

Center denies services to student-parent

By KATHY McMANUS
Of the Emerald

Emotionally charged statements filled a room at the University's Child Care and Development Center Wednesday evening before the center steering committee unanimously recommended student-parent Melanie Rapoport remain suspended from using the center's services.

Rapoport was told earlier she could not come back to the center after several staff members accused her of aggressive treatment of another parent's child and non-cooperation with center policy.

The meeting was set up for parents, teachers and staff members to discuss

the situation further and vote on the issue. Center Director Wanda Venturacci will make a final decision today.

Venturacci read several statements from staff members describing recent events in which Rapoport was accused of yelling loudly at children and pushing or inappropriately disciplining one child named Oyu.

Rapoport claimed she saw Oyu pushing several children, including her 20-month old daughter Emily, onto the ground. After shouting 'no' twice when Oyu, who is almost 2, began to push Emily, Rapoport took him inside and attempted to put him in a crib for a "time out," she said.

An alternative way to deal with the situation would have been to encourage Oyu to touch Emily gently and ask Emily to be assertive in opposing his aggression, the teachers said, adding that the boy's intent wasn't malicious.

"I think a child should be disciplined for behavior, not intent," Rapoport responded. She also charged center staff with giving Oyu, who is from Africa, preferential treatment by letting him push children without receiving punishment. "Maybe it's because this kid has black skin that he's being treated special," she said. "He's not a bad kid. I want to emphasize that I don't

blame Oyu."

Staff members immediately denied Rapoport's charge and added that each child is treated according to the development and needs of the child. "There's no racism over here," said Pam Birrell, an infant-toddler staff trainer who has been associated with the center for seven years.

Rapoport also claimed that center personnel failed to maintain the 1-to-4 teacher-child ratio required by state law and said her intervention in the matter occurred because no one else was watching the kids.

Birrell said that the ratio is maintained.

Senate keeps slogans, OKs some pot use

By DANA TIMS
Of the Emerald

SALEM — Some legislators get edgy when bills changing the elections process are introduced. It is, after all, the "only game" when it comes to attaining office.

The most innocuous part of that process may be the ballot slogan, a 10-12 word position statement that accompanies a candidate's name on the ballot. It's one last state-paid advertisement designed to grab an undecided voter's eye.

Wednesday, the Senate rejected by a 22-6 vote a bill that would eliminate ballot slogans. The proposal was part of the secretary of state's elections package.

Opponents of House Bill 2163, which passed the House Feb. 23, claimed it would prohibit free speech and deny a valuable source of information to "the one-third of the electorate who don't get

around to reading newspapers, watching television or listening to the radio."

"If everyone read the voter's pamphlet they'd have a pretty good idea of what's going on," said Sen. Vern Cook, D-Gresham. "But this isn't an ideal world."



People only see those 10-12 words."

Cook added that if slogans were absent, undecided voters would make their decisions along ethnic and religious lines. "It would be like people voting for Atiyeh because he sells good rugs."

Sen. Del Isham, D-Lincoln City, argued that "free speech isn't free. It costs." He said many candidates can't afford large outlays for publicity and campaign literature, noting, "here is one means of

communication free and available to all."

When Senate Pres. Jason Boe opened debate on HB 2163 he was flooded with requests to speak. Laughter broke out on the floor, "Senatense" for: "the bill has less than a solid chance of passage."

The proponents tried anyway.

"I can't believe the senators from Multnomah County are opposing a bill that will save them \$30,000 for each election," thundered Sen. Frank Roberts, D-Portland. "Here we get a message from the taxpayers to save the money and all you want to do is spend it."

He called claims that one-third of the electorate is politically ignorant "an insult to the voters."

Sen. Stephen Kafoury, D-Portland, closed by saying slogans "serve only the political ego. It is free speech for us, but not for the taxpayer."

After the lopsided vote, Sen. L.B. Day, R-Salem, gave notice of possible recon-

sideration.

"Marijuana is just like the moon, offered Sen. Frank Roberts, D-Portland. "They both have another side." That "other side," he said, is its medicinal value.

Roberts' comments came Wednesday as the Senate voted unanimously to allow patients suffering from cancer or glaucoma to receive small amounts of marijuana.

"When you think of marijuana, you conjure up visions of 'the evil weed,'" Roberts suggested during discussion on House Bill 2267. "But its value is unmatched in its ability to relieve the pain resulting from chemotherapy treatments for cancer and eye pressure from glaucoma."

Roberts said many cancer victims actually die of starvation because pain restricts movement.

Currently, the federal Controlled Substances Act bans the medical use of marijuana.

Earlier this session, Roberts worked on a bill that sought to provide pot to cancer patients through a research program.

But because of the stringent "protocol" involved with research grants, the idea was dropped in favor of a separate bill.

HB 2267 passed the House March 28 by a 51-7 vote. It requires the state Health Division to test marijuana confiscated by state police and to allocate uncontaminated amounts to physicians.

A patient could then receive less than an ounce of state-approved marijuana.

Roberts was the only senator who spoke on the bill, which passed 27-0.

"Next session can we expect a study on all the new cases of glaucoma?" asked Sen. Jack Ripper, D-North Bend, after the vote.

Later in the day, a rumor ran through the Capitol that a dozen senators already had rushed to the nurse's office and reported minor cases.

Berdahl supports math requirement

By NANCYANN LOFGREN
Of the Emerald

Robert Berdahl, College of Arts and Sciences assistant dean, told the Student University Affairs Board Wednesday that a proposed curriculum change would end the "smorgasbord" created by current group requirements.

Berdahl outlined a proposal from the Arts and Science Curriculum Review Committee that would require students working toward a bachelors of sciences degree either to complete one year of college math or to pass a waiver exam.

The proposal would broaden the present three study groups — Arts and Letters, Social Sciences, and Sciences — to six areas. The new groups would be Literary and Artistic Studies, Expressive and Communicative Studies, Historical

Studies, Social Sciences, Mathematics and Symbolic Sciences, and Natural Sciences.

Berdahl hopes University departments "will be inventive" in providing courses to fulfill the new group requirement areas.

Beginning in 1981, first-year entering students would be required to take a series of related classes from each of the six areas, along with their elective courses. The requirement of 186 hours would remain unchanged.

The curriculum change proposal, which took more than two years to complete, will be voted on next Wednesday in the University Senate, where Berdahl said he expects a struggle in gaining approval.

"There's nothing stronger than

departmental self-interest," Berdahl said.

The proposal met with mixed reaction from SUAB members, who expressed concern over transfer students and the chance of creating too much structure.

In other business, ASUO Pres.-elect Scott Bassett brainstormed with board members to set work priorities for the coming school year. Board members will vote on six areas of concern next week.

Included among possible priorities were re-establishing computed grade-point averages, opening faculty evaluations to students, establishing student unions within each department, placing students on faculty tenure-promotion committees and working for greater control in the University Housing Office's decision-making.

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THURSDAY MAY 24

5:30 FORUM

ADMISSION IS FREE

