



Competing
for laughs
See Page 4

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Senate committee OK's science building money

By Kirsten Bolin
Of the Emerald

Two proposed federally funded science buildings moved one step closer to reality last week when the Senate Appropriations Committee allocated \$8.5 million to cover initial construction costs of the structures.

The \$8.5 million is the first increment of what will be a total \$32-million federal appropriation to the University.

Actually getting the remaining \$24 million is dependent upon Sen. Mark Hatfield's success in maintaining the support of Congress for the project through 1990, said a Hatfield spokesman. Hatfield chairs the appropriations committee.

Congress will vote on the remaining installments each year.

University officials are hoping these new facilities, along with two other proposed science buildings financed by \$12 million in state money, will enable the University's science department to become one of the country's top academic institutions for science research.

The federally financed buildings will house the Institute of Theoretical Science, the Chemical Physics Institute, the Material Science Institute and the

physics department.

Additional space is reserved for the geology department, an expanded science library, classroom teaching facilities and teaching labs for physics and computer science.

The state money will fund a biotechnology center and a computer science center.

The new space will allow room for 14 new faculty members, said John Moseley, vice president for research, during an interview last month. The new faculty positions will be funded by the Centers of Excellence program recently approved by the state Legislature.

The space currently available to the sciences is not suitable for the quality of faculty, Moseley said.

The four new buildings will add 120,000-140,000 square feet of usable space to existing science facilities.

The \$8.5 million will help renovate several existing structures as well as pay for site construction preparation and initial construction work.

The committee-approved sum is included in the 1986 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, which is part of the national budget pending final approval by President Reagan and Congress.



Singin' in the rain

Frank Stahl, a University molecular biology professor, and his wife Mary, a research assistant in the department, share an umbrella during one of the recent summer downpours.

Although August showers probably won't bring September flowers, they have brought an end to the third-longest dry spell in Eugene's history. Tuesday's showers marked the first rain fall in 52 days.

Photo by
Karen Stallwood

Ex-fullback aids arrest

By Kim Kaady
Of the Emerald

Quick thinking by a former University football player helped Eugene Police apprehend an assault suspect Tuesday night near South Eugene High School.

Ladaria Johnson, an ex-fullback for the Ducks, was walking down 19th Avenue about 10:30 p.m. when he heard screams near the 7-Eleven store on Hilyard Street. Johnson saw two girls, one of whom he described as hysterical, and asked if they needed help. One of the girls said a man had just tried to rape her. That was when



Ladaria Johnson

Johnson took action.

He jumped into a car belonging to a man who also had heard the screams and stopped to help, and the two set off to look for a suspect, Johnson said. They spotted a man a few blocks away, and Johnson approached him in a casual manner.

"I just started talking to him," Johnson said. "I wanted to put him at ease. Besides, I couldn't actually accuse him of anything."

Johnson said he noticed scratches on the man's arm and asked where he had been earlier that night. The man told

Johnson he had been at the Eugene Emerald's game and scratched his arm climbing a fence after the game. He did not know the score of the game, however.

"That's when I began to get suspicious," Johnson said. "I told the man in the car to go get the girl. Then the guy started to get a little restless, so I grabbed his arm. He pulled away, so I put him in a bear hug to calm him down."

When the motorist returned with the victim, she identified the man as the alleged attacker. Johnson left the suspect with the motorist and went to his old apartment complex to call the police.

Soon after, patrolmen arrived and began to question the alleged attacker, he broke away from three officers and attempted to escape, Johnson said.

A chase ensued, and Johnson said an unidentified man, who was in the vicinity of 16th Avenue and Ferry Street, overcame the suspect and knocked him to the ground. Johnson arrived in time to help pin the man down. Lt. Eric Mellgren, of the Eugene Police Department, was at the scene and said he was impressed with the efforts of Johnson and several others who kept the man from escaping.

Officers arrested Billy Darryl Deatherage, 27, and charged him with second-degree sexual abuse. After a follow-up investigation, the charge was reduced to harassment. Deatherage is also being held on a violation of release charge.

Johnson said he was glad he had the opportunity to help.

"People get so set in their ways and don't want to get involved," he said. "If they did, maybe some people wouldn't get away with things they shouldn't."

People meet councilors

By Scott McPetridge
Of the Emerald

About 150 Eugene citizens let two City Council members know what they thought of their city and the people who are governing it Tuesday evening at the fourth of 14 scheduled town hall meetings.

The meetings are designed to allow City Council members gauge public support for Mayor Brian Obie's eight-part Eugene Agenda, but Tuesday's meeting at Sheldon High School often became more of a freewheeling discussion of what is wrong with the city. Citizens attending the meeting often became irate, and council members Dick Hansen and Freeman Holmer sometimes appeared ready to lose their patience, but most people seemed to leave the meeting with the satisfaction that their complaints had been listened to.

"We don't have all of the answers, that's why we're here," Hansen said, after showing a 15-minute slide show detailing the different projects that make up the Eugene Agenda.

The predominately older crowd voiced opinions on all eight segments of the agenda but was especially concerned with the proposed airport terminal expansion and plans for downtown development.

Sioux Falls, S.D., has 10,000 less people than Eugene, but is served by seven airlines and has an airport that puts Mahlon Sweet Airport to shame, said one man. It is embarrassing to meet business associates and friends at such an outdated facility, he said.

Others in the crowd agreed that expansion is necessary, but many said Eugene should not be entirely responsible for funding the project. About

\$2.6 million in federal funds will be used for the expansion, but the remaining \$14.4 million probably will come from some kind of a city tax and a revenue bond that will later be repaid from airport funds.

The councilors agreed with the group that all areas of Lane and Benton counties would benefit from the expansion project and said they would look into ways the project could be partially funded by those living outside of Eugene.

The citizens and the councilors also agreed that one of the city's worst problems is the deserted downtown core. One man stated that attempts to restore downtown were futile unless transients and young hoodlums who loiter around the area are somehow eradicated.

Another man said the City Council was trying to fool citizens into spending money on downtown, as he said they had done when they convinced voters to support construction of the Hult Center for the Performing Arts.

"I don't believe we could expect the people to vote for anything unless there is an airtight situation and people feel they won't be hoodwinked," Hansen responded.

Holmer said after the meeting that he is pleased with the amount of support for the town hall discussions. The meetings are serving their purpose of informing both the citizens of Eugene and the City Council, he said.

"We're listening," Holmer said. "This is an agenda we're perfectly open to change."

The town hall meetings will continue through Aug. 13th at sites throughout Eugene.