

Lenny's supporters protest Sacred Heart lease refusal

About 30 people shouting slogans and wielding banners marched from the popular campus restaurant Lenny's Nosh Bar to Sacred Heart General Hospital on Saturday afternoon to protest the hospital's refusal to extend leases to any businesses in The Courtyard past March 31, 1986.

After parading around the neighborhood surrounding the hospital while shouting "Make lox, not lots" and "Doctors should ride the bus," the demonstrators presented a petition signed by 518 people to Isabelle Weiberg, the hospital's administrative supervisor.

The petition was begun earlier this month by a group of Lenny's regular patrons who believe the possible destruction of the restaurant needs to be brought to the community's attention.

When told on Friday of the upcoming protest, hospital spokesman Alan Yordy smiled and said, "That's what makes America," but he emphasized that The Courtyard's leases will not be extended.

Poppi's, a Greek restaurant, remains the only business with a lease extending past March 1986. Its lease expires March 1987 and hospital officials are currently negotiating with the restaurant's owners to end the lease early.

Protesters fear Sacred Heart will destroy The Courtyard, located on 13th Avenue between Hilyard and Patterson streets, and replace it with a



Photo by Kamila Al-Najjar

About 30 supporters of Lenny's Nosh Bar marched to Sacred Heart General Hospital on Saturday to protest the possible demolition of the restaurant.

parking lot, as was done with Sahalie Natural Foods in the summer of 1984. Sacred Heart officials have said the hospital needs at least an additional 400 parking spaces.

"We don't want to see this place replaced by a parking lot," said Scott Taylor, one of the protest's organizers. "I would like to get a couple thousand signatures (on the petition). The main thing is to get the word out."

But Yordy said nothing is final yet. The hospital has been working with planners since last spring to study its parking needs and will need another three to six months before

presenting its plan to the public, he said.

"The neighborhood will undergo change in the future, and we need to plan this out carefully," Yordy said.

Sacred Heart also purchased Peking Mandarin Restaurant, located just east of The Courtyard, on Aug. 30 for \$245,000.

The protesters plan to send copies of the petition to Rep. Jim Weaver and to the Eugene City Council. As more signatures are collected, additional marches to the hospital will be organized, said Dan Schmid, one of the protest's organizers.

Expansion of Williams Bakery may block part of Moss Street

Those attempting to drive on Moss Street between 16th and 13th avenues may find the traveling difficult soon if Williams Bakery goes ahead with its plan to block off a 400-foot stretch of the street.

The plan to block the street, which runs between the Williams' main plant and its thrift shop, already has gained

approval by the Campus Planning Committee. University Planner David Rowe said the bakery promised to provide pedestrian and bicycle access through the closed section of the street.

Although the University land does not border Moss Street near the proposed closing, it must approve of the project

because of city regulations requiring landowners within 400 feet of such a project to give their consent.

Jerry Boness, Williams controller, said the bakery surveyed a majority of the other nearby property owners and found that they also approved of the project.

"We need this because of expansion," Boness said. "We're running out of room to park our trucks."

Although Boness expects the city to approve the street closure, he said it may be some time before the bakery proceeds with the project. The local economy must remain fairly stable for construction to begin soon, he said.

"We are very anxious to at least use it (Moss Street) to park our excess trucks," Boness said.

When the street is blocked off, a turnaround also will be constructed, Boness said.

A public hearing before the Eugene City Council will be held on the matter within the next two weeks.



Photo by Ross Martin

Williams Bakery plans to close off a section of Moss Street while it expands its operation near campus.

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