



Dulcie Bagley, holds a welcome sign, as she walks by demonstrators outside of Roseburg Regional Airport, Friday.



Demonstrators supporting President Barack Obama wait outside of Roseburg Regional Airport for his arrival Friday.

Strong emotions as Obama visits Roseburg

By GOSIA WOZNIACKA Associated Press

ROSEBURG — Gun-rights activists and others gave voice to strong emotions on Friday when President Barack Obama came to meet privately with grieving families whose loved ones were killed on a college campus in Roseburg, Oregon.

Many residents were angry over the call for more gun restrictions the president made soon after last week's shooting.

However, there were also Obama supporters among the people waiting behind a security fence near the airport to catch a glimpse of the president.

They included two men on bicycles — Phil Benedetti and John Poole.

"I want to support our president," said Benedetti, a Roseburg physician. "This isn't about gun control, it's about caring about the welfare of the small town and every small town when tragedy happens."

He said he owns several guns for hunting and chasing deer from his garden but believes assault weapons shouldn't be available to the general public.

More than 200 gun-rights activists also gathered outside Roseburg airport — some carrying holstered handguns.

"I'm here to tell Obama he is not welcome in our country. He is exploiting the local tragedy with his gun control agenda," said Bruce Rester, a retired truck driver who was wearing a handgun in a holster over his chest.

"Everybody should carry a gun. An armed society is a polite society," he added.

As Roseburg buries its dead, it's also trying to heal. The complexities of residents' emotions were reflected in the signs that are everywhere around the community — at fast-food places, cafes and churches.

Some have messages like "Pray for UCC" and "UCC Strong."

The signs refer to Umpqua



President Obama meets Oregon Gov. Kate Brown after disembarking from Marine One at Roseburg Regional Airport, Friday in Roseburg.

"This isn't about gun control, it's about caring about the welfare of the small town and every small town when tragedy happens."

— Phil Benedetti, Roseburg physician

Community College, where Christopher Harper-Mercer killed eight students and a teacher before turning the gun on himself after a shootout with police.

Billie McMillian, a business owner from Eagle Point who attended the protest with her husband, said they came to support the families of the victims and because they didn't agree with the president.

"We support the Second Amendment. It's our God-given right to protect ourselves," she said.

Protesters also carried signs voicing support for Sheriff John

Hanlin, who has been highly visible during press conferences about the college shooting.

Three years ago, after 20 children and six adults were shot dead at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, Hanlin sent a letter to Vice President Joe Biden saying he would not enforce any new gun legislation he deemed to be unconstitutional.

Poole, a retired property developer from Klamath Falls, said he too believes in the Second Amendment right to carry arms but also supports "rational, common sense gun laws."

Funerals for the nine victims of Harper-Mercer have been held throughout the week, and more were scheduled in the days ahead.

The college reopened Monday and counselors have been on campus to help students, faculty and staff deal with the trauma that all of Roseburg is feeling. Grief counselors are also available at nonprofits.

During his visit to Roseburg, the president met with leaders of the community college to express his thanks and condolences.

Obama made no public appearances during his visit to the city. It is not known what Obama told the families of those killed in the campus killings.

Just before leaving Roseburg, he told a small group of reporters: "We're going to have to come together as a country, but today is about the families."

BRIEFLY

Oregon marijuana stores sell more than \$11 million in first five days

SALEM (AP) — The Oregon Retailers of Cannabis Association estimates that marijuana stores sold more than \$11 million of marijuana during the state's first week of legal recreational sales.

The Statesman Journal in Salem reports that Oregon sales outpaced the first week of recreational sales in Colorado and Washington. Colorado's first week of sales reached \$5 million. In Washington state, sales during the first month hit \$2 million.

Retailers of Cannabis Association Executive Director Casey Houlihan says the first day alone brought in \$3.5 million in Oregon.

Marijuana stores opened their doors to recreational users on Oct. 1.

Man who pulled gun on hit-and-run driver to face no charges

BEND (AP) — The Deschutes County District Attorney says a Springfield man who pulled a handgun on a driver involved in an alleged hit-and-run in Redmond will not face criminal charges.

The Bend Bulletin reports that District Attorney John Hummel said Thursday that it was not legally justifiable for Joshua Dornon to point the weapon at another person, but that the district attorney will not press charges in light of Dornon's "good Samaritan" deeds, such as pulling injured passengers out of the wrecked vehicle.

Officials the driver of a Ford F-250 struck and parked car, causing his truck to flip and land on its top. Dornon pulled a passenger and driver out of the truck before the driver took off on foot. Dornon chased after, pointing his gun at the driver and stopping his escape.

Hundreds testify on oil terminals proposed for Grays Harbor

ABERDEEN, Wash. (AP) — A few hundred people turned out to testify at a hearing on two oil terminals proposed at the Port of Grays Harbor in Hoquiam.

KXRO-AM says protesters rallied against before Thursday's public hearing in Aberdeen. They came from around Grays Harbor as well as others who bused in from Olympia, Vancouver and Portland, Oregon.

Westway Terminal Co. and Renewable Energy Group, which acquired Imperium, want to expand existing facilities to bring crude oil by train from the Bakken region of North Dakota and Montana. The oil would then be transported by tankers or barges to refineries in Puget Sound and northern California.

Quinalt Indian Nation President Fawn Sharp says the environment needs to be protected.

Hoquiam City Administrator Brian Shay says it's clear people have concerns about train traffic, risk of oil spills and air quality.

Hoquiam and the state Department of Ecology are getting comments on the draft environmental studies until Oct. 29.

Former sheriff's deputy admits to laundering money for bikini baristas

EVERETT, Wash. (AP) — A former Snohomish County sheriff's sergeant has pleaded guilty to helping launder money from a prostitution operation run out of roadside coffee stands.

The Daily Herald reports 60-year-old Darrell O'Neill pleaded guilty Thursday to conspiracy to commit money laundering and official misconduct in Snohomish County Superior Court. He faces up to a year in jail.

The case stemmed from an investigation into coffee stands where bikini-clad baristas were allegedly engaged in sex shows and prostitution to earn hundreds of thousands of dollars in tips.

Two women who played key roles in the operation have pleaded guilty to promoting prostitution. Prosecutors say the women traded sex for O'Neill's help.

O'Neill initially claimed he frequented the stands for police work. He later admitted he had traded information in exchange for sexual contact with the baristas. He resigned after his arrest in June 2013.

1 student killed, 3 wounded at Arizona campus during fight

By FELICIA FONSECA Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. — An overnight brawl between two groups of students escalated into violence Friday when a freshman at Northern Arizona University opened fire on four fraternity members, killing one and wounding three.

Steven Jones, an 18-year-old fraternity pledge, told police he shot the group of students only after they hit him in the face and chased him, according to court documents. He also said he tried to administer first aid to one of the victims.

Prosecutors said the suspect's account amounted to a "self-serving" statement and alleged Jones was the aggressor.

"There is no indication of self-defense here," Deputy County Attorney Ammon Barker said. "The defendant had retreated from the fight, he obtained a gun and then he went back into the fray."

The shooting occurred in a parking lot just outside Mountain View Hall dormitory on the Flagstaff campus, which provides housing for many of the campus' sororities and fraternities. The victims were all members of the Delta Chi fraternity while Jones was a pledge at Sigma Chi. It's not clear why the fight started.

Student Colin Brough was killed, and Nicholas Prato, Kyle Zientek and Nicholas Piring were wounded. The prosecutor said Brough was hit twice — in the chest and shoulder — with Jones' .40-caliber handgun. Flagstaff Medical Center said it couldn't release any information on conditions.

"This is not going to be a normal day at NAU," said school President Rita Cheng. "Our hearts are heavy."

Jones told investigators that several people approached him and two friends while they were outside a residence. A fight broke out between the two groups, and Jones said he was hit in the face. He says a group chased him to his car, where he retrieved a handgun. Two of

the victims had stopped following him but turned around when Jones yelled that he had a gun, court documents said.

At one point, a group tried to subdue Jones, who fired a shot in the air. Jones said he then dropped his firearm, which had a flashlight attached to it.

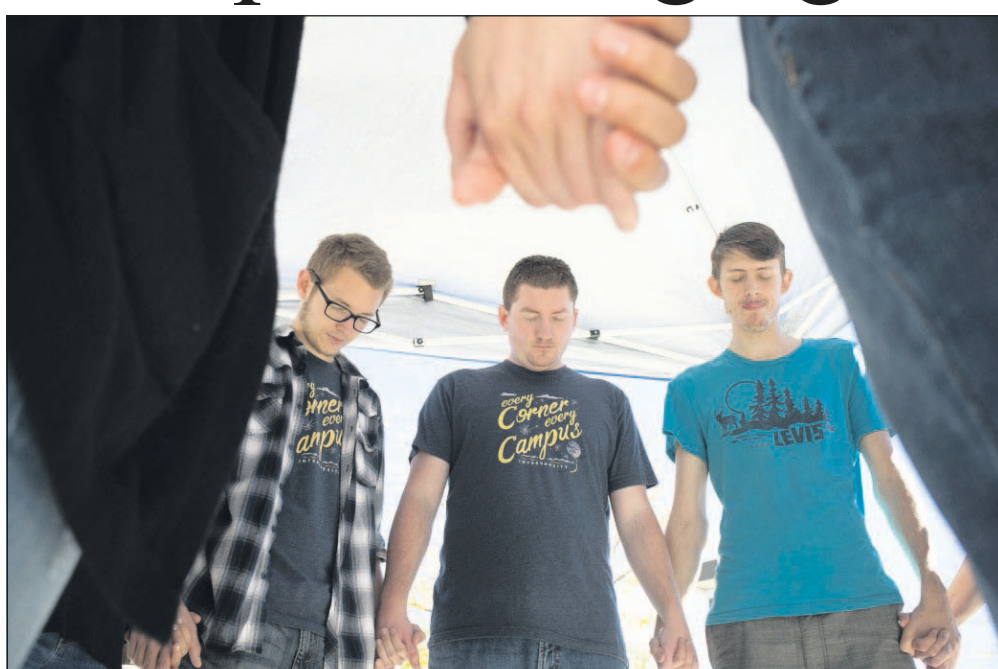
Jones was booked Friday for one count of first-degree homicide and three counts of aggravated assault.

Defense attorney Burges McCowan asked Flagstaff Justice Court Judge Paul Christian to allow Jones to be released to his parents in Glendale, Arizona, saying he has no prior criminal history and is a lifelong resident of Arizona. The set bond at \$2 million.

"He has no other place to go," McCowan said.

Brough was from Castle Rock, Colorado, about 30 miles south of downtown Denver. He loved to play lacrosse and wanted to be successful so he could help other people, said his cousin, Ryan Jernegan of Woodbury, New Jersey. He also worked as a lifeguard at a Flagstaff recreation center.

"He was the happiest person that you probably would



Braedon Day, from left, Christopher Huston and Michael Zawada pray during a vigil, Friday, outside the Northern Arizona University union, in Flagstaff, Ariz. An overnight brawl between two groups of students escalated into violence Friday when a freshman at the university opened fire.

ever meet," Jernegan said.

He worked as a cashier at the Puma outlet store in Castle Rock during the summer after graduating high school. Manager Chauncey Musser remembered him as an outgoing employee with a seemingly bottomless supply of energy.

Alex McIntosh, a friend of Zientek, said he worked part time at the High County Conference Center while attending school full time.

"He's very calm, very respectful, has a great manner, calm demeanor and you'd never expect him to be caught up in something like this," McIntosh said.

The shooting set off panic at the Flagstaff campus as students heard gunshots and quickly took to social media to figure out what happened.

Student Maria Gonzalez told The Associated Press that she at first suspected firecrackers when the shooting happened.

"I was studying for an exam, so I looked out the window and see two people running, and that's when I realized they weren't firecrackers, they were actually gunshots," she said.

The Flagstaff shooting

comes on the same day that President Barack Obama visited Roseburg, Oregon, where eight students and a teacher were shot and killed last week at Umpqua Community College.

In Texas, a student was killed and another person was wounded in a shooting outside a Texas Southern University student-housing complex on Friday. A brief panic broke out in Kentucky hours later when there were reports of shots fired on a college campus. The reports turned out to be unfounded.

Northern Arizona University is a four-year public university that has more than 25,000 total undergraduate students at the campus in Flagstaff, a city about two hours north of Phoenix that is surrounded by mountains and ponderosa pines. The city of 70,000 people has a reputation for being a safe place and typically records only one murder per year.

"It's crazy. You don't think this stuff happens. When I think of Flagstaff, I think safety," said freshman Cameron Sands, who had pledged at a fraternity and was supposed to move into Mountain View Hall on Friday.

The legal challenges have

"a substantial possibility of success," the judges said, adding that it was "far from clear" that the new regulations comply with guidelines in the Supreme Court's latest ruling in 2006.

Judge Damon Keith, appointed by Democratic President Jimmy Carter, dissenting, saying the court should not interfere with the rule before the jurisdiction question was answered.

The Obama administration could challenge the 6th circuit ruling. In an immigration case, the administration has appealed a nationwide order issued by a federal judge in Texas that blocks the government from implementing rules to spare nearly 5 million people living in the U.S. illegally from deportation.

At issue in the ruling Friday is which smaller waterways — those not adjacent to navigable rivers or lakes — are subject to federal oversight under the Clean Water Act. The EPA contends that Supreme Court decisions in 2001 and 2006 left 60 percent of the nation's streams and millions of acres of wetlands without clear federal protection.

Court puts hold on regulation protecting waterways

By JOHN FLESHER AP Environmental Writer

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. — A federal appeals court on Friday blocked an Obama administration rule that attempts to clarify which small streams, wetlands and other waterways the government can shield from pollution and development.

In a 2-1 ruling, a panel of the Sixth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati put the regulations on hold nationwide until the court decides whether it has jurisdiction to consider lawsuits against them. More than half the states have filed legal challenges, continuing a debate over federal water protection authority that two Supreme Court cases and extensive rulemaking efforts over the past 14 years have failed to resolve.

The Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued their latest regulations in May, drawing fierce criticism from landowner groups and conservative lawmakers who described them as costly, confusing and a government power grab. Environmentalists and other supporters said they would safeguard drink-

ing water for 117 million Americans while preserving wetlands that filter out pollutants, control floods and provide crucial wildlife habitat.

The EPA and the Corps said in a joint statement that they respected the court's decision and looked forward to defending the rule, which they said "represents the agencies' continuing commitment to protecting and restoring the nation's water resources that are vital for our health, environment, and economy."

Rep. Greg Walden (R-Oregon) has been a vocal opponent of the rule since May, and released a statement Friday calling the court's decision "a victory for farmers, ranchers, and property owners in rural Oregon and throughout the nation."

"This power grab would have expanded federal authority over virtually any water in the nation, including canals, irrigation ditches, vernal pools, and stock ponds," he continued. "Now that the court has spoken, I call on the Administration to permanently withdraw this flawed proposal. It's time to ditch this rule."

Republican Sen. James Inhofe of Oklahoma, chair-

man of the Environment and Public Works Committee, also called the court ruling "a victory" and urged Congress to approve legislation that would force the agencies to rewrite the rule. The House has done so, while similar measure has cleared a Senate committee. The White House has threatened a veto.

U.S. District Judge Ralph Erickson, in Fargo, N.D., blocked the rule's implementation in 13 central and Western states shortly before it took effect in August. Erickson said judges have wide discretion to craft their orders narrowly or broadly, but he declined to extend his order to additional states.

The Sixth Circuit panel took a different approach, even while acknowledging uncertainty over which court was the proper venue for the legal battle. Judges David W. McKeague and Richard Allen Griffin — both appointed by Republican President George W. Bush — said delaying implementation nationwide "temporarily silences the whirlwind of confusion that springs from uncertainty about the requirements of the new rule and whether they will survive legal testing."

U.S. abandons Pentagon's failed rebel-building effort in Syria

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration is overhauling its approach to fighting the Islamic State in Syria, abandoning a failed Pentagon effort to build a new ground force of moderate rebels and instead partnering with established rebel groups, officials said Friday.

The shift, telegraphed weeks ago by disclosures that the effort had produced only a handful of trained rebels, is meant partly to take better advantage of U.S. airpower, which can play a bigger role now that Turkey is permitting American fighter jets to operate from its soil. But it is not expected to immediately give new momentum to a slow-moving — some would say stalled — American-led campaign against the Islamic State.

The aim is to work with established rebel units "so that over time they can make a concerted push into territory still controlled by ISIL," said Pentagon press secretary Peter Cook. Others said the hope is to put much more pressure on the northern city of Raqqa, the Islamic State's declared capital.

The change also reflects growing concern in the Obama administration that Russia's intervention has complicated the Syrian battlefield and given new life to President Bashar Assad. Russian airstrikes have raised questions about whether and how the U.S. would protect rebel groups it is working with if they are hit by Russian bombs.

Meanwhile, the CIA has

since 2013 trained some 10,000 rebels to fight Assad's forces. Those groups have made significant progress against strongholds of the Alawites, Assad's sect, but are now under Russian bombardment. The cover CIA program is the only way the U.S. is taking on Assad militarily.

The administration is under heavy criticism in Congress for a flawed approach in Syria, amplified by Russia's muscular moves to launch ship-based cruise missile strikes and deploy fighter aircraft and battlefield weaponry — actions that caught the U.S. by surprise and underscored the failure of the Pentagon's \$500 million program to train and equip rebels.

"The administration has had a weak, inadequate policy in Syria and a weak, inadequate policy against ISIS," said Rep. Mac Thornberry of Texas, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. "Adjusting one program, even if it were successful, will not solve the problem."

Defense Secretary Ash Carter said Friday the new Pentagon approach is in line with the administration's basic formula of leveraging U.S. and coalition airpower by coordinating with anti-IS Syrian rebels on the ground. The U.S. has had success working, for example, with Syrian Kurds and Sunni Arab rebel groups in northern Syria. The U.S. believes a capable ground force is essential for success against IS, but those troops will not be American.

Divided Republicans see savior in Paul Ryan

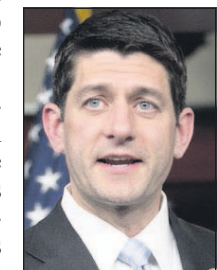
WASHINGTON (AP) — Endlessly divided, House Republicans pleaded with Rep. Paul Ryan on Friday to rescue them from their damaging leadership vacuum. But the GOP's 2012 vice presidential nominee showed little appetite for the prestigious

stature, wide appeal and intelligence to lead Republicans out of the mess they're in.

Ryan's spokesman, Brendan Buck, said: "Chairman Ryan appreciates the support he's getting from his colleagues but is still not running for speaker."

Why not? Possible reasons include the presidential ambitions he may well still harbor. The speaker's post, highly prestigious and second in line to the presidency, requires a huge commitment of time and effort in corraling a party's House members. It is not on anyone's tactical roadmap to the White House.

But Republicans were determined to do what they could to get Ryan to reconsider. Rep. Darrell Issa of California said he carried Ryan's gym bag for him Friday morning in an effort to persuade him to run, and Ryan even fielded a call from his presidential running mate, Mitt Romney.



Ryan

Equipment malfunction causes dam explosion

By NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. — An electrical equipment malfunction caused an explosion at a hydroelectric dam on Washington's Columbia River that injured six workers, utility officials said Friday.

The explosion occurred Thursday afternoon at one of 10 electricity generating units at the Priest Rapids Dam near the central Washington city of Mattawa, Grant County Public Utility District spokesman Chuck Allen said.

"There was no structural damage to the facility and no resulting threats to public safety related to this incident," he said. "The dam is being operated safely at this time."

Five workers were being treated at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle. Two men, both in their 40s, are in critical condition and in the intensive care unit, while three men are in satisfactory condition, spokesman Susan Gregg said Friday. All were being treated for burns.

The sixth worker has been released from a hospital, the utility said in a press release.

The utility declined to release the identities or other information about the injured employees, saying it wanted to protect their privacy.

"This is a difficult day for everyone here at Grant PUD," said acting general manager Kevin Nord. "We are all concerned for our co-workers who were injured yesterday and are doing every-

thing we can to show them our support in this difficult time."

The generating unit where the explosion occurred will be shut down until officials determine what happened and how to prevent it, Allen said.

The utility is investigating, along with state workplace regulators. They don't know yet what caused the equipment to fail, Allen said.

Kyle Foreman, a spokesman with the Grant County Sheriff's Office, said his agency won't be investigating because "there's no indication of criminal wrongdoing or terrorism."

The people injured in the explosion are power plant electricians and operators whose primary duties are to work on equipment at the dam, Allen said.

The Priest Rapids Dam was built in the 1950s and is one of two operated by the Grant PUD along the Columbia River to provide some of the nation's cheapest electricity to residents. The publicly owned utility serves about 46,000 customers in Grant County, which is about 150 miles east of Seattle. The concrete dam is 178 feet high and more than 10,000 feet long.

Last year, power production from the utility's other dam was reduced for a time after a crack was discovered in one spillway. The reservoir behind the Wanapum Dam was drawn down by more than two dozen feet to reduce pressure on the structure while repairs were made. The repairs on that dam, which opened in 1963, cost more than \$86 million.

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