

up on the story.

With only a month left in what should have been a six-month campaign, Hansen wouldn't slow down. While in a dental chair, she was so persuasive that, by the time the novocaine wore off, the Oregon Society of Periodontists had agreed to pick up the campaign's postage costs.

Finally, the weekend arrived. On the day before the Oct. 13 cleanup, gale force winds raked the coast. On the radio, people were warned to stay off the beaches.

Hansen was like the nonstop party host who suddenly thinks: "Oh, my gosh. What if nobody shows up?"

**S**aturday, the weather changed. It got worse. Hail joined the onslaught.

But Hansen should have ordered more dogs and buns. About 2,100 volunteers — more than half having traveled at least 75 miles — joined the effort. And they picked up 26.3 tons of debris on the beach. "You know Oregonians," Hansen says. "A little rain never hurt them."

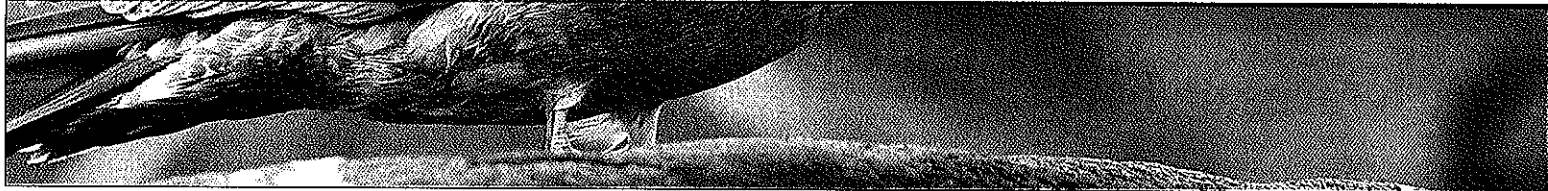
They picked up nearly 50,000 chunks of Styrofoam larger than a baseball. Nearly 5,000 milk jugs and 1,500 six-pack rings. And thousands of pieces of other debris.

After Hansen returned from Lincoln City to Portland, the national press started calling. Soon, she had been invited to make a presentation at the Fate and Impact of Marine Debris Workshop, an international conference, in Hawaii.

Gulp. A handful of Ph.D.s got up and talked. Then it was Hansen's turn. She looked out at the audience of 200 people in the famous Ala Moana Hotel. These were the world's experts on marine biology. "I was sweating bullets," remembers Hansen.

Slowly, she began telling the story of Oregon's beach cleanup. How people, challenged, met that challenge. When her presentation was over, she was stunned: The audience gave her a standing ovation.

That wasn't the end of the story. Hansen would go on to start similar cleanups in Washington, California and five northeastern states before moving to Indiana and letting go of her coastal cleanups. Two years ago, she retired and moved to Eugene.



**A gull gets more than a mouthful as it finishes off a starfish on the north jetty in Florence this past weekend. The bird sat for several minutes with the arms poking out of its mouth before an approaching gull caused it to fly away — arms first.**

## Lawmakers briefed on mental hospitals

*Legislators seemed receptive to plans to site facilities in Junction City and Salem*

By DAVID STEVES  
*The Register-Guard*

SALEM — A proposal to build new psychiatric hospitals in Junction City and Salem cleared its first hurdle Wednesday when a legislative panel got its first briefing on the recommendation.

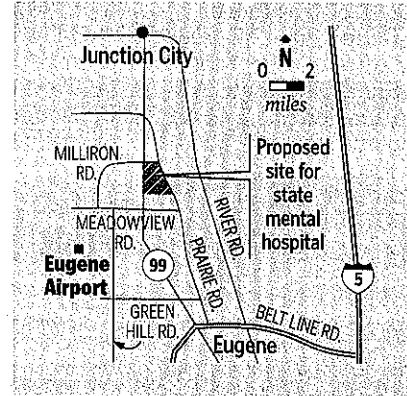
For nearly two hours, a joint gathering of House and Senate health care committees listened to local officials and state experts explain how they decided on those two locations from among the 13 that met an array of criteria. And while lawmakers raised questions, none indicated

opposition to the plans to build a 720-bed facility where the Oregon State Hospital now stands and a 360-bed psychiatric hospital just south of Junction City proper on land owned by the state Department of Corrections.

Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson, chairwoman of the Senate Health Policy and Public Affairs Committee, which took part in the hearing, said she took her colleagues' response to mean Junction City and Salem would be approved.

"I was encouraged that there wasn't any opposition to the process that led to the siting recommendations," said Monnes Anderson, D-Gresham.

Gov. Ted Kulongoski recommended the two sites, but it will be up to the Legislature to agree. It won't vote on the recommendations but will be



STEPHANIE BARROW / *The Register-Guard*

asked this session to authorize borrowing for the construction, architectural plans and other costs. Officials hope to build the Salem facility by 2011 and the Junction City hospital by 2013.

The Junction City facility is intended to serve Southwestern Oregon, from the Linn County line to the California border. After looking at a pair of properties near Springfield and several more in Douglas and

*Please turn to HOSPITAL, Page F3*

## County commissioners back field burning ban

*Board members join Eugene in opposition to the practice, which foes say affects health*

By DIANE DIETZ  
*The Register-Guard*

A proposal to ban field burning is

Party affiliation didn't matter; all commissioners supported the ban. Neither did whether a commissioner represented a largely urban or rural constituency. They all voted yes.

Field burning is used by about 200 Oregon grass seed growers a year to purge their fields of pests and waste straw.

But the health impacts associated

State Rep. Paul Holvey, D-Eugene, introduced the burning ban earlier this month. House leadership assigned the bill to the Health Care Committee and the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. Hearings are yet to be scheduled.

Citizens opposed to burning and the grass seed industry have been lining up forces for months in propo-

## Bargain bill for firefighters in House

*Firefighters seek legislation allowing unions to negotiate on-the-job safety*

By DAVID STEVES  
*The Register-Guard*

SALEM — Firefighters' bill Democrats who sided with them dealt a blow Wednesday when the House fell one vote short of passing the bill allowing unions to negotiate safety-related staffing issues.

Firefighters had spent the day at the Capitol. They spent more than four hours in the House gallery because Republicans refused to allow Senate bills to be moved up to the top of the agenda for House consideration.

But when the bill came up, the vote didn't go in their favor.

It drew 30 "yes" votes — one short of the 60-member majority in the 60-member House.

Rep. Jean Cowart, whose district includes Eugene and Lane County, was the only Democrat to vote against the bill. Republicans present included Scott Bruun of West

Under current staffing issues can occur if they have a "direct effect on the on-the-

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**THWEST**

**45 days in jail  
 crash**

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The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With a vote on the House floor expected by week's end, several Northwest lawmakers remain undecided about legislation requiring President Bush to bring combat troops home from Iraq next year.

The measure, attached to a \$124 billion spending bill, faces opposition from liberal Democrats concerned that it does not end the war quickly enough, and from Republicans who say the United States should not put a timetable on troop withdrawal.

In the end, most Democrats in the Washington and Oregon

Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Ore., said he will support the bill, which is widely considered an early test of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and the new Democratic majority in the House.

"I think it's extraordinarily meaningful that within three months of taking over (Congress) we are challenging the president's commitment to an open-ended, stay-the-course, war without end" in Iraq, DeFazio said. "We're saying no, (the end of the war) is going to happen on your watch."

DeFazio, a member of the Out of Iraq Caucus, said he would support stronger language that pushes for an

quire that combat troops be out of Iraq before September 2008, or sooner if the Iraqi government does not meet certain benchmarks.

"Would I like it to be stronger? Yes," DeFazio said. "Can we get votes for that? Absolutely not. It's not clear we can get votes for this."

Indeed, several Northwest lawmakers are undecided. That list ranges from liberal Democrats such as Reps. Earl Blumenauer of Portland and Jim McDermott of Seattle, to conservative Republican Rep. Greg Walden of Hood River and moderate Republican Rep. Dave Reichert from the suburbs east of Seattle.

The spokeswoman, Erin Allweiss, said Blumenauer is "excited about what's in (the bill) for Oregon," but wants to make sure the language on Iraq is acceptable.

McDermott, normally a close ally of Pelosi, is also undecided.

Walden said he was leaning no, but was still undecided late Wednesday.

"The bottom line is this bill cannot become law without the signature of the president, who today says he will veto it on account of the (domestic) spending and the language that restricts his authority to command the troops" in Iraq, Walden said.

He said Pelosi and other Democratic leaders should "get together with the White House and figure out something that can pass and become law and includes emergency relief for the timber counties."

Other Northwest lawmakers have made up their minds.

Democratic Reps. Adam Smith, Norm Dicks, Rick Larsen and Jay Inslee of Washington state, and Darlene Hooley and David Wu of Oregon all support the bill.

Republican Reps. Cathy Morris Rodgers and Doc Hastings of Washington state, and Bill Sali and Mike Simpson of Idaho, oppose the bill.

**Hospital: Junction City concerns voiced**

Continued from Page F1

Jackson counties, Goldberg said officials found the Junction City site to be the best choice for several reasons:

- ◆ It already meets zoning and land use requirements, avoiding potential approval delays.
- ◆ It is state-owned, eliminating the cost of property acquisition.
- ◆ It is close to education and training facilities, thanks to the University of Oregon, Oregon State University, community colleges and a proposed satellite campus of Oregon Health & Science University.
- ◆ The majority of the southwest Oregon facility's patients are expected to come from Lane County, which means a Junction City location will keep

them closer to family and friends than would facilities in Medford or the Roseburg area.

While legislators stopped short of voicing opposition, some were skeptical about a psychiatric hospital in Junction City.

Sen. Jeff Kruse, R-Roseburg, expressed some concern about the location.

"I'm not going to debate the siting. You met the criteria," he said. "Junction City is just south of Linn County, but Junction City is not part of southern Oregon."

Both he and Rep. Ron Maurer, R-Grants Pass, said they'd like to see smaller residential facilities for mentally ill patients in more southern parts of the state, given the distance from Junction City.

Rep. Sara Gelsler,

D-Corvallis, questioned the notion of building a mental health facility on the same property where a prison is intended to be built. Dr. Bruce Goldberg, head of the Oregon Department of Human Services, said that concern would be addressed with "appropriate design and architecture" and "geographic and environmental barriers" to separate a hospital from a prison.

Gelsler also questioned whether Junction City offers the employment opportunities for hospital staffers' spouses and sufficient transportation options.

Junction City Administrator David Clyne responded by noting that his town now has a Starbucks, as well as two Lane Transit District bus routes each day and a proximity to Springfield and Eugene, which

are 20 minutes away.

Sen. Avel Gordly, I-Portland, told officials they should be certain to make sure "the community is a welcoming community" when it comes to the estimated 1,100 professionals and workers who will staff the facility and its patients — people who will represent a diversity of races and cultures.

Clyne responded by saying Junction City is eager for the hospital to come to town since it offered good-paying jobs and would extend infrastructure to an area inside the urban growth boundary where businesses would be expected to locate.

In addition, he said Junction City is becoming increasingly diverse with a growing Hispanic population and was trying to respond with bilingual materials, especially at the library.

**Bill: City leaders fearing higher budget costs**

Continued from Page F1

Firefighters, including dozens, willing to allocate dollars to...



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