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## For \$250,000

# Already-safe dorms get new sprinklers

By GARY LEY  
Of the Emerald

The University will have to spend \$250,000 over the next two years to install sprinkler systems in Carson Hall and University Inn in compliance with a new Eugene fire ordinance, says John Kahananui, University architect.

Fire Chief Wendell Wick informed the University of the new code stipulating that residential buildings of more than five stories must have special safety features for fire. The deadline for compliance is June 23, 1980.

Both Kahananui and Wick agree, however, that University dormitories are presently in good condition with regard to fire safety.

"Overall, we feel the dorms are in pretty good shape," Kahananui says. He explains that all six campus housing complexes are built of incombustible materials. Each hall has fire hoses and an alarm with a direct line to the Eugene Fire Department.

"Our access and egress characteristics are also good," says Kahananui.

Wick says the dormitories meet all present aspects of the Eugene fire code. Each dorm room is inspected by a fire department officer once a year. Rooms found to have some violation of the code are re-inspected later to check for compliance.

Fraternities and sororities are inspected twice a year, according to Wick.

Apparently, few violations are found in the inspections. "The problem was much worse a few years ago," Wick says, "there is a 100 percent improvement today over, say, three or four years ago."

In the past, the worst time for fire problems is just after Christmas, he says, explaining that students bring back gifts — especially appliances — that pose potential fire hazards.

H. P. Barnhart of the University Housing Office says dormitory residents are cooperative in abiding by the fire regulations set up for the campus residences.

"When they move in, students are given a list of fire do's and don'ts," Barnhart says. Extension cords, for example are not allowed.

Fire drills are held in each hall soon after the start of the term, often at 3 or 4 a.m., to the chagrin of the residents.

In addition, Resident Assistants are required to take a course in fire-safety by Eugene Fire Department during fall orientation. Barnhart says usually 200 or 300 other students attend the session.

But Kahananui, Wick and Barnhart echo the belief that the most important aspect of fire safety is the personal obligations of the resident.

As Kahananui says, "While the room may be incombustible, the things inside may burn. Paper burns, personal effects burn and people burn."

Two years ago, a room in University Inn was destroyed by fire. Damage to the building was estimated to be \$6,000, while the students lost \$4,000 worth of personal property. Fortunately, there were no injuries.

The cause of the fire was found to have been a candle left burning on a table.

Shortly before Christmas, seven students at Rhode Island's Providence College were killed when fire raced through their dormitory. The building met all city fire regulations and the cause of the fire was determined to be the ignition of a Christmas decoration by a lamp.

# OSL decreases request by 25 cents a student

By CAROLYN BEAVER  
Of the Emerald

The Oregon Student Lobby (OSL) announced Saturday it will decrease its funding request from \$1 per full-time student to 75 cents.

In a board meeting held in Corvallis, OSL decided their supporting schools would be better able to afford the amount of money asked for next year. The OSL budget was left open for more discussion, but was expected to be passed at the next meeting.

The OSL met to discuss varied concerns including tax credits for tuition, child care and housing discrimination against students.

OSL Board of Directors reaffirmed their decision not to support the tax credit bills presently in Congress because of their "regressive nature."

Keli Osborn, ASUO vice-president attending the meeting, said the regressive tax bills "set out a flat dollar amount without regard to family or individual needs."

The OSL advocates a progressive tax credit bill "based on adjusted, not gross income." It would take into consideration things such as how many kids, assets and debts, a person or family has, Osborn said.

"Robert Liberty (OSL member) and we at ASUO, will start some research in this area soon

and contact legislator's offices, possibly Jim Weaver's office," she said.

Last year the OSL supported an unsuccessful child care bill. Liberty said he would be on campus Jan. 24 to discuss alternatives for next year's legislation. Interested persons should call Osborn at 686-3724.

Osborn mentioned that a large sum of federal funds had been allocated to the state Children's Services Division (CSD) which could help University students. However, CSD is operating with a deficit this year and is only financing two-year colleges. Osborn said she hoped CSD would be better financed next year to include four-year and graduate students.

A community college organization has been working with the OSL and the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group (OSPIRG) on a housing discrimination bill for next year's Legislature.

Last year a similar bill was dropped because of lack of evidence collected. The three groups are looking "for a good technique for ferreting out information," to assure passage next year.

Karen Adyth, ASUO administrative aide, gave the OSL two bills to consider that she had drafted last year. One bill requires a mandatory inventory between landlord and tenant of the apartment or house's condition at rental. The other assures tenants the interest on their rental deposits.

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Photo by F.H.A.T. Axmacher

India Night at the EMU Saturday was highlighted by the performance of Indian classical dancer Radhika Lalchandani. Lalchandani is a devotee of the Bhaarta Natyam ancient style of dance. The dance projects images of devadasis (temple dancers) dancing in divine prayer to Lords Vishnu and Shriiva in the temples of South India.