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## Insurance plan to be decided

By Dan Eisler  
Emerald Reporter

The Student Health Insurance Committee will decide on a mandatory or voluntary health insurance program for the University today.

The committee will meet in EMU Century Room D at 1 p.m.

The decision to affect the student-run, volunteer insurance enrollment plan will be made after student input at the committee meeting, said Scott Wyckoff, ASUO vice president and SHIC chairman.

International student adviser and SHIC University administration liaison Ginny Stark, and Student Health Center representative Elaine Jones, both non-voting committee members, also will be present at the meeting.

The decision will be recommended to the University administration for the 1990-91 school year.

The committee earlier this year sought student input on the decision at two forums held in October and November.

Under the current voluntary system, most students are not required to purchase the ASUO Student Health Insurance Program provided by The Prudential Insurance Co. of America.

All international students are required by law and University policy to have health insurance.

Under a mandatory system, all students would be required to participate in a school-sponsored student health insurance plan, with no waivers accepted.

Because the health insurance program is a voluntary plan run by students, it has experienced rate increase and insurance carrier difficulties, ASUO President and SHIC member Andy Clark said.

Students who purchased the policy for the 1989-90 school year face a 48 percent increase in claim costs of last year's policy. The student claim cost for the 1988-89 plan year was about \$340.

The committee administers the only student-run, student-controlled insurance program in the nation.



## Oregon stops Arizona

Bob Fife (no. 33) battles Arizona center Brian David for a rebound in Oregon's 68-63 upset of the No. 2 ranked Wildcats. Fife blocked two shots in the closing minutes of the game to help secure the win for the Ducks. See story on Page 11.

Photo by Andre Ranieri

## Nuke free city sparks dispute

By Hon Walker  
Emerald Associate Editor

Just how nuclear free does Eugene need to be?

Eugene's status as a nuclear free zone has been in effect since 1986. For just as long, dispute over an appropriate ordinance to restrict nuclear-related activities has simmered.

Most residents applaud the symbolic implications of a nuclear free zone ordinance, but many are concerned that too broad legal restrictions could hurt the economic future of the community.

The existing ordinance would fine those who produce or store nuclear warheads in the city - an unlikely possibility. The ordinance was adopted by the City Council in June 1988, replacing the original comprehensive plan voters had approved by 59 percent in 1986.

Next May, however, voters will decide whether the original ordinance should be brought back as an amendment to the city charter.

The amendment would ban production and storage of any components intended for use in a nuclear weapons system, as well as ban food irradiation, neither of which occurs in Eugene.

Nevertheless, whether the activities occur is not a criterion for prohibiting them, said Larry Douglas, head of the Eugene Chamber of Commerce.

"I think it would retard the community's ability to grow and would send the message that Eugene is anti-business, anti-growth, against individual freedoms and against free enterprise," Douglas said.

"We support the nuclear free ordinance that is in place. We think it is an appropriate statement in reflecting the attitudes of the people of Eugene," he added. "The (original) version is a very negative, overzealous statement that is totally unnecessary."

What's more, the original ordinance may be unconstitutional as well, he said.

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## Settlement in sight for science buildings lawsuit

By Stephanie Holland  
Emerald Reporter

A local construction company's lawsuit seeking reimbursement from the Oregon State Board of Higher Education for excess costs incurred while building the University's science complex may be settled by next week.

Two other lawsuits are pending, one filed against the board and another against the board and Wildish Construction Co.

The Wildish company filed its suit against the board in June, claiming inconsistencies in architectural drawings caused construction problems resulting in cost overruns.

The company, which is building Streisinger and Willamette halls, is asking for \$2.7 million, said George Pernsteiner, associate vice chancellor for the Oregon State

System of Higher Education.

Randall Hledik, spokesperson for the Wildish company, said his employees encountered problems when the design plans showed the walls and roof would not fit together properly in Willamette Hall.

Hledik would not specify the amount of the cost overruns, but said obtaining clarifications of the plans and accomplishing revisions cost the company time and money.

"We're hoping that it gets resolved here very, very soon and in a manner that's equitable for all parties," he said.

Although the board allocated extra money so the company could complete the construction, the company was prompted to sue when other change orders were not granted, he said.

"I think you'll see that all parties to the matter are sharing

in the responsibility," he said.

Pernsteiner said mediation conferences were held with Wildish on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1 and he is hopeful an agreement will be reached by the beginning of next week.

If the suit cannot be settled in mediation, the case could move to a long litigation process, which could take about two years to work through the court system, he said.

Hyland & Sons, Inc., which built Deschutes Hall, filed its \$298,000 suit in May, Pernsteiner said. The suit is pending, and the board is trying to organize mediation with the company before the end of the year.

Dave Hyland referred all questions to the company's attorney, who could not be reached for comment.

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A lawsuit filed against OSBHE by a contractor over the construction of two new science halls is nearing a settlement.

File photo