

Campus-area housing limited

Enrollment increase appears to be cause

By Scott McFetridge
Of the Emerald

An estimated enrollment increase of nearly 500 students appears to be the blame for a shortage of University-area houses and apartments this fall, which is causing many students to find housing farther off-campus than they had planned.

"A lot of people haven't been able to get anything," said Yolanda Hagues, a Bennett Management employee.

Hagues said Bennett Management has vacancies in only one complex, which should be full soon. The demand for housing has increased dramatically near campus, and many students are settling for rentals in other areas of the city, she said.

ment count will not be available for about two weeks.

"People come in and say, 'What have you got?'" said Joy Poust, an associate with Lamson Associates, a rental agency with several campus properties. "They are willing to take whatever we have."

People began searching for housing earlier than usual this year, and fewer students moved out of their rentals in the summer, Poust said. Many students began inquiring about housing as early as July, she said.

University residence halls also were filled quickly this fall, with all dormitories full by Aug. 1, said Marjory Ramey, director of University Housing. The University Inn was at



Graphic by Ken Parrott

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"Students say, 'I guess I'm not going to get what I want, so I'll have to settle for the second best,'" Hagues said.

The latest University enrollment projections call for an increase of 460 students this fall, bringing total enrollment to 16,300. Admissions Director Jim Buch said. The final enroll-

capacity by June, she said.

As of Friday, 2,958 students were living in the residence halls, Ramey said. That is about 150 more occupants than is considered ideal by the housing department, she said.

The packed dormitories are in sharp contrast to the fall of 1981

when two residence halls were closed because of a lack of demand, Ramey said.

Ramey credits the increased University enrollment as the reason for the high demand, and the fact that living in the dormitories is fairly inexpensive. Students living in a

double-occupancy room must pay \$253 a month, she said.

"It's a darn good deal economically," Ramey said.

Boyd Schorzman, a resident at the Parr Tower student cooperative, said his co-op also filled a little earlier than usual this fall.

"It's clear there were few alternatives that were better than us," Schorzman said.

Schorzman said he has spoken with past Parr Tower residents who told him the increased demand for space at the co-op is "kind of rare, but not exceptional."

OSPIRG joins national drive against hunger

By Robert Oakes
Of the Emerald

With a verse from the hit song that raised money and international concern for famine victims in Africa, the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group is joining a campaign to enroll University students in the fight against hunger.

"So Let's Start Giving: The National Student Campaign Against Hunger," is a nationwide fund-raising drive designed to educate and spur student action, said Kathy Duvall, OSPIRG campus coordinator.

"We're trying to raise money to give to USA For Africa that will go to developing Third World countries in desperate need now," said Carol Benedick, OSPIRG volunteer and former state board chair.

Money also will go to hunger programs such as soup kitchens in the United States as part of phase one in OSPIRG's fund-raising campaign. The plans also include phone pledge campaigns and possible fund-raising competition between University and Oregon State fraternities and sororities.

Spreading information about hunger is the second part of OSPIRG's plans for the year.

"What we found through our research is that poor people don't need our charity," Benedick said. "They need our understanding."

Educating people about the causes, scope and results of hunger in America and abroad is crucial, she said.

The effects of foreign debt on Third World countries is something students should learn about, Benedick said. Na-

tions in debt to the United States often grow cash crops to pay off loans instead of subsistence crops to feed their citizens.

"They're starving, they're in debt," Benedick said. "We (the United States) are on sort of an evil side of the fence and if we educated ourselves we could help the Third World countries get out of their situation."

Student organization and action that began with a national meeting last May is the third part of the campaign.

"We're creating a lasting infrastructure," Duvall said.

Benedick attended the meeting of college and university public interest research groups in Boston in May, as the representative for Oregon. Projects to enroll students against domestic hunger problems were a big part of the direct-action plan.

OSPIRG wants student volunteers now and plans to send those interested into soup kitchens to directly help the poor.

"OSPIRG gives you a chance to get real-life experience," Duvall said. "It gives students the feeling of really being able to have an impact."

"We hope to create a permanent organization where students can come and find out what they can do about hunger," Benedick said.

OSPIRG will join in sponsoring an information fair and a question and answer session with Oregon politicians Oct. 16 at "World Food Day" in the Central Presbyterian Church, 1475 Ferry St. in Eugene. An African dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. and at 7 p.m. Peter DeFazio, Lane County Commissioner; Mary Burrows, Oregon House of Representatives; and Jim Weaver, U.S. House of Representatives will speak and answer questions.

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