushed remain intact as top state priorities, including work on ocean acidification.

West Coast governors are working to arrange a meeting with senior officials in the White House and federal agencies to push for more spending on research into the problem, which has hit the region's shellfish industry. The world's oceans absorb an increasing amount of carbon dioxide from the burning of fossil fuels, and that corrosive water can prevent oyster and clam larvae from developing shells.

Congress and President Barack Obama have recently increased spending on research into the issue, and Oregon and West Coast states want a larger piece of it.

The high-level meeting on ocean acidification research was supposed to occur this spring, but might not happen until later this year. Gabriela Goldfarb, natural resources policy adviser to Gov. Kate Brown, said she was confident the meeting will still take place despite the departure of Hayes, who made ocean health



West Coast governors are working to arrange a meeting with senior officials in the White House and federal agencies to push for more spending on research into ocean acidification, an initiative championed by former first lady Cylvia Hayes.

BRIEFLY

one of her official initiatives and planned to participate in the meeting.

Hayes' fiance Gov. John Kitzhaber resigned in February amid criminal investigations into allegations the couple engaged in influence peddling. Hayes signed private contracts worth more than \$220,000 to work on policy issues on which she advised the governor. Under one contract, Hayes was hired to raise awareness of ocean acidification.

Although Hayes' dual role raises ethics and legal questions, Goldfarb said the effects of ocean acidification are truly a problem for the shellfish industry. Scientists at Oregon State University published research in 2012 that linked the phenomenon to a decline in oyster seed production at Whiskey Creek Shellfish Hatchery in Netarts Bay, and they published additional research earlier this year on the industry's vulnerability to the problem.

Goldfarb said research has shown ocean acidification has a greater impact on the West Coast than other parts of the nation, and for that reason the federal government should direct a greater share of its research funding to Oregon, California and Washington. The three states and British Columbia have also signed an agreement to coordinate their own spending on research into the problem.

'Our main interest is having the federal government prioritize its investment of its scientific expertise and research and monitoring efforts on the West Coast, where scientists tell us ocean acidification is hitting earliest and hardest," said Goldfarb, who also worked for Kitzhaber.

'We will definitely end up having someone come out from the White House Council on Environmental Quality," Goldfarb said, adding that state officials could also travel to Washington, D.C., for the meeting if it's necessary to accommodate administrators from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

In February 2013, Hayes signed a contract to work on ocean acidification issues for the environmental public relations firm Resource Media.

The contract called for Resource Media to pay Hayes \$20,600 plus up to \$5,300 in reimbursement of travel expenses for roughly two months of work, from Feb. 19 to April 30, 2013. The true extent of her work for Resource Media is unclear because Hayes said the contract actually continued through Dec. 31, 2013. However, Hayes would not say whether the firm increased her compensation for the extended period of work.

This story first appeared in the Oregon Capital Insider newsletter. To subscribe, go to oregoncapitalinsider.com



committed suicide.

The Mount Hood National Forest, where the blast occurred, said Monday that the Medical Examiner's Office identified the man as 24-year-old Jeffrey Roger Williams of Portland. The cause of death was injuries from the blast.

Investigators have said the explosion left a crater 11 feet wide alongside U.S. Highway 26 and was believed to have been produced by chemicals available on the Internet to make exploding targets.

National Forest spokeswoman Laura Pramuk

says among the items found were fragments of a firearm.

School leaders say \$600M funding hike isn't enough

By PETER WONG Capital Bureau

SALEM — The political tug-of-war over the state school fund is about to intensify.

Legislative leaders want to put up \$7.235 billion — the figure included in a Jan. 14 framework proposed by the Legislature's chief budget writers - for votes of the House and Senate within the next month. Coupled with \$134 million more in property taxes projected by the Legislature's tax experts, and other factors, leaders say Oregon's 197 school districts will see a significant increase from 2013-14.

That message came from House Speaker Tina Kotek, D-Portland, and Rep. Peter Buckley, D-Ashland, House co-chairman of the Legislature's joint budget committee.

The proposed figure is more than the \$6.9 billion included in the budget that then-Gov. John Kitzhaber submitted to lawmakers back on Dec. 1. Lawmakers raised that figure by scaling back the \$800 million Kitzhaber proposed on targeted education priorities, as well as reducing other proposed state spending. They even reduced the amount Kitzhaber budgeted to continue current tax credits by about \$65 million, leaving just \$14 million for the revenue committees to use in deciding extensions of tax breaks that otherwise will expire at the end of this year.

But the upbeat assessment by legislative leaders is at odds with the views of school administrators and teachers, a parade of whom testified to a budget subcommittee that the \$7.235 billion figure will trigger cuts in staff and school days. They want \$7.5 billion at a minimum, and some are advocating \$7.85 billion, although few of them have proposed specifics about how lawmakers could reach that amount without further cuts in human services and public safety programs.

Usually lawmakers have waited until the May economic and revenue forecast before they make final decisions about the budget, before the start of the new cycle July 1. Because the most recent forecast projects that Oregon will have to return \$350 million in a

"kicker" to taxpayers next year — in the form of a credit against their taxes — lawmakers say they are hard-pressed to promise more to schools right now. If the May 14 forecast does not project a "kicker," Buckley says lawmakers may be able to add to the \$7.235 billion in a supplemental end-of-session bill.

Corrections

The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day

Kansas City 60/41

House 78/58

A

Monterrey 81/59

National Summary: An area of clouds, rain and thunderstorms will grow over the Central

states today as warmth begins to build. Clouds and showers are in the offing for the

-0s 0s 10s 20s 30s 40s 50s

Northwest. Much of the rest of the nation will be dry.

10,000

Billing 55/28

San Francisco

SW 6-12

Los Angeles 74/59

Ω

Montrea 31/18

43/32

87/70

high

warm front stationary front

Toronto 34/25

Atlanta 70/57

70s

NEWS

Senate to vote on tax break for Internet companies

SALEM (AP) — The Oregon Senate is nearing a final vote on a bill giving tax breaks to Internet providers and companies that own data centers.

The bill's sponsor, Democratic Sen. Mark Hass of Beaverton, says the Senate will vote Tuesday on the measure, sending it to Gov. Kate Brown.

Hass says the Legislature will follow up later with a new bill to fix provisions that displeased Google. The company says it won't bring Google Fiber high-speed Internet to Portland without the changes.

The bill is a response to an Oregon Supreme Court decision last year that led to substantial increases in the property tax

bills for telecommunications companies. The decision threatened the growth of data centers, primarily in central and eastern Ôregon.

Teenager sentenced to 14 years for rape

EUGENE (AP) - A teenager who raped a woman during a supervised group outing to a University of Oregon football game was sentenced Monday to more than 14 years in prison.

Jaime Tinoco, 17, and 11 other young offenders went on the field trip to Autzen Stadium last September with the Washington County Juvenile Department. Authorities say he slipped away from the group and attacked the woman.

Tinoco, who was tried as an adult, grinned Monday as his 39-year-old victim described how she was repeatedly punched in the face while being raped near the stadium.

Lane County Judge Debra Vogt asked Tinoco why he was smiling as the victim — whose face required reconstructive sur-

gery — recounted the attack. "I don't know," Tinoco said. "I don't either," Vogt said.

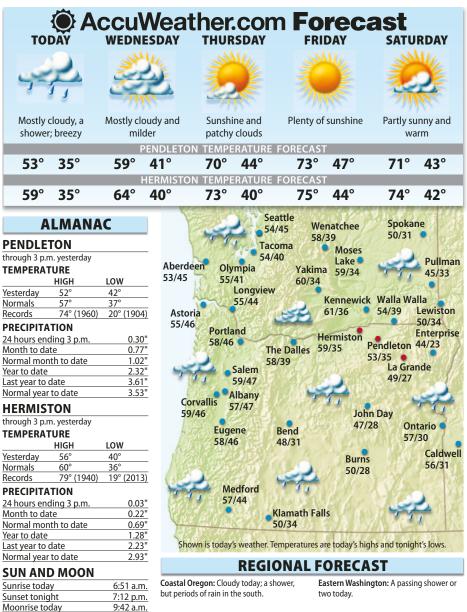
The judge said it was concerning that Tinoco apparently gets pleasure from inflicting pain. She called the teen a dangerous man.

Identity released of man killed in Mount **Hood explosion**

PORTLAND (AP) - The state Medical Examiner's Office has ruled that the man killed last week in an explosion along a busy highway leading to Mount Hood east of Portland

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Eastern and Central Oregon: A thick cloud cover today with a shower in places; breezy

none

New

Apr 18

Last

Apr 11

Moonset today

Full

Apr 4

First

Mar 26

Western Washington: Mostly cloudy today with a shower. Occasional rain tonight. Periods of rain tomorrow.

Cascades: Cloudy today with a shower in spots; chilly in central parts. A little rain

Northern California: Cloudy today: a shower, except dry in the interior moun tains. Clearing tonight.

tonight.

REGI	ON	AL	Cľ	TIES	5				
	Т	Today			Ved	Ι.			
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W			
Astoria	55	46	С	58	45	r			
Baker City	48	23	С	53	29	С			
Bend	48	31	С	56	34	С			
Brookings	55	46	r	60	50	с			
Burns	50	28	С	57	30	С			
Enterprise	44	23	r	51	33	С			
Eugene	58	46	с	66	44	sh			
Heppner	53 59	35	с	58 64	41 40	c			
Hermiston John Day	59 47	35 28	c c	64 53	40 35	c c			
Klamath Falls	50	34	c	60	34				
La Grande	49	27	c	54	34	pc c			
Meacham	44	28	c	51	30	c			
Medford	57	44	sh	68	44	c			
Newport	54	48	C	58	46	r			
North Bend	57	49	c	62	48	sh			
Ontario	57	30	sh	59	34	pc			
Pasco	61	34	с	63	39	c			
Pendleton	53	35	с	59	41	с			
Portland	58	46	с	60	44	sh			
Redmond	51	30	С	59	32	С			
Salem	59	47	С	62	43	sh			
Spokane	50	31	sh	52	40	С			
Ukiah	47	30	С	53	38	c			
Vancouver	57	45	С	59	41	sh			
Walla Walla	54	39	С	60	46	С			
Yakima	60	34	C	62	40	С			
WORLD CITIES									
	Т	oda		V	Wed.				
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W			
Beijing	62	38	S	67	45	S			
Hong Kong	77	66	с	74	68	r			
Jerusalem	66	48	S	66	50	рс			
London	50	34	sh	49	35	sh			

		LÜ	VV		LO	VV			
Beijing	62	38	S	67	45	S			
Hong Kong	77	66	с	74	68	r			
Jerusalem	66	48	S	66	50	рс			
London	50	34	sh	49	35	sh			
Mexico City	73	51	t	74	50	рс			
Moscow	45	30	sn	44	27	c			
Paris	47	38	r	49	33	sh			
Rome	63	52	с	59	52	sh			
Seoul	53	29	S	56	30	S			
Sydney	75	64	r	73	64	рс			
Tokyo	52	41	рс	53	41	S			
WINDS									
(in mph)	То	day		Wedn	Wednesday				
Boardman	WSW 10-20				WSW 6-12				

UV INDEX TODAY 1 3 4 2 0 0

W 12-25

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m. 0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+. Extreme

Pendleton

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index[™] num ber, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. @2015

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states) High 90° in Opa Locka, Fla. Low -2° in Saranac Lake, N.Y.

cold front

NATIONAL CITIES									
	Т	oday	Wed.			Today		Wed.	
	Hi	Lo W	Hi	Lo W		Hi	Lo W	Hi	Lo W
Albuquerque	70	41 s	67	38 pc	Louisville	61	55 pc	74	57 t
Atlanta	70	57 pc	73	60 pc	Memphis	74	59 s	77	58 pc
Atlantic City	39	32 pc	49	48 pc	Miami	87	70 pc	86	75 s
Baltimore	41	30 pc	51	47 pc	Milwaukee	40	35 s	54	34 pc
Billings	55	28 sh	50	36 sf	Minneapolis	42	32 r	42	29 sn
Birmingham	71	55 s	76	58 pc	Nashville	73	57 pc	75	60 c
Boise	53	33 sh	57	37 pc	New Orleans	77	63 pc	80	62 pc
Boston	36	26 s	45	39 pc	New York City	43	32 pc	48	44 pc
Charleston, SC	69	57 c	75	61 pc	Oklahoma City	81	54 s	78	42 t
Charleston, WV	56	47 c	69	57 sh	Omaha	51	35 r	58	27 s
Chicago	40	37 pc	58	36 pc	Philadelphia	45	31 pc	50	46 pc
Cleveland	40	33 s	62	46 sh	Phoenix	87	61 s	86	62 pc
Dallas	82	60 s	80	53 s	Portland, ME	38	22 s	42	37 pc
Denver	64	35 pc	47	28 sh	Providence	38	26 s	45	38 pc
Detroit	43	30 s	60	41 r	Raleigh	62	43 pc	69	57 c
El Paso	80	50 s	78	50 pc	Rapid City	58	26 pc	47	21 pc
Fairbanks	38	7 s	38	15 pc	Reno	61	38 c	66	40 pc
Fargo	46	34 r	40	21 sn	Sacramento	72	52 c	80	51 s
Honolulu	84	68 s	80	66 pc	St. Louis	63	52 t	74	42 t
Houston	78	58 s	79	60 pc	Salt Lake City	59	38 c	53	35 pc
Indianapolis	48	45 c	68	43 t	San Diego	72	61 s	74	61 pc
Jacksonville	74	60 c	81	62 pc	San Francisco	66	54 c	71	53 s
Kansas City	60	41 t	67	33 pc	Seattle	54	45 c	55	48 r
Las Vegas	80	59 s	80	54 pc	Tucson	84	52 s	82	52 s
Little Rock	76	59 s	80	58 pc	Washington, DC	46	36 c	56	50 c
Los Angeles	74	59 s	79	62 s	Wichita	75	43 pc	68	35 pc

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.