

budget commissions, etc., he added.

"People who like certain genres of literature may obtain reading lists under their particular preferences as well as recommendations for future reading," McCarthy said.

The library has "an extensive list" of college catalogs on microfilm "for aspiring students," he said.

It also has a complete listing of back issues for newspapers and magazines with hundreds and hundreds of titles, he added.

People with questions about peculiar or trivial pursuits may consult the reference section, "which is well versed in finding out such information," McCarthy said.

"We are certainly one of the biggest per-capita circulation libraries in the country," he

said.

"We are the largest in Oregon and one of the top ranking libraries in the country for libraries of this size," he added.

Yet the library is running out of space in which to locate their extensive collection of books, periodicals and services.

For this reason plans are being finalized by the City of Eugene for a new or expanded library.

Citizens interested in the planning process attended an informational meeting held at the library in July.

At the meeting, the main concern voiced by Eugene area residents was the cost of parking, the most significant factor in the total cost of the new library, according to assistant city librarian Carol Hildebrand.

Earlier in July, the city received the findings of a study regar-

ding possible new sites for an expanded library from the architectural firm of Robertson/Sherwood.

The firm of Unthank, Poticha and Waterbury also conducted an architectural study considering the feasibility of expanding the existing site.

According to Poticha, the existing site "could be expanded." However, "a problem was presented by the time and money involved in replacing the asbestos ceilings in the older structure," Hildebrand said.

The other three sites were the one located at Eighth Avenue and Willamette Street, two others located at a city-owned parking lot between Charnelton Street and Lincoln Street, and another between 10th Avenue and 11th Avenue on Olive Street, according to the recommendations made by the two firms to the Future of Our Library Committee.

All four sites were ranked on the basis of criteria such as "accessability, parking availability, traffic impact, size and urbanity," said Don Lutes, former senior partner of Robertson/Sherwood.

The Broadway and Charnelton site received the number one ranking, with 78 out of 100 points; next came the Eighth Avenue and Willamette Street site with 71.25 points; third was

the site between 10th Avenue and 11th Avenue on Olive Street with 70 points; and last was the existing site with 66.75 points.

Of these sites, the least expensive was the Eighth Avenue and Willamette Street site, with an estimated cost at \$18.8 million.

This site would also address public concern over parking costs because it would incorporate an existing parking

structure into the overall plan whereas the other sites would require new structures, Hildebrand said.

Expansion of the present library would cost an estimated \$21.7 million, according to the firm's study. The site on Broadway between Charnelton Street and Lincoln Street would cost an estimated \$24.5 million, and the site on Olive Street an estimated \$24.8 million.

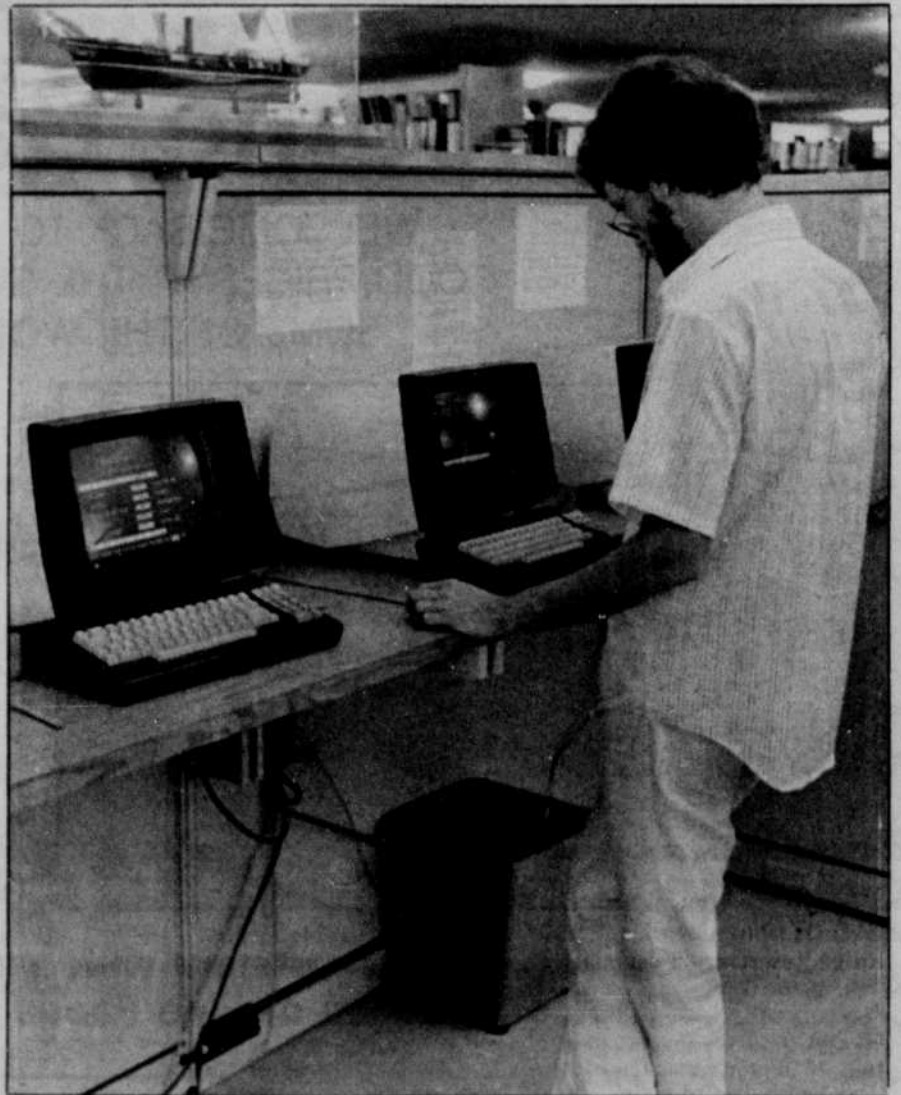


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