

Oregon Daily Emerald

Thursday, December 3, 1987

Eugene, Oregon

Volume 89, Number 64

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Photo by Andre Ranieri

Provisional firefighter Mike Arnold was one of many Eugene Fire Department firefighters who were in live training Wednesday, putting out a staged fire at 1996 Garden Ave.

Blaze offers recruits training

By Bryan Houston
Emerald Contributor

The Eugene Fire Department took a role contrary to its usual duties Wednesday — It set a house on fire as part of a live training program for six of its new recruits.

According to Fire Training Captain Monty Parazoo, the fire consisted of seven interior drills. Fires were set in seven rooms of the house, located on 1996 Garden Ave., and the recruits worked on the fires until it was not safe enough to continue working in the house. The house was then allowed to burn to the ground after the interior drills were completed.

"This (the drill) is common in all fire departments," Parazoo said. "This was a

good learning experience for the rookies."

The house was donated by the Molatore Gerbert accounting firm.

"It's a win-win situation for both of us," said Parazoo, to explain the advantages gained by both the fire department and the firm.

How often the fire department stages the drill fires depends on how often it is hiring, Parazoo said. "We usually have two fires with each class of recruits. This was the first (with this class) and we hope to have another within the next couple of weeks, depending on whether we can get a house." The recruits at Wednesday's drill are scheduled to go on shift in about two and a half weeks.

Drill fires are only part of the training the fire department's recruits go through.

Parazoo said. Recruits begin with hose drills — how to lay them out and hook them up. They then proceed to ladder drills, from 12 foot folding ladders to 50-foot ladders. Recruits also spend many hours in the classroom, learning about hazardous materials, fire behaviors and safe driving techniques.

"The recruits spend about seven weeks, eight hours a day five days a week, in training," Parazoo said. "Once they are on shift, they are placed on a year's probation with written tests every two days and practical tests every three weeks."

There hasn't been any problems with the drill fires in the subject of safety, Parazoo said. "We haven't had any serious problems. We are very safety-conscious," he said.

Olum faces assembly; urges future planning

By Jeff Morgan
Emerald Reporter

The biggest issue facing the University is not the forced retirement of President Paul Olum.

It is making sure that the University decides its own future while having a workable relationship with the State Board of Higher Education. Olum told the University Assembly in a prepared speech Wednesday.

The assembly also approved a resolution of no confidence in the state board and the chancellor. In addition, the assembly tabled a resolution urging Gov. Neil Goldschmidt to appoint a commission to re-evaluate the governance structure of the Oregon State System of Higher Education until a later meeting.

Olum's speech, which was met by a prolonged standing ovation from the crowd of about 275, was his first public speech

to the University concerning his retirement. The state board's executive committee recommended Olum's retirement for June of 1989, three years before Olum had requested.

"I must no longer be the issue. I really mean that. . . . It is important for the University community to accept that fact," Olum said.

"The one crucial issue is simply this: what will be the future of the University? What is this agenda of the 1990s that we sometimes hear vaguely referred to?" Olum asked.

Olum stressed the University must have a strong voice in its own future and the state board cannot unilaterally dictate the University's future.

"The faculty must . . . be deeply involved in determining the agenda for the 1990s," Olum said. He added the agenda should reflect the views of students, staff and alumni.

"The faculty must believe that

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Student governments criticize state board

By Ingrid Petersen
Emerald Reporter

Several student governments from campuses across the state are making efforts to admonish the State Board of Higher Education for its recent decision regarding University President Paul Olum.

Student senators from Oregon State University overwhelmingly passed a resolution in support of Olum and a vote of no confidence in the board on Dec. 1. In addition, student govern-

ments from Southern and Western Oregon State Colleges are sending letters to the board and Gov. Neil Goldschmidt criticizing the board's recent decision to retire Olum three years earlier than his preferred retirement date.

"We are not real pleased with a few things that have come out of the chancellor's office," said Karen Garrison, vice president of OSU's student body.

At the OSU campus students generally are not supportive of the manner in which the board

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College task force discusses possible change in system

By Stephen Maher
Emerald Associate Editor

A task force on regional colleges met Wednesday in Eugene and discussed the feasibility of a state-wide university system and whether regional colleges should drop the word 'college' from their names in favor of 'university.'

The meeting at the home of Oregon State System of Higher Education Chancellor William "Bud" Davis was the first since State Board of Higher Education's Executive Committee appointed the task force on Oct. 15.

The task force is scheduled to meet once a month during the next five months and present a report to the state board and the Legislature no later than June 1988.

During Wednesday's meeting, the issue of converting the state's public universities and colleges into branches of a single state university brought forth a variety of opinions from task force members and state system officials.

"This has never been brought up. And frankly I think it's something to brainstorm on," Davis said. But

Davis cautioned that name identification is important to the state's two oldest universities, the University and Oregon State University, and strong resistance probably would occur if such a change were initiated.

According to Lawrence Pierce, the state system's vice chancellor for academic affairs, there would be "no benefits" of such a change. Each institution would remain organized in the same manner it is today, Pierce said.

"As far as I know there is no support anywhere for that idea," he said.

Task force member Lynn Newbry, a former state senator from Talent, said the state would be spreading itself thin in attempting to implement a state university system while at the same time improving the quality of education at each branch university.

"If you still want to aspire to excellence you have to limit the scope, especially in Oregon where your resources are limited," Newbry said.

Another task force member, Russell Sadler, said the task force has the opportunity to educate lawmakers for years to come on the name-changing issue.

"There is nothing new about this naming game," said Sadler, a syndicated newspaper columnist and

television commentator. "We can encourage it or we can send a nail through its heart."

The 11-member task force was appointed after a request to study the role of the state's regional colleges (Southern Oregon State College, Western Oregon State College and Eastern Oregon State College) was contained in a budget note from the Senate Education Subcommittee on Ways and Means during the last legislative session.

During the session, Sen. Lenn Hannon (R-Ashland) introduced a bill to change the name of Southern Oregon State College to Southern Oregon State University. However, the bill never made it out of the Senate Education Committee and the budget note was appended to the higher education appropriation bill.

According to Davis, the proposal to change the name of SOSOC originated in 1983 when the college's Office of Public Affairs took it to the state board.

"They argued that everyone else was changing their name, and we should too" because such a change would allow the school to market itself better, Davis said.

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