

Food stamp arrests increased to seven

The Lane County District Attorney's investigation of an alleged conspiracy to steal food stamps took another step Monday with the arraignment of a former state welfare employee.

That brings to seven the number indicted since last Monday in an investigation more than two months old.

A Lane County Circuit Court grand jury filed 20 indictments against Juliana Semperboni, 25, of 1340 E. 19th Ave. She pleaded innocent to all 20, each including

twin counts of first degree theft and criminal conspiracy.

She now joins the six others awaiting trial on charges of food stamp fraud. All have pleaded innocent, and all have been released without bail, on their own recognizance. The total amount the seven are accused of obtaining illegally exceeds \$12,000.

Semperboni and another employee at the state's downtown food stamp office were suspended Jan. 4 for alleged certification irregularities.

For roughly a year Semperboni worked as a clerk-typist, completing "authorization to purchase" forms, according to Dorothea Latta, regional manager of the Oregon Public Welfare Division in Eugene.

Semperboni resigned Feb. 4, avoiding a hearing called to consider her dismissal, Latta told the *Eugene Register-Guard* Monday.

The other employee, who certified people to receive food stamps, was fired Feb. 4, Latta said. Neither she nor Dist. Atty.

Pat Horton would name the certifier, however, to preserve the secrecy of the continuing investigation.

Although Latta would not name the fired food stamp certifier, she told the *Emerald* that Bruce E. Washington, fired Feb. 4, worked in the office as a certifier. Washington was named in the indictments against the first six, along with Semperboni, as the persons through whom the accused received the food stamps.

State law requires an indicted

person's name be kept secret until his arrest.

Horton said he expects more arrests to come out of the investigation, which he said is now moving into a second phase.

The first phase tried to identify who got the stamps and how. The second will try to uncover "the manner in which the stamps were distributed on the street for either cash or goods and services," Horton told the *Register-Guard*.

"Obviously there has to be an outlet," he said.

Spring class to probe student control of fees

Student control of incidental fees and other student related issues will be the focus of a SEARCH class to be offered by the ASUO next term.

Class members will research financial issues in higher education and form the Legislative Advisory Board (LAB) to the ASUO. Their published findings will be used by student lobbyists during the next term of the state legislature.

The shift in emphasis toward implementing change through legislation rather than through university administration was explained by Kirby Garrett, ASUO Vice-president.

"If students fail to implement change at the local level, their next recourse is the State Board of Education, and if the state board turns them down, then the ultimate recourse is the state legislature," he said.

"Student control of incidental fees is the top issue on which many smaller issues rest," he said. "Students contribute the total financial budget of student centers throughout the state with incidental fees."

The class will include the following issues:

- The \$12.50 building fee stu-

dents pay each term will be examined. The fee is supposed to pay for bonds and mortgages but Garrett charges that "the state system does what it wants with a portion of the fees."

- Board members will plan curriculum for a "rush" academic program that could enable a student to obtain a B.A. or B.S. degree in three years, saving approximately 25 per cent on the cost of a four-year degree in the process.

- Data on tenure throughout the state system schools will be collected by the board. Members will research the rationale and criteria for tenure.

The LAB will also research student unionization under a plan that would establish grievance procedures for students and enable them to contract with the university for services.

- The current philosophy of child care which places the non-voluntarily poor with the voluntarily poor (students) will be examined, the vice-president said. Garrett wants child care requirements for students softened so they may complete their education, and not require subsidized child care in the future.

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NAVEL

ORANGES

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Meat:

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HAMS

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U.S.D.A. Chuck

STEAKS

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Frozen Foods:

Flav-R-Pac Orange

JUICE

39^c

Produce:

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Nalley Mayonade Mayonnaise Type

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