

# University's child care program lacking, critics say

By Sarah Kitchen  
Of the Emerald

About 30 people attended a forum on the University's child care program Thursday and listened to discussion about the need for University funding for child care and other issues.

The testimony given during the meeting will be incorporated into the report the ASUO Child Care Task Force must present to the Incidental Fee Committee by the end of the month.

Among the issues raised were the need for solutions to the scheduling problem faced by parents with children in child care and the need for an increase in the amount subsidized by the IFC for student-parents

whose children are enrolled in child care.

The University's administration does not give enough, if any, attention to the need for child care, said John Booth, a representative from the Westmoreland tenant's council.

The average age of the students at the University is 27, but the administration is not responsive to the needs of older students, Booth said.

James Munyer, Westmoreland tenants council's committee chairman for day care, said student-parents do not have the time to adequately represent themselves, especially those with a full-time schedule who are working and raising their children.

Munyer suggests that the ASUO establish a permanent advocacy group for parents as a possible solution.

One problem often encountered is when children have the day off school and their parents do not, Munyer added.

The current subsidy paid to eligible parents by the IFC is minimum, and often not enough, said Mike Weaver, an undergraduate student at the University who has two children in child care.

Weaver is subsidized \$175 a month for his two children and

still has a child care bill of \$250 a month to pay.

Currently, the IFC has placed a note on the money subsidized to parents. The ASUO is to present its report by the end of the month, or the money will be frozen.

## Arts Continued from Page 1

Oregon ranks 53rd out of 56 states and territories in per capita spending for the arts by the state Legislature, said Leslie Alexander of the Oregon Arts Commission in Salem. That translates to about 18 cents per citizen in a year.

If Goldschmidt's proposal passes, Oregon will move up to about 22nd among the states, Alexander estimates. Spending would increase to about 70 cents per citizen in a year.

"There hasn't been any governor who's ever given this kind of commitment. It's a very strong statement, and money

speaks louder than words in this case," Alexander said.

Goldschmidt has argued that the arts are important in attracting new industries and businesses to Oregon.

Although McCormick is optimistic about the proposal's chances in the Legislature, he foresees some obstacles.

"Legislators are feeling a little antsy about whether there will be enough money to pay for all the things the governor has asked for," he said. Some legislators are concerned that Goldschmidt may have overestimated revenue in his budget.

## Bills Continued from Page 1

Rep. Bob Shprack, D-Beavercreek, called Atiyeh's veto "an act of vote-trading" in reference to his veto statement that if HB 2153 had passed, "I might well have signed them both."

"That impinges the reputation" of Atiyeh, Campbell said, and requested Shprack to clarify his remarks. To clear the air, House Speaker Vera Katz, D-Portland, asked members to "be a little bit more careful in wording."

"I don't want this kind of debate to occur," she said.

A House bill that would have guaranteed phone service to customers if their health was potentially endangered by a lack of service also failed by a vote of 28 in favor, 32 opposed.

Democrats were pleased that three other bills passed, they said. "I feel good that we put pressure to vote on the merits of the bill," Eachus said.

Bills passed in each chamber will go to the other chamber for a vote. Bills that successfully passed include:

•HB 2480 which would speed and simplify communications between employees and clients of the Adult and Family Services Division, 57-3;

•HB 2510 which would extend the statute of limitations for instigating action against manufacturers of intrauterine devices, 59-1;

•HB 2767 which would restrict insurance carriers from considering driving records for three prior years, 60-0;

•SB 769 which would allow the secretary of state to conduct performance audits, 30-0;

•SB 690 which would require signature gatherers for initiative petitions to signify if they are being paid, 30-0;

•SB 495 which would clarify the right of the physically and mentally handicapped to a jury trial, 24-6;

•SB 907 which would permit parole and probation officers to use unmarked cars, 27-3;

•SB 439 which would eliminate fact-finding as a means in settling in some labor-management disputes, 20-9.

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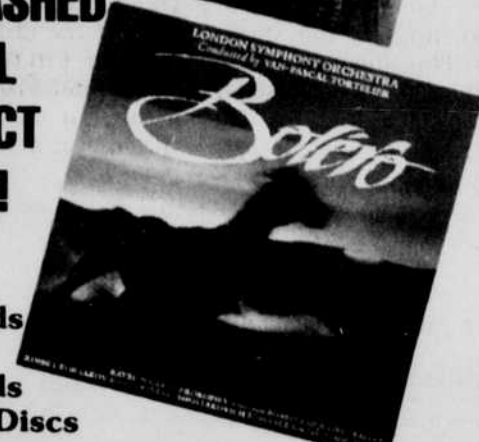
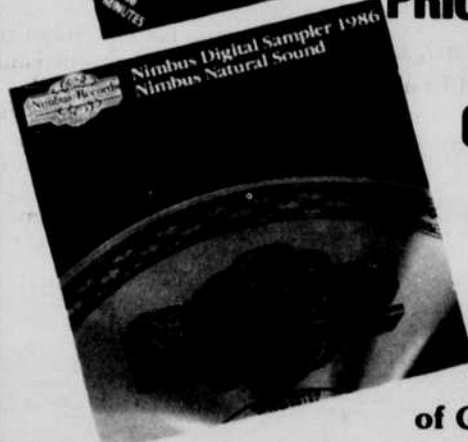
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