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# NEWS

## *Northwest Region*

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### **FIRST INTERSTATE'S NORTHWEST REGION REPORTS EARNINGS GROWTH IN FIRST HALF OF '95**

Portland, OR -- First Interstate Bank's five-state Northwest Region today reported \$56.4 million in net income for the second quarter of 1995, and \$112.2 million in net income for the first six months of 1995. Net income for the current year is up 4% over last year, when the Region reported \$108.1 million for the first six months of 1994.

James J. Curran, chairman and chief executive officer for First Interstate's Northwest Region commented, "The first six months have been especially rewarding as our strong financial performance continues. Our focus on being a customer-driven bank is appreciated by our customers as shown by increased levels of deposits, loans and revenue.

"The economic outlook remains bright in the Northwest even though the nation is growing at a slower rate. International trade and the high-tech industry are contributing to a healthy Northwest economy," Curran added.

The Region's average loans for the first six months of 1995 were \$9.4 billion, up 18% over the same period of 1994. The

commercial, consumer, and real estate loan portfolios all grew in the second quarter. The \$4.5 billion consumer loan portfolio grew 18% for the first six months, including significant growth in installment loans. The commercial and real estate loan portfolios grew 12% and 25% respectively.

The Region's total deposits for the first six months of 1995 averaged \$9.8 billion, up %5 over the same period for 1994.

Key performance measures, return on assets and return on equity, were 1.86% and 21.68% for the second quarter based on operating earnings.

With assets of \$12 billion, First Interstate's Northwest Region is one of the leading financial institutions in its trade area of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Alaska and Montana. The Region provides banking services to more than one-third of the nearly four million households in the five states it serves. The Northwest Region is one of four Regions comprising First Interstate Bank's 13-state system of more than 1,160 banking offices and \$56.9 billion in assets.

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