

# Oregon Daily Emerald

She celebrated Mother's Day  
by being arrested at protest  
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Photo by Derrel Hewitt

Teammates of Jesse Nash, who drowned in the Willamette River on Sunday, gather to remember him at a service Tuesday night.

## Friends mourn Jesse Nash at Mac Court memorial

By Dennis Fernandes

Of the Emerald

"There are two tasks for us human-types — the first is to learn how to say hello, the second is to learn how to say goodbye." Such were the sentiments of Tom Heger, of Campus Interfaith Ministry, in an emotional and touching memorial to Jesse Nash on Tuesday night at McArthur Court. Nash, a University basketball player and junior psychology major, drowned in the Willamette River near the Autzen Footbridge on Sunday.

"Remember the new student... during new student week who didn't know how to say hello. Remember parents unloading U-Hauls full of memories, not knowing how to say goodbye," Heger continued.

"Jesse Nash knew how to say hello, and he knew how to say goodbye."

"Tonight, we get to figure out how to say goodbye."

Nash, 21, will be buried in his hometown of Wilmington, Del. He is survived by his mother, Vernoise Nash.

At the same place where Nash took Oregon basketball fans to heart by successfully guarding players sometimes three or four inches taller at the small forward position; where Nash probably joked with teammates during shoot-arounds before practice; where Nash probably got his first taste of a rigorous Mac Court registration — he was mourned and

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## Commissions discuss plans to revamp Downtown Mall

By Will Holbert

Of the Emerald

The question of when to begin Eugene's downtown renewal dominated a joint meeting between the Eugene Planning Commission and the Eugene Downtown Commission on Tuesday night.

The two commissions met to decide what recommendations they should make to the Eugene City Council regarding renewal plans.

The renewal plan centers around increased access to the Downtown Mall by opening parts of it to traffic. The commissions have made tentative recommendations to reintroduce traffic to Willamette Street between Eighth and 10th avenues, and to Broadway between Oak and Willamette streets. The city hopes these changes and others will stimulate business development on the mall.

At Tuesday night's hearing, the commissioners debated over starting the design process now and planning for construction early next year, or waiting until next year, thereby allowing more time to work out details.

"I don't think this is the time politically or economically to move ahead very fast on this," said Julie Aspinwall-Lamberts, a member of the Eugene Downtown Commission. Aspinwall-Lamberts fears the community would react unfavorably if the city moved forward with plans now because the public hasn't had the time to examine the issue carefully.

"We're letting our desire to get on with it interfere with

clear thinking," said James Ellison, a member of the planning commission.

But other commission members argued against delay, claiming the current state of the mall is driving businesses and people away.

A random poll of 400 people in the Eugene area showed "a significant number" of people found the mall either inaccessible or scary, according to Elaine Stewart of the downtown commission.

Another member of the downtown commission who supports moving on with the proposed changes, Michael Schwartz, used the fountain in the center of the mall as an example of the mall's unattractiveness.

"Without the water, it's looking uglier and uglier... if that was the center of my downtown, I'd be embarrassed," Schwartz said. Some buildings in the mall have been vacant for three years, he said.

The plan calls for redeveloping the fountain plaza at Broadway and Willamette streets.

The commissioners also discussed two other aspects of the downtown renewal plan: maintaining a pedestrian orientation in the renewal area while reopening Broadway and Willamette streets to traffic.

In keeping with a list of goals listed in a memorandum concerned with the plan, "the pedestrian mall is to be considered as being more business-oriented than parklike." Thus, Willamette Street between

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## Users, critics comment on the ups and downs of 'Ecstasy'

By Scott Maben

Of the Emerald

It is not an aphrodisiac, a prevalent hallucinogenic, a potent stimulant, a fad or legal.

It is slightly costly, usually ingested orally and therapeutically as well as recreationally popular.

In research labs where doses are administered to rats for research purposes, it's referred to as "3, 4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine." Federal and civic drug-enforcement agencies call it MDMA, and on the streets it's known as "Ecstasy."

"It's definitely catching on. Everyone's doing it. It's not hard to get," said "Troy," a 22-year old University student who asked that his real name not be used.

Ecstasy's effect is "just as it's name connotes: total sensory high," he said.

"It gives you an intense feeling of well-being and confidence," according to Troy, who both uses and sells the drug.

But according to local law enforcement officials, Ecstasy, even if it is gaining in popularity, pales in comparison to the more serious problem of methamphetamine labs.

"We haven't run into it at all," Oregon State Police Detective Bill Gourly said. "It's not a significant enough problem to draw our attention to it."

Gourly, who works in drug enforcement, said busting meth labs takes up the majority of the Drug Enforcement Administration's time.

"There's so much speed around, we don't get to that stuff," Gourly said, adding if the meth labs weren't a problem, agency officials probably would concentrate first on cocaine use on campus.

Gourly said local police have made no arrests, nor have they discovered any labs relating to MDMA, but he suspects it does circulate in Eugene.

"It's around. You hear of it down around San Francisco and places like that, so you know it's around here," he said.

"Down in the Bay Area, and from the literature I've read about it, it's pretty much the yuppie type of drug. There's a short high to it, so people can take it over their lunch hour and go back to work, giving the appearance they're fairly functional," Gourly said.

One reason MDMA users may fit the upwardly mobile profile has been linked to its therapeutic advocacy among physicians and therapists.

Last November, the DEA officially placed MDMA on Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act after the drug had been temporarily on the schedule for more than a year. Of the five schedules under the act, Schedule I includes those drugs the DEA decides possess no recognized medical use and allegedly have a high potential for abuse.

Concealed production or sale of MDMA is punishable by up to 15 years in prison and a \$125,000 fine.

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Photo illustration by Maria Corvallis