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Athletes' initiative cited as drug testing returns

By Craig Harris
Emerald Sports Reporter

The Athletic Department has adopted a volunteer drug testing policy, after University student-athletes and coaches went to the athletic directors and said they wanted to be tested. The policy went into effect Oct. 30.

Oregon's mandatory random drug-testing policy, which began last year and tested all athletes, has been suspended until the state attorney general makes a ruling on the constitutionality of the policy.

"Bill (Byrne, athletic director) and I have had feedback from student-athletes, and they

are saying, 'what can we do if we want to be tested,'" Associate Athletic Director Chris Voelz said. She declined to reveal the names or the number of athletes who initiated the request.

"We went to our lawyers and they told us to have a consent form, which says that you can't be dismissed if you don't sign it. We meet with every team, tell them about the policy and give them a copy of the protocol and the consent form," Voelz said.

Voelz said she has spoken to eight of the teams, including the football, volleyball and basketball squads, and will talk

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Photo by Andy Cripe

Sue Goodson, a secondary education major, studies in the Condon School playground that might be converted to a parking lot.

Residents oppose conversion

By Paula Green
Emerald Reporter

Residents near the 19th Avenue and Agate Street business area are upset about a proposal to convert part of the playground on the south side of Condon School into a parking lot to be used for nearby businesses.

Residents living near the site criticized the proposal Thursday night during a meeting at Condon School, claiming it would enhance traffic congestion and reduce the capacity of the playground.

However, the 19th and Agate Business Group, proponents of the proposal, argued that the parking lot

would attract potential patrons from the University community.

The conversion plan was drafted for the business group by the Community Workshop, composed of graduate students working in the University's Urban and Regional Planning program of the Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management. A study of the area, evaluating the needs of neighboring businesses, began last January.

The area currently doubles as a playground and meeting place for area residents.

The project would considerably reduce the size of the playground and meeting area. The new landscape would feature 53 parking

spots in a lot around which trees would form a barrier to its surroundings. The lot would be located between Condon School, owned and used by the University, and the scaled-down playground.

A business survey developed by members of the workshop identifies the business characteristics, opportunities, restraints and concerns affecting the businesses and customers in the area. The survey revealed that parking constraints were a major concern to the business owners. Research of parking possibilities led to the proposed conversion.

"We saw this as a good opportunity to make the area

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Student Senate backs Olum; upset about board decision

By Jeff Morgan
Emerald Reporter

The Student Senate on Thursday passed a resolution and joined the ranks of protesters requesting the decision to retire University President Paul Olum in 1989 be reconsidered.

In related action, the senate unanimously approved former ASUO President Steve Nelson as the student representative to a faculty-student delegation to the State Board of Higher Education's Nov. 13 meeting to discuss why Olum should be continued as president.

During questioning by the senate as to what he hoped the delegation would say at the

meeting, Nelson said that depended on what, if any, action to board will have taken before the Nov. 13 meeting.

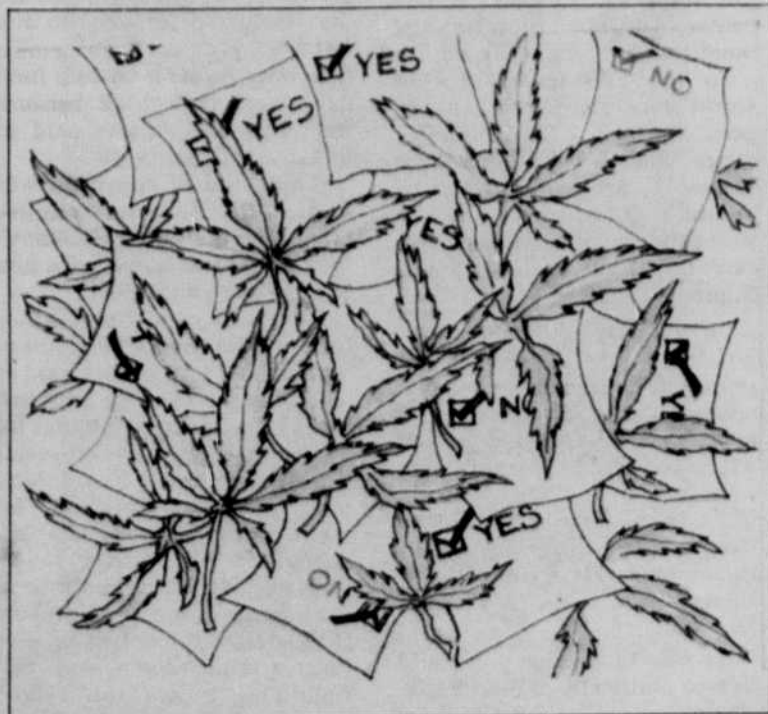
Nelson said he hoped the delegation's message would be "more militant" if the board has not taken any action before the meeting. He continued that he hoped to "share what it's like to work with him (Olum)."

According to Nelson, Olum is more open to students than any of the seven presidents within Oregon's higher education system.

The faculty-student delegation was formed through a resolution passed at Wednesday's University Assembly

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OMI gears up for fourth decriminalization try



Graphic by Lorraine Rath

By Will Holbert
Emerald Associate Editor

Consider this scenario in which limited marijuana cultivation and possession is legal in Oregon.

It's February 1989, three months after Oregon voters approved the "Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1988," the successful fourth effort by the Oregon Marijuana Initiative to decriminalize the notorious weed.

A man walks into the Lane County Health Division office, pays a clerk \$50 and receives a certificate allowing him to legally grow marijuana for one year for his own personal use. The buyer can never possess more than four ounces of marijuana and cannot cultivate more than three marijuana plants at the same time in a plethora of additional restrictions.

The ritual takes place in county health departments across the state, as Oregon becomes the second state after Alaska to allow citizens limited but legal use of marijuana.

The ballot measure making this possible was passed by voters who liked what they saw — heavy restrictions, a grown-up and mature version of the wild thing they saw during the 1986 elections, which wanted to let anybody 18 years and older grow as much marijuana as they pleased.

The organizers behind OMI hope their new and considerably more restrained ballot proposal, what would become the "Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1988 — DAPCA," will defuse opponent's claims and make the above scenario a reality.

"It stands a real good chance," said Lane County OMI member Alexander Turret of the

measure's prospects of passing. "I think most Oregonians understand that the people who use marijuana are going to continue to use marijuana," he added.

If the new measure passes the 1988 elections, it will be enacted into law on Feb. 1, 1989.

The first shots of what has become an election-year tradition in Oregon are being fired this fall. Within the next month OMI plans to begin the petition process necessary to put the marijuana issue on the 1988 ballot.

The DAPCA measure is different from the 1986 proposal, Ballot Measure Five, in two main areas. Cultivation and use of marijuana under the proposed measure would be illegal for people below the age of 21, and the amount of marijuana grown

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