

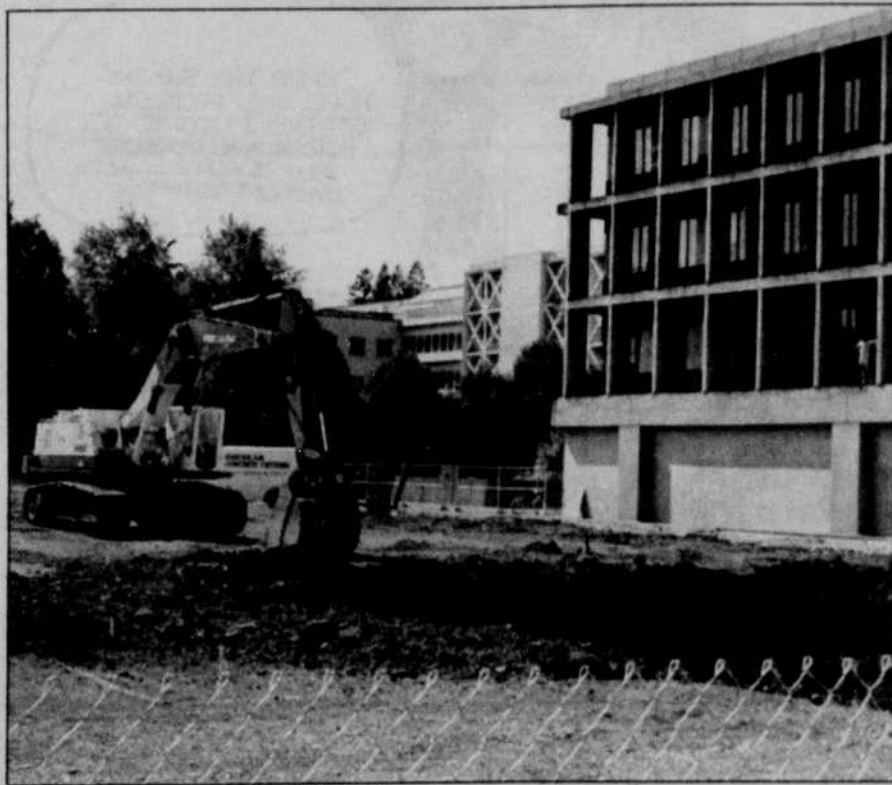
Oregon Daily Emerald

Bodybuilders flex
their muscles
See Page 5

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Digging a Hole

Work on the new science complex began this week with workers preparing for the laying of the foundation. The work has closed 13th Avenue to two-way traffic.

Photo by Diana Moy

Bill to ban classified research sent back to Senate committee

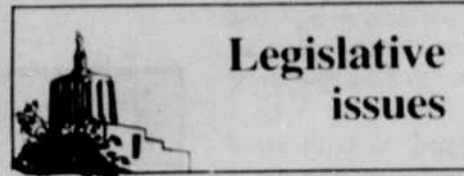
By B.J. Thomsen

Of the Emerald

A bill that would impose a formal ban on classified research at Oregon's public colleges and universities was sent back to the Senate Education Committee on Thursday after a motion to reconsider the bill.

The bill had been defeated Wednesday in the Senate 18-10.

Sen. Grattan Kerans, D-Eugene, saved the bill from being killed on the Senate floor when he made a motion to have the bill reconsidered.



Legislative issues

Kerans originally voted in favor of the bill but changed his vote to the prevailing side so he could make a motion to reconsider. According to legislative procedures, a legislator must vote on the majority side in order to move to reconsider a bill.

The bill, SB 3224, was sent back to the Senate Education Committee on a nearly unanimous vote, Kerans said.

The bill hit a snag Wednesday, according to Kerans, when groups of both liberal and conservative senators opposed the bill for different reasons.

The liberal group was concerned with the bill's broad language allowing certain research to be excluded from the public records law, Kerans said.

Conservative senators were concerned that sometime in the future the legislation would prevent universities from attracting classified government research programs, he said.

The bill was specifically designed to do just that, according to the main sponsor of the bill, Rep. Wayne Fawbush, D-Hood River.

Fawbush said the concern with the exclusion to the public records law came about because of a provision in the bill allowing proprietary research being conducted for private firms not subject to the state's public records law. He said that sometime in the future the findings would be made public, he said, specifically after a patent on fruits of corporate research had been obtained.

No "classified" research of any kind would be allowed, Fawbush said.

The bill is likely to be amended in the Senate Education Committee to narrow

Turn to Research, Page 4

Rasmussen to step down as ASUO Legal Services attorney

By Carolyn Lamberson

Of the Emerald

ASUO Legal Services attorney Karsten Rasmussen informed the ASUO Executive on Thursday that he would not reapply for his position when his contract expires this summer.

Rasmussen said he has been thinking about whether or not he would continue the job since the last Executive decided to make the legal services position full time earlier this spring. He currently is at half-time status and operates a private law office in downtown Eugene.

"The only thing was to do it full time with an assistant or partner, or just to get out of it altogether," he said. "I didn't want to do it full time."

Rasmussen said the job has been demanding, challenging and rewarding.

"It's been a good experience. I enjoy serving the student body," he said. "It's satisfying to be able to help those who otherwise couldn't afford a lawyer."

The legal services office has been the subject of some controversy this year. Rasmussen and then-ASUO President Steve Nelson were asked to resign in connection with the ASUO health insurance program in February. Later in March, the office was under fire from a third-year law student who charged the attorney was paid too much.

The student brought her case to the Incidental Fee Committee, but the committee voted in favor of the Executive-recommended contract price. The committee also approved the change from a half-time to a full-time post.

Rasmussen said he will be joining a law firm in town and will handle mainly personal injury and worker's compensation cases. These types of cases make up a majority of his private practice now and comprise the area he is most familiar with, he said.

The legal services office now handles cases ranging from name changes, mar-

riage dissolutions, and sexual harassment problems to landlord/tenant disputes, criminal advice, and wills.

Rasmussen has served as legal services attorney for three years and was originally hired by the ASUO administration of Julie Davis in 1984. He will continue as legal services attorney until July 31.

ASUO President Kasey Brooks said she hopes to have the new attorney hired as soon as possible.

Brooks already has begun the search for a new full-time legal services attorney. She is placing ads in both the Oregon and Lane County Bar Association newsletters, and newspapers throughout Oregon, she said.

She will be forming a search committee within the next two weeks to help in the hiring process and is currently in the process of putting together an application packet.



Karsten Rasmussen

New county ordinance makes discrimination a crime

By Janet Paulson

Of the Emerald

Leaders of Lane County's ethnic minority community are encouraged by the county's new anti-discrimination ordinance. The new law makes it a crime to bar entrance to public accommodations on the basis of race.

The Lane County Board of Commissioners voted Wednesday to add a new ordinance to the county code that will prohibit discrimination in public accommodations on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, physical handicap or marital status.

Commissioner Jerry Rust said the new ordinance was prompted by an incident earlier this year in which The Pub

tavern in Noti displayed three discriminatory signs, including a sign reading "No Niggers." The Pub tavern is currently under investigation by the Bureau of Labor and Industries for violation of the state's public accommodations laws.

"I never expected to see the Noti sign," Rust said. "I never expect to see another."

The county has not had such an ordinance on its books before, he said. A similar state law exists, but violation of the state law is a civil offense, not criminal.

Willie Polite of the Eugene chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People said he

believes the new ordinance will aid in curbing racial discrimination.

"People don't want to be pulled on the carpet. When someone has been discriminated against, they can file suit and face their accuser," he said.

The new law will take effect in 30 days. Violators of the law face up to 30 days in jail and a maximum fine of \$1,000.

Polite believes the possibility of a fine will help deter people from discriminating practices.

"You're hitting them where it hurts — hittin' in the pocketbook... You'll think twice if you have to give away \$500," he said.

Twila Souers, coordinator of the 4-J

School District's Indian Education Program, said the commissioner's endorsement of the law was a bold move. The new law does not just condemn discrimination, but makes it enforceable, she said.

"This is encouraging to the members of the ethnic minority community," she said.

Although the law is "largely symbolic," it is a law with teeth, Rust said. He said the ordinance sends a "very strong message" that Lane County considers racial discrimination a crime.

"Lane County is already a Nuclear-Free Zone," he said. "I'd like to see it be a 'Racial Harassment Free Zone,' as well."