

Oregon Daily Emerald

Inside:

- New acting provost, Page 4
- Chinese Skylight Refectory, Page 7
- Simply Red, Page 10

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Task force differences widen

By Stephen Maher
Emerald Associate Editor

Five members of the Eugene Nuclear Free Zone Task Force presented the Eugene City Council with a new version of the nuclear free zone ordinance Wednesday, moments after charging other members of the task force with scuttling the original ordinance.

"It's both pro-business and pro-peace," task force member Dean Baker said of the new version during a morning news conference. "It puts Eugene clearly in the business of peace and not war."

"This ordinance clarifies what's allowed and what's not in terms of nuclear materials and nuclear war," Baker said.

The new version was created after the task force couldn't come to a consensus over the scope of the ordinance and elected to forward two recommendations to the City Council. The task force was appointed by the City Council to clarify legal issues associated with the ordinance.

The new version addresses all the legal and constitutional

deficiencies of the original ordinance, said Steve Johnson, vice-chairman of the task force.

"Yet at the same time this version remains as true as possible to the original act and the will of the people of Eugene," Johnson said.

The original ordinance passed with 58 percent of the vote during the 1986 general election, establishing Eugene as one of 132 nuclear free zones in the United States.

Six areas of concern over the legality of the ordinance were identified by city attorneys in January 1986, said Martha Evans, one of the task force members who presented the new version on Wednesday. Those areas dealt with the pre-emption of state, federal and city authority, and the vagueness with one of the clauses.

"The version that is being presented to the city today addresses the six issues the City Council brought up... It looks at the legal problems, it addresses those legal problems and it does no more. It maintains what the voters passed and solves the constitutional issues," Evans said.

But according to Nancy

Willard, a task force member not present at the news conference Wednesday, other legal and economic questions arose during task force discussions, "especially around the issue of clarity."

"Those issues came more and more apparent as we were working with the language of the ordinance," Willard said.

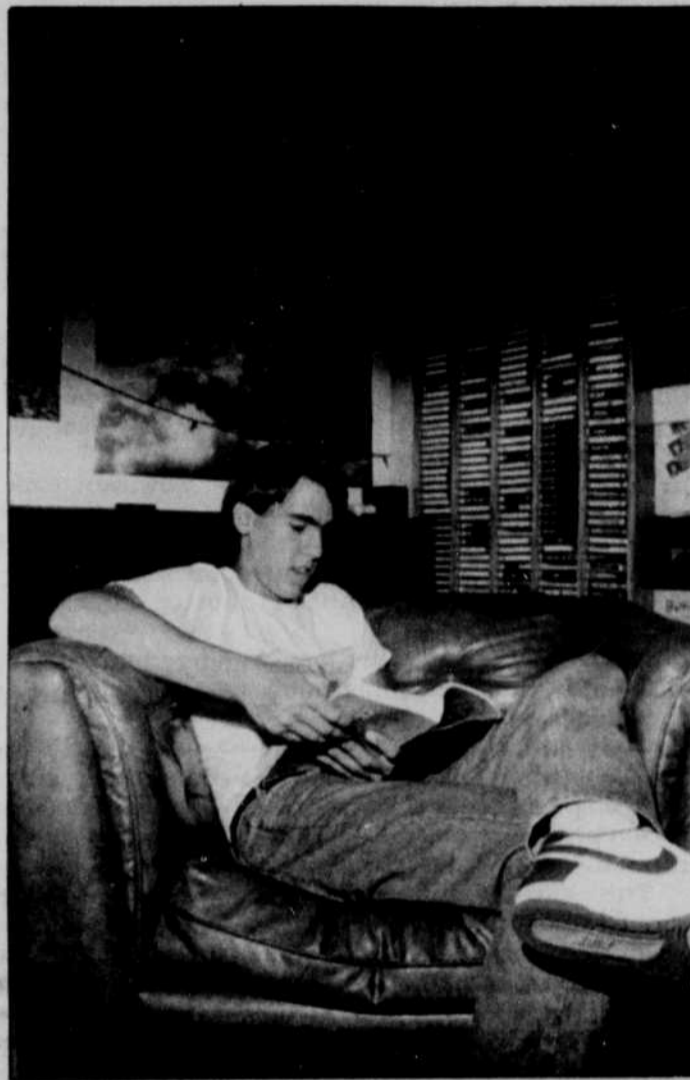
The five task force members drew up the new version because it became apparent the task force as a whole wouldn't allow the document to be presented to the City Council or to the public, Johnson said.

"The task force as originally appointed had people representing business interests that felt they could be threatened by the original ordinance, and it had people opposed to the original ordinance," Johnson added.

Willard, on the other hand, said the five members who presented the new version are "using guerrilla tactics."

"There's a whole bigger issue going on here than just the nuclear free zone. In this task force, a group of people have been willing to go along when it was going their way. When it

Turn to Force, Page 3



Solitude in studies

Malcolm Burton, a first-year architecture premajor from New Jersey, takes time out in his room at Schaefer Hall to keep abreast with his classes.

Photo by Shu-Shing Chen

Bomb threat leads to evacuation

A bomb threat at the University Bookstore on Wednesday morning forced evacuation of hundreds of students on one of the store's busiest days. No bomb was found.

The store received the call at about 10:45 a.m. and was closed from about 11:10 to 12:15, according to store manager Jim Williams.

The caller had a "college-aged sounding male voice," said Capt. Tim Birr, spokesman for the Eugene Police Department. The caller neither iden-

tified himself nor revealed a motive.

The bookstore receptionist said she answered the phone "and gave my usual rigamarole." The caller then said, "There's a bomb in the store set to go off at 12." The receptionist said she replied, "What do you want to do that for?" She said the caller made no response at first, then said, "There's a bomb in your store set to go off at 12. Have fun." He then hung up.

The receptionist then went

through the store's emergency procedure: informing Williams, the police department and the University's Office of Public Safety.

It was William's decision to evacuate the store. Williams, other bookstore employees and police officers conducted the search.

Bomb searches are usually left to building employees, because they are more likely to spot irregularities than police officers, according to Birr.

University moves closer to semesters

By Ingrid Petersen
Emerald Reporter

This year's freshmen are urged to complete clusters and required course sequences before the University implements the semester system during the 1990-91 academic year, said Mavis Mate, chairwoman of the semester transition steering committee.

The committee oversees the University's transition from the quarter to the semester system.

Students who have completed only part of a two or three course sequence before the implementation of the semester system will overlap their studies when completing that sequence under the semester system, said Mate,

who also is head of the history department.

However, students won't get lost in the transition, she said. Each department will have a plan to counsel and advise students who will be making the transition.

The University's individual departments will be responsible for scrutinizing and adjusting their curriculum for easy convergence into the semester system. The departments, which must have curriculum changes finalized by early 1990, are just beginning to examine what changes should be made.

The State Board of Higher Education approved changing Oregon's eight higher education institutions to the semester system last spring based on the belief the

semester system will further the quality of education.

"It was the belief of at least the majority of the board that the somewhat longer period with broader exposure that is generally believed to come out of the semester system just serves quality education better," said Ray Hoops, assistant vice-chancellor for academic affairs, who has taught, administered and studied under both systems.

"The reason being is that the quarter system is just so very truncated," he said.

"The trend nationally is toward what this system is doing, toward the early semester system," Hoops said. Currently 54 percent of the nation's higher education institutions use the early semester system.

Turn to Semester, Page 3

City council discusses urban renewal plans

By Andrew LaMar
Emerald Reporter

The Eugene City Council met for lunch on Wednesday and discussed the updated version of the Urban Renewal Plan, which has guided the city's development of the downtown area since it was written in 1968.

The updated draft was completed June 19 and the council plans to meet several times to discuss it before taking final action Nov. 16.

Abe Farkas, director of the city development department, said the downtown area employs 12,000 people, two and a half times what the University employs, and is as important to Eugene as Eugene is to the surrounding region. Eugene's competition, Salem, has committed five times the land area to its downtown area and spends more money on it, he said.

"From our perspective, in order to be competitive with other cities and regions, one has

to at least maintain or build upon the market share of the jobs and businesses in our current area," Farkas said.

Greg Byrne, the city's community development manager, said the city has met many of the objectives of the original 1968 plan but has not completed the plan. The city hasn't provided enough parking to meet the demand of new commercial development and has not surrounded the downtown area with parking facilities, both of which were objectives of the plan.

The assessed property value of the downtown area has increased at about the same rate that value has increased for the county since 1973, Byrne said. From 1968 until 1973, that value was not increasing, he said.

"I think the evidence is overwhelming" that the plan is working for the downtown area, said Mike Gleason, the city manager. The city should continue with the plan until all the objectives have been met,

Turn to Council, Page 4