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Parking solution stalled

Committee delays proposal

By Paula Green
Emerald Reporter

After debate from the University Campus Planning Committee and concerned citizens, a four-step proposal from the University Parking Structure Feasibility User Group to create additional parking spaces on campus was rearranged.

In an open meeting at the EMU last night, the planning committee rejected the user group's phase I proposal to construct an underground parking structure at the soccer field site between Hayward Field and the covered tennis courts. This structure would be a 300-space facility with access from East 15th Avenue.

Also included in the first

phase is the creation of a 100-space surface parking lot that would be constructed along East 18th Avenue.

Instead, the planning committee will consider the proposal's second phase — development of a two-level facility on the Alder Street tennis court site — as the primary consideration for a new parking structure.

The Alder Street location would provide a two-level facility for 585 vehicles, with the tennis courts being either replaced or relocated.

Arguments concerning the proposed parking structures on East 15th and East 18th avenues centered on the dramatic increases in parking fees for University students, faculty and staff for fewer spaces than could

be located on the Alder Street site.

"I did not disagree with the entire proposal, but I believe (phase I) does not provide the maximum benefit to parking permit purchasers," said Robert Keith, a user group member who voted against the group's proposal to the planning committee.

Financing for phase I's 400 spaces would come from the \$3.6 million revenue bond issue authorized by the 1987 Oregon Legislature. However, users of the parking spaces would be required to pay off the bonds.

Student parking permits, now \$21 annually, would be raised to \$55, and a faculty/staff permit would jump to \$101 a year

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Roberts educates students on elections

By Kelvin Wee
Emerald Associate Editor

Poll accessibility, voter education and information were topics discussed by Oregon Secretary of State Barbara Roberts when she was on cam-



Barbara Roberts

pus Tuesday.

More than 100 students filled the EMU Gumwood Room Tuesday as Roberts spoke on "The Importance of Elections and Your Involvement in the Political Process."

The event, sponsored by the ASUO and the University Democrats, was arranged to educate voters about the 1988 elections.

The issues Roberts discussed are those that she considers closely related to conducting a fair election, she said.

"I believe an elections process should be accessible to the people who were meant to use it," she said. "I don't like road blocks, I don't like deadlines, I don't like limitations and I don't like restrictions that have nothing to do with fairness and legality in terms of operating an election."

Roberts blamed the people of Rajneeshpuram for inciting fear into Oregon citizens who voted to stipulate a voter registrations deadline 20 days before the

voting date. "I adamantly opposed the registration cut off, I still do," she said.

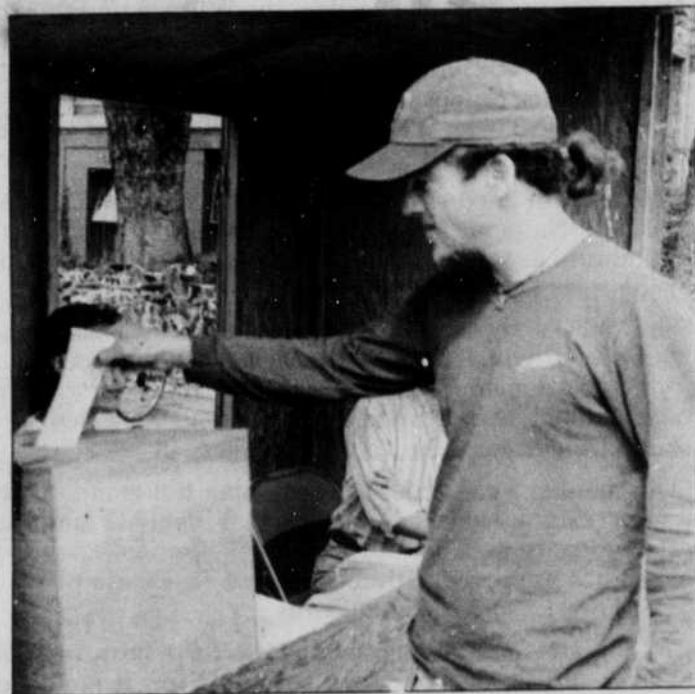
She also joked about the Oregon postcard voter registration process, adding this is one of the many areas in which Oregon is uniquely efficient.

"We've been doing this for 10 years and it's working. People are not cheating the system, and we have increased registration because the adults who register to vote in our state, we treat them like adults," she said. "But in other states, they find that sort of a phenomenal pattern."

Roberts said she is also concerned about elderly and handicapped accessibility to the polls. A law mandating that all polling places be accessible to the handicapped was passed in 1985, she said.

The pattern has improved, she said. In the 1986 primary elections, only 27 percent of the

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It's voting time

University student Peter Kiigemagi casts his ballot in day one of the ASUO elections Tuesday. Students are asked to vote for ASUO president/vice president and Incidental Fee Committee positions. Polls will be open today from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Photo by Bobbie Lo

City manager defends proposed budget cuts

By Bryan Houston
Emerald Reporter

Eugene City Manager Mike Gleason gave his annual budget message at the City Hall Council Chamber Tuesday evening during the regular meeting of the city's budget committee.

In his message, he addressed the reasons why scheduled cuts must be made in the proposed 1988-89 budget and which programs are costing the city the most money.

Gleason was referring to the more than \$786,382 in service reductions scheduled in an at-

tempt to balance the city's budget. Programs that are slated to be stricken are downtown mall maintenance, community schools and public, educational and government cable access.

Gleason explained that the budget-cutting is something that is "endemic to most city budgets in the state of Oregon." He added that many cities, such as Portland and Salem, are facing substantially larger budget cuts than the ones facing Eugene this year.

Gleason also said that the city did not purposely seek out the

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Proposed budget cut jeopardizes LCC programs

By Betsy Clayton
Emerald Reporter

Steps toward reducing three Lane Community College vocational programs could be furthered today if a proposed \$1 million budget cut is accepted at the first full budget committee meeting.

The proposal calls for reduction of dental hygiene and auto mechanics programs and suspension of the respiratory care program in the next school year to alleviate a potential \$1.5 million deficit in the college's 1988-89 budget.

Part of the financial problem has come from different trends in student enrollment and class selection, said Jacquelyn Belcher, vice president for instruction. "This has created a need to provide more services to more students," she said.

Over the past five years, enrollment at

LCC has increased while the number of classes students are taking has declined, Belcher said. Lower division classes that transfer to universities are being taken while enrollment in vocational classes is down, she explained.

"This is a trend with community colleges across the country, and Lane needs to adjust to that," Belcher said. The areas that are declining have been targeted for budget cuts, she said.

The proposed cuts would eliminate 10.6 faculty positions, three administrative jobs and 8.1 classified positions, according to an April 6 Register-Guard article.

Three of the faculty layoffs would be in the automotive mechanics area, which has experienced declining enrollment over the past five years, Belcher said.

In an April 5 subcommittee budget meeting, Belcher recommended cutting

back training programs in respiratory care and dental hygiene areas. Proposed cuts in the respiratory program would save \$35,000 and allow future savings for students already in the program.

If the LCC Budget Committee accepts the budget subcommittee's proposal, it will make recommendations to the State Board of Higher Education. Belcher said she cannot predict whether the \$1 million cut will be implemented.

A proposal to increase the LCC tax base by \$2 million is on the May 17 primary election ballot. "We have not passed an increase in our operating budget for over five years," Belcher said.

Community support for LCC is not down, she said, but the citizens of Lane County are not aware of the college's needs and what the tax money is being used for.

"An increase in costs is on-going. We need to make clear our needs so people see them as valid. We're not asking for fluff," Belcher said.

If the tax-base increase doesn't pass in May, the budget would definitely need to be cut, she said. "We need more money and we don't foresee money coming from the state," she added.

LCC experienced a budget cut last year that terminated five administrative jobs and 60 other positions. "The budget cut last year is similar to this year's proposal, but last year's was bigger," Belcher said.

Lane is important to the area it is serving, adding to the needs of people at all levels, Belcher said. "The community gets good return on the community college and so they have to see that the return is worth investing in."