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Steel barriers blocking 13th Avenue were replaced with bollard poles last weekend in an attempt to alleviate bicycle traffic congestion on curb ramps at that intersection. Initiated by the Open Space Committee, a subcommittee of the Campus Planning Committee, the project cost \$500 and was carried out by the Physical Plant.

**Free School
sets registration**

Registration is underway for the Lane County Free School, according to school Director Bill Wooten.

Full-term signup is being conducted on the EMU terrace today and Friday from noon to 4 p.m., and at the Odyssey coffee house today through Saturday from 1 to 9 p.m.

The school is offering 49 courses, with a membership fee costing \$5. Members may take as many classes as they wish.

OSPIRG rapped for collection system

A student group plans to attack the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group's (OSPIRG) present system of fee collection at the State Board of Higher Education Meeting Monday in Klamath Falls.

The group—Students for an Informed Republic (SIR)—is a loosely-knit non-profit organization that was formed at Southern Oregon College (SOC) in response to protest at the campus after the shooting of four Kent State students by the National Guard in 1970.

Chapters of the organization exist at SOC and Mt. Hood Community College. SIR Executive Information Director Gerald Swibies said most action in which the organization participates is in response to spontaneous issues at various colleges.

On many student campuses in Oregon, including the University, students pay a flat incidental fee which subsidizes OSPIRG, along with several other campus organizations. Recently, OSPIRG offered a refund to any student who wished to get his \$1.00 back.

**Students may vote
at campus precinct**

Students may now vote where they attend school, providing they intend to make the locale their place of residence. This decision by Oregon Attorney General Lee Johnson has substantiated what Secretary of State Clay Myers has been doing since the 26th amendment was ratified by Ohio.

That amendment enfranchised some 11 million new voters between the ages of 18 and 21. Myers had issued directives to Oregon county registrars to register all persons who certified they had met the usual six-month actual residency requirement.

Myers interpreted this to mean that college students could register at the colleges they attended. Now Attorney General Johnson's decision has made Myers' guidelines official.

Johnson said "The key to the individual's voting residence is his intent," referring to the oath persons take when they register. Johnson indicated that students should be treated as other members of the community.

Those students who wish to regard their parents' address as their residence may register there. Though some county clerks may raise questions about a voter's eligibility, Johnson said it was "pretty much up to the individual."

Lane County Registrar Ralph Honey said they have been registering all persons who sign their residences as being in Oregon. "We take it at face value," he said.

Those persons desiring to register can do so at the Lane County Courthouse, fire stations or U.S. National Banks.

Swibies, a Portland State University student, says SIR opposes the system of mandatory funding of OSPIRG.

Swibies told the Portland State University newspaper "The Vanguard" that the refund "plays on student apathy," and questioned how many students were motivated enough to seek their refunds.

At the State Board meeting, SIR will ask the board to have students voluntarily pledge money to OSPIRG instead.

Swibies questioned how many students were motivated enough to collect the refund once tuition and fees were paid and classes had already started. SIR currently has attorneys studying OSPIRG's fee system to determine whether it violates the constitutional rights of students, according to Swibies.

SIR also objects to OSPIRG's proposed plan to observe certain Oregon industries to see what role they play in American defense production. Swibies fails to see how this research is related to the two main concerns of OSPIRG, ecology and consumer protection.

But the important issue with OSPIRG, according to Swibies, is "whether or not it is the scope of a public institution to act as a collections agency or financial supporter of a student organization with state money."

"SIR is not anti-OSPIRG," said Swibies, but it does object to OSPIRG's method of obtaining funds for its operations.

A long-range project of SIR involves pushing for local boards, elected by the public, to govern the state institutions of higher education.

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Art Bushnell Editor
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Photo by James Link

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