

# Parking lot opens to relieve campus problem

By Carolyn Lamberson  
Of the Emerald

A newly completed parking lot north of campus opened for student, faculty and staff use on Monday.

The lot, located across Franklin Boulevard on Agate Street, has 150 spaces and was constructed to make up for spaces recently lost on campus.

Construction of the Museum of Natural History on the Bean Complex lot this spring eliminated some spaces and construction of the new science complex will eliminate more, said Harold Babcock, Physical Plant director.

The science complex construction will take away between 75 and 100 parking spaces in the lot by the Science III building, he said.

The lot, which was constructed in less than two months, is a gravel lot with a dust inhibitor, Babcock said. However, it is a temporary lot, he added. The city permit on the lot allows its use for the next three years, Babcock said.

Babcock said the only things removed or destroyed during construction were some wild

blackberry bushes.

"We kept the lot small enough to not damage anything usable," he said, and added the nearby Silva Orchards were unharmed.

Dick Tanner, Office of Public Safety associate director, said the University will reduce the parking permit fees for the lot in the fall to encourage people to use it.

For faculty and staff, the fee for a yearly parking permit will decrease from \$39 to \$21 dollars, Tanner said. At this time, Tanner did not know the decreased rate for students, he said.

While the lot is only temporary, the University is currently planning to build a permanent parking structure on campus, Babcock said.

The University is considering three sites, he said. The first is at the physical education area east of the covered tennis courts on 15th Avenue, Babcock said. The second option is to build a parking garage where the tennis courts on Alder street are now located and then replace the courts on top of the garage, he said.



Photo by Shu-Shing

University faculty, students and staff can now park at a gravel lot north of campus. The lot was built to make up for spaces recently lost to campus construction.

A third possible place for a permanent parking structure is at the lot across from PLC on Kincadee Street, Babcock added.

"The study should be out in less than 30 days," he said.

Students, faculty and staff interested in using the new lot can

reach it by crossing Franklin on Agate and then turning right just before the Coca-Cola bottling plant.

## State receives high education rank

By Sean Nelson  
Of the Emerald

A national survey of manufacturing climates ranks Oregon education systems as the second best in the nation.

Grant Thornton Co., a management consulting firm, ranked the 48 contiguous states on their ability to provide a productive work environment. Oregon ranked 38th overall, but its highest marks came in education.

"This (ranking) is further evidence of the nation's high regard for Oregon education," said State School Superintendent Verne Duncan.

The education category ranked states in terms of their expenditures for public and higher education, average teacher salaries, student-teacher ratios, high school graduation rates, and illiteracy rates.

Wyoming ranked first in education followed by Oregon, Montana, Delaware and Washington state.

"The average undergraduate student spends about \$1,500 a year on tuition and fees" at Oregon's colleges and Universities, said Jim Sellers, director of communications at the Oregon State System of Higher Education.

Oregon ranks 30th in per-student appropriations and 31st in appropriations per \$1,000 of personal student expenditures, Sellers said.

The average teacher's salary in the state, which includes salary and a 6 percent allowance for the public employee retirement system, is \$26,691 overall and \$27,452 for high school teachers, according to Walter Kocher of the Oregon Department of Education.

"High school teachers tend to get a little more (than elementary school teachers) because of more education and a longer number of years teaching," Kocher said.

The statewide ratio of teachers to students is one teacher for every 18.3 students, according to Kocher. This figure includes both elementary and secondary teachers.

About 75 percent of Oregon's secondary students graduate from high school, according to Larry Austin, information specialist at the Oregon Department of Education.

Some 24 percent of Oregon's adult population have no high school diploma, according to Donna Lane of Oregon's adult education department. Lane said this figure was from the last census in 1980.

"There are several thousand seniors who take GED exams and attend community college high school completion programs," Austin said.

The nation's illiteracy rate is 13 percent, according to a national test the National Institute of Education and the U.S. Department of Education conducted. Approximately nine percent of Oregon's adult population had less than eight years of schooling, according to the 1980 census.

These figures were cited by Donna Lane of the Oregon Adult Education Department.

"As we saw with school closures and the safety net,

education is a major factor in economic development," Duncan said.

The latest Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) scores showed Oregon ranked second of 22 states that had at least 20 percent of their students taking the test, Duncan said.

"Forty-five percent of Oregon students take the SAT," Austin said. "Both verbal and math scores are above the national average. Math scores are the highest ever," he added.

Education ranks sixth in the areas businesses look at for manufacturing climates, according to Grant Thornton Co.

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