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University axes UYA program for volunteers

By MARY FORAN
Of the Emerald

This week the University denied a request for matching funds to continue the University Year for ACTION (UYA) student volunteer program, according to Anita Runyan, director for the federal grant program currently administered from the developmental studies department in the College of Education.

The request was for \$25,000 in University funds to receive \$140,000 in federal grant money for a program which Runyan says, "serves a lot of students, agencies and clients in the community."

The denial of funding "seems incongruous" to Runyan who says \$25,000 doesn't seem that large an amount in comparison to the more than \$37,000 in matching funds contributed by the various agencies served by UYA volunteers.

Runyan says the UYA program has been a "big contribution on the part of the University to social services in the community" and is an excellent educational experience for students by combining theory with practice. The program is administered by the federal ACTION agency along with VISTA, the Peace Corps and other programs, and is designed "to alleviate poverty through the application of a university's resources to the problems of poor people and to assist universities in experience-based learning."

"No one's making a negative comment on the program," says Robert Albrecht, vice provost of academic affairs, who officially informed Runyan of the decision Tuesday. "It's simply a matter of finding the money."

Albrecht says the program was not included in the budget which was sent in several months ago, and there is very little money to spend on match-money programs

due to budget problems caused by the lack of state funding. "At this time we don't have it in view," says Albrecht, adding that it would have to be found in the University's already tight budget.

The UYA program is in its third year of funding and will terminate March 31, 1979 without University matching funds, even though the federal grant agency is willing to fund the program until 1980, according to Runyan.

"I feel very disappointed that the University is not putting a priority on a program that serves the community," Runyan says. "Particularly at this time it's important that the University reach out to the community, and UYA provided a vehicle for that."

Albrecht says that the question of priorities is a "red herring." "It's not that simple," he adds. "It's difficult to fund all the things we'd like to cover."

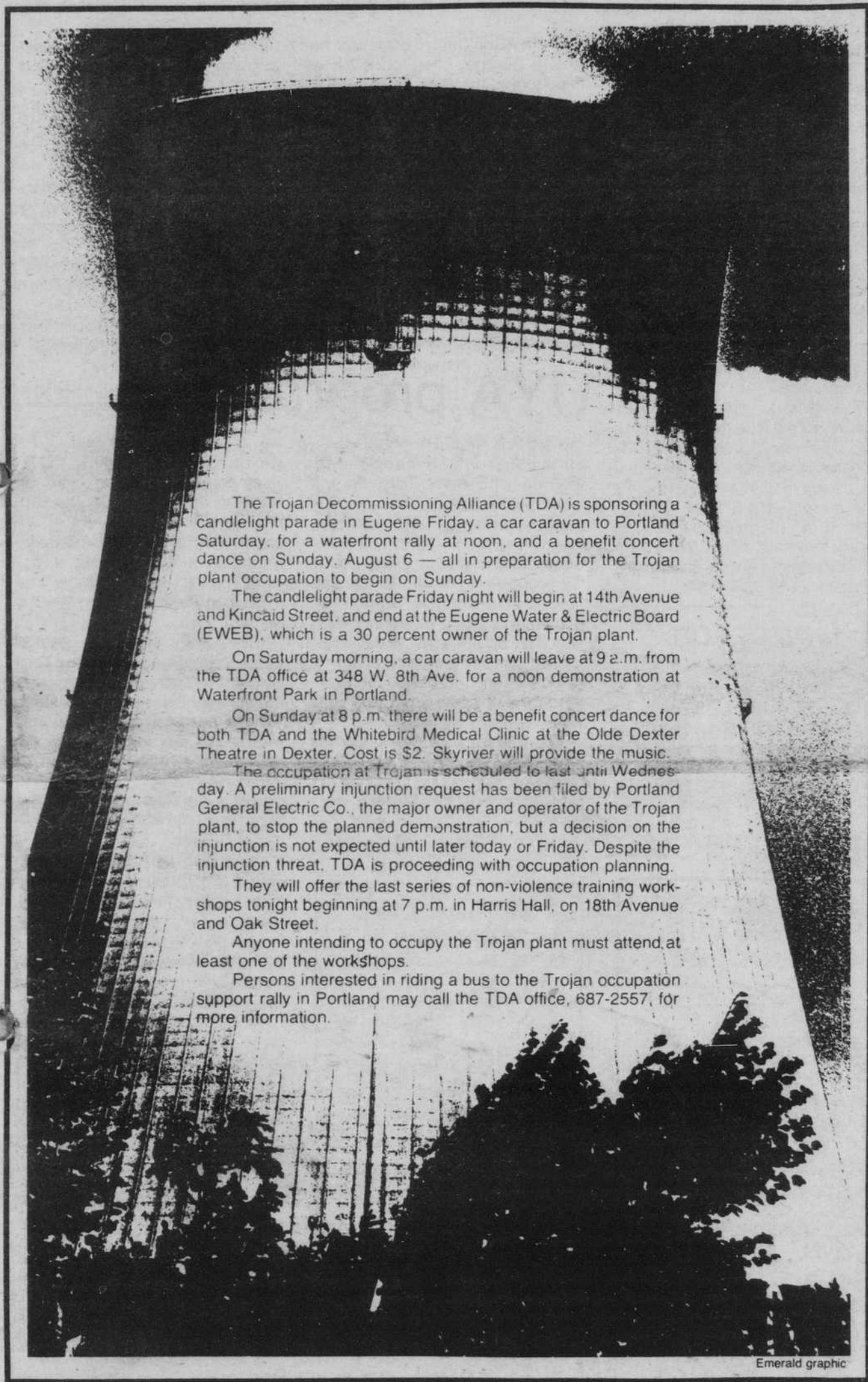
According to Runyan the decision "wasn't totally unexpected." During funding negotiations last year, the administration indicated that UYA would have to renegotiate their request for match money.

The UYA advisory council was upset about the decision according to Runyan. The council consists of supervisors in agencies with UYA placements, community representatives, students and University professors.

John Loughary, associate dean of developmental studies which administers UYA this year, says that the program has many favorable aspects as well as the limitations of most government programs, such as the policy that students have to be involved for 12 months rather than the 9 month academic year.

The program is helpful for people in mid-career who are coming back to the University and want on

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Emerald graphic

The Trojan Decommissioning Alliance (TDA) is sponsoring a candlelight parade in Eugene Friday, a car caravan to Portland Saturday, for a waterfront rally at noon, and a benefit concert dance on Sunday, August 6 — all in preparation for the Trojan plant occupation to begin on Sunday.

The candlelight parade Friday night will begin at 14th Avenue and Kincaid Street, and end at the Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB), which is a 30 percent owner of the Trojan plant.

On Saturday morning, a car caravan will leave at 9 a.m. from the TDA office at 348 W. 8th Ave. for a noon demonstration at Waterfront Park in Portland.

On Sunday at 8 p.m. there will be a benefit concert dance for both TDA and the Whitebird Medical Clinic at the Olde Dexter Theatre in Dexter. Cost is \$2. Skyriver will provide the music.

The occupation at Trojan is scheduled to last until Wednesday. A preliminary injunction request has been filed by Portland General Electric Co., the major owner and operator of the Trojan plant, to stop the planned demonstration, but a decision on the injunction is not expected until later today or Friday. Despite the injunction threat, TDA is proceeding with occupation planning.

They will offer the last series of non-violence training workshops tonight beginning at 7 p.m. in Harris Hall, on 18th Avenue and Oak Street.

Anyone intending to occupy the Trojan plant must attend, at least one of the workshops.

Persons interested in riding a bus to the Trojan occupation support rally in Portland may call the TDA office, 687-2557, for more information.

Amazon board hears budgeting testimony

By JAS SAUND
Of the Emerald

The Amazon Appeals Board members indicated Tuesday that their long-awaited decision on debt-sharing between Amazon and Westmoreland may be forthcoming by the end of this month.

According to Jon Jacobson, University Pres. William Boyd's nominee on the three-member board, the Amazon board has collected just about all the information it needs and will now move on to the next stage of decision making.

At Tuesday's hearing the board heard arguments from the Hous-

ing Office as well as the Amazon tenants. Nobody from Westmoreland housing project attended and their absence was regretted by the board members.

John Ralston of the Amazon Community Tenants (ACT) maintained that Amazon tenants should not be forced to pay nearly \$12,000 for Westmoreland's debt.

"It is like taking money from the poor and giving it to the lazies, we need this money to improve our own surroundings," he said. His remark brought some chuckles and a bit of laughter from the audience of about 20 people.

"Westmoreland has its own problems . . . like too much traffic, recurring thefts, lack of bus service and other transportation problems," he went on to say, "the Housing Office has not been very creative in solving these problems . . . If the Housing Office solves these problems then I doubt that there will be a vacancy problem in the future."

The problem of vacancy in Westmoreland was also discussed at the hearings by Donald Lee, associate director of housing.

"Though there is no problem of

vacancy at Westmoreland at present . . . that may not be true in the future . . . especially due to the fact that the enrollment in the graduate school is declining," he said.

As for now there is a long waiting list to rent married student housing according to Lee.

The Amazon Appeals Board has two members in addition to Jacobson — Keli Osborn, a journalism student, and Paul Goldman, a sociology professor.

In another related development the housing office claimed last week that the rents for married

student housing at the University rank among the 10 lowest in a survey conducted by Washington State University.

For one-bedroom units, the University's \$98 per month rent ranked sixth lowest in the survey. The Housing Office did not specify the criteria used. Some ACT members claim that in their view the survey was an "exercise in public relations."

Most of the Amazon tenants agreed that the rent at their dwellings is reasonable but they complained about the continued deterioration of the buildings.