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Accountants review Hult Center

By Michele Matassa

This week, the spotlight at the Hult Center for the Performing Arts is not directed onstage. Instead, all attention is turned toward management and budget operations.

Last week, the city of Eugene hired the San Francisco public accounting firm of Alexander Grant and Company to review the Hult Center's administrative and operating polcies and procedures and make recommendations to improve the efficiency and quality of operations.

The firm, which will complete its study by Jan. 31, 1984, will receive a maximum fee of \$33,800. Alexander Grant was not the lowest bidder when five firms submitted proposals in August but is most qualified, says Barb Bellamy, public information director for the

The Eugene City Council "toss-

ed around" the idea of a management study last May, while discussing the center's operating deficit and the city's 1984-85 budget, Bellamy says.

The Hult Center has borrowed \$548,000 from the city's federal revenue-sharing fund, she says. Dick Reynolds, executive director of the center, has projected annual deficits of about \$360,000 for the next two years, she says.

As part of the study, the accounting firm will compare the Hult Center's budget, staffing and policies and procedures with at least five comparable performing arts centers, including at least two new facilities, Bellamy says.

The firm also will look at revenue sources for the center and recommend additional or alternative funding means, she

The center's "mission statement" - its statement of goals will be evaluated, Bellamy says.

The center currently aims for a "broad selection" of entertainment by local, national and international artists, according to the statement. It also stresses "aggressive marketing and promotion" for a regional, national and international image.

If the firm decides to modify that mission statement, the center's budget for fiscal year 1985-86 could be affected, Bellamy

The firm's January deadline will enable the city to incorporate findings into its budget process, and the City Council could choose from a number of options in solving the center's deficit and loan, she says.

"The plan at the time is that the Hult Center will repay that (loan). An option exists that they could decide to subsidize the Hult Center out of the general fund, a little bit each year," Bellamy says.

City council to vote on parking permits

The Eugene City Council today will either accept or deny an appeal of the city's West University Neighborhood parking plan, which has stirred considerable controversy since mid-October.

On Oct. 10, the council held a public hearing on the proposal after employees of Sacred Heart Hospital appealed the plan, challenging its boundaries and price.

At that hearing, the council delayed its decision on the appeal until the city's parking staff could gather more opinions on the proposal.

The plan, if implemented, will limit parking in the area west of the University to two hours for those without special permits. Permits will be free for residents of the area but will cost \$17.50 per month for non-residents.

ASUO to cater cheese giveaway

Butter and cheese will be given away today between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. in front of Suite 4, EMU. The giveaway is the first of a once-a-month government program sponsored by the ASUO.

Five pounds of cheese and one pound of butter will be given to each eligible student. Students who receive financial aid, food stamps, aid for families of dependent children and whose income falls below the poverty level, which is \$6,000 for a single person,

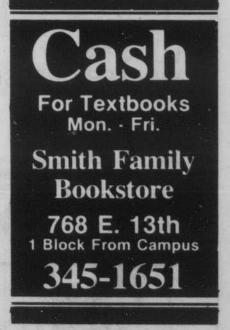
The program is part of the nationwide government giveaway.

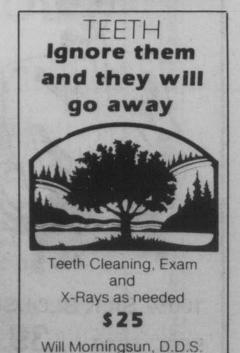
Eligible students should present their student ID card, food stamp card, or welfare card to receive the dairy products.

For more information, contact Bill Snyder at the ASUO, 686-3724.









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Thomas R. Huhn, D.D.S. call for appointment