

Amazon family housing complexes.

The department does not receive tax money for its maintenance budget, Ramey said.

Also, the houses are inspected whenever necessary to make sure they are up to fire codes, she said.

Harold Babcock, director of the Physical Plant, agrees the buildings are ancient and said they are not better maintained because of a lack of funding.

But he said the buildings are adequately maintained for the amount of money available.

One problem is that the buildings were old to begin with, and should have been rebuilt before anyone entered them in the first place, Babcock said.

An ASUO Child Care Task Force survey last term found maintenance was a major weakness in the buildings.

The buildings should be consolidated and brought under one department, said ASUO Executive Coordinator Susan Sowards.

"It is the committee's belief that the housing department has been doing a better job with maintenance," she said.

Priorities are one reason child care does not receive University funding, Sowards said.

"I think child care is simply not an important issue to this institution, but the issue does need to be looked at," she said. "The priorities are going to new science buildings, riverfront research and domes for stadiums while children have to live in drafty buildings," she added.

However, Vice President for Administration Dan Williams said this statement is "a little unfair" because the areas are unrelated.

It is unclear if the University administration should fund child care, he said.

"Until the University administration does choose to analyze the situation and make a judgment, it is a bit premature to come to the judgment that we don't think child care is important," Williams said.

"We (the administration) have never had any maintenance requests from the people who are in the buildings," he said.

Sowards said the ASUO is trying to establish a child care

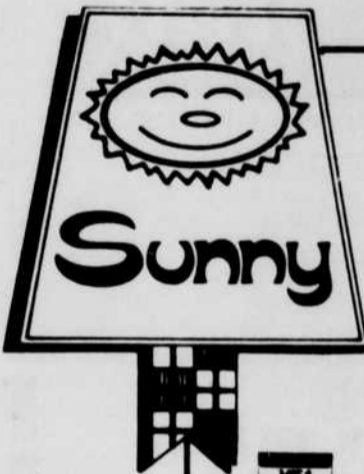
resource and referral office.

"I am appalled with the problem of child care in our society and there definitely needs to be a solution," said University President Paul Olum.

The University should do what it can to provide facilities for child care, he said, but added, "What we can do depends on the costs."

The University does not have enough money to do as many things as it would like, Olum said.

"The students' next move should be to call on Dan Williams and raise the question of needs, and what it is they want us to do and how much it will cost, and we'll see what can be done," Olum said.



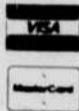
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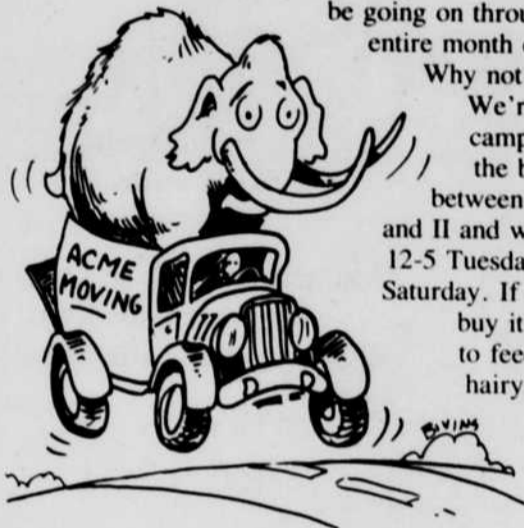


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