

Parks 'open house' to encourage involvement

By Betsy Clayton
Emerald Reporter

Eugene Parks and Recreation will hold a day of free classes and activities on Thursday designed to encourage community members to get acquainted with the programs the city offers.

The open house is being done in conjunction with winter term registration for classes at all four community centers, two community pools, senior centers and a specialized recreation center. Public Information Coordinator Carrie Matsushita said there are classes for all age groups as well as for people with special limitations.

"It's the first open house we've had. It's something we may do again in the future to let Eugene people know about our facilities," Matsushita said.

Dick Morgan, department recreation superintendent, said in a press release that the open

house is also a time to ask questions, sample classes and get a sneak preview of winter offerings.

Registration for winter term activities begins at 5:30 p.m. today at all community centers and swimming pools and will continue through the open house. Matsushita said registration will remain open into the term until classes fill.

Thursday's activities include fitness classes, observation of preschool programs, Tai Chi, dental and blood pressure checks and art and dance demonstrations. Schedules of open house events are available at all facilities, the main parks and recreation office and in today's Register-Guard.

Matsushita said the idea for the open house was presented by staff members. It's a good time to have it because it will bring in the new year, get people acquainted with programs and hopefully help with registration, she said.

Matsushita said most instructors are donating their time to perform demonstrations and hold classes. Some of the events are part of ongoing activities that people are invited to drop in on.

"We're hoping for a good turnout from people who have not been active with our programs before as well as from those who participate regularly," Matsushita said.

The open house will run from around 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. in hopes that the working community will be better able to attend, Matsushita said. "We're trying to get a good cross-section of people to take advantage of the free activities," she explained.

More University students participate in the summer sessions, Matsushita said. She said most of them are involved in the Amazon and Westmoreland community centers because there are housing units nearby.

The prices of classes vary ac-

cording to the activity, but Matsushita said the fees only cover the direct cost of instruction. "We're trying to attain the maximum number of people," she explained.

Once the term starts, drop-ins are accepted for a small fee and interested people are encouraged to participate. Matsushita also said that anyone is welcome to observe classes.

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AAUP, urged the board to extend this time-line to 3-5 days.

Siegel said that the current time-line is counterproductive because it doesn't give campus interests enough time to evaluate candidates, and added "people don't like being kept in the dark."

Board President James Petersen countered this by saying the board wants the names kept secret until the last minute to keep candidates as long as possible. He argued candidates may drop out if their names are made public because finalists' current job standings could be jeopardized if their employers

know they are looking for another occupation.

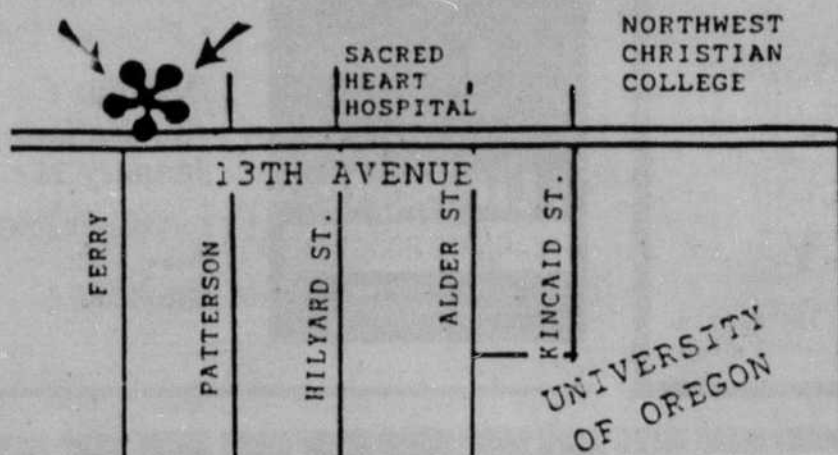
In addition, the board voted 9-1 to adopt PSU President Natale Sicuro's proposal to move its football team to Division I-AA, and Division I in all other sports, which will include the restoration of a men's basketball team.

Board member Mark Dodson voted against the proposal.

Sicuro assured the board that costs for the conversion would be covered by private donations from alumni, faculty and the Portland community, as well as from gate receipts, gifts and grants.

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Sunday, Jan. 23rd

Women's
8-ball 1:00pm
Darts 3:00pm
Backgammon 5:00pm

Winners will qualify for the Region-14 ACUI Tournament February 19 & 20 in Boise, Idaho.

\$3 Entry Fee for each event
Only students with at least 7 credit hours and in good academic standing may participate.

