

other home schoolers. Home schooling children also develop social skills in classes taught by home schooling parents.

Physical education and science are among the classes offered. Norland, for instance, has organized a home school band of more than 60 members, with classes taught at three levels. Norland said she expects the band to expand to almost 100 members next year.

Norland, who was a band director for eight years in the public schools, said she finds

the attitudes of the home schoolers differ significantly from the public school children.

"They're obedient, and I would say the bulk of public school kids are not," Norland said. "They are wholesome. Their lives are not marred by drugs, alcohol, cigarettes or abuse."

"They're also eager to learn and they're hard workers," she said. "They have a purpose in life. Obviously they come from families that care, or they wouldn't be home schooling."

"I think home school kids are missing a whole lot," Scott agreed. "They're missing the bad. I remember the fights and name-calling in the school yard. I think the thing I really like about my kids is that they're nice and polite, independent, creative and they have a really good self-esteem. I attribute that to home schooling. I think it's been worth it."

Putnam, in an effort to help alleviate the financial burden on home schoolers, is part of a group collecting signatures for the Educational Choice Initiative, a ballot measure proposal to reimburse home schoolers for tuition and supplies. If enough signatures are collected by July, the measure will ap-

pear on the November ballot.

"We feel it would open the system to competition and improve them," Putnam said. "The better schools and better teachers would be rewarded and the others would have to improve."

Scott, however, is more skeptical.

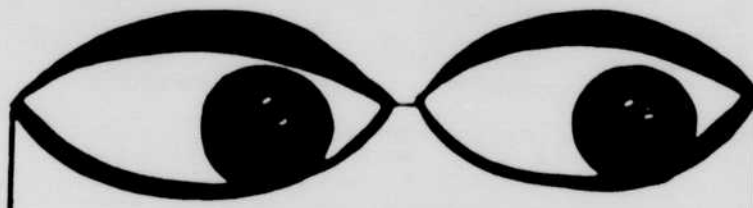
"It sounded like a good idea, but if the government gets involved in home schooling, that might be a bad idea," she said. "My concern about government schooling is with everyone going through them and learning the same thing. I feel we're raising robots. I think my kids are really independent-minded."

Although Sean Putnam is uncertain whether he will attend high school, Scott said her children prefer home schooling.

"I ask them periodically if they want to go to public school and they say no. I'm prepared to carry this through high school," Scott said.

College remains an option for home schooled children. Scott is certain her own children will attend college. David Putnam, 21, is attending Seattle University on a full-ride army ROTC scholarship.

"I think home schooling is a viable option," Norland said, "but it's not for everyone. You've got to be extremely disciplined and motivated."



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zen parking lot and the University campus.

Up to a third of University students and employees live north of the Willamette River, Povey said.

The plan called for using the often vacant Autzen lot as a place for faculty, staff and student parking, and shuttling users to and from the University via bus, cable car or "something keeping in the feel of Eugene," Povey said.

After sharing the preliminary proposal with the Lane Council of Governments and the Lane Transit District, the plan then went on to the Urban Mass Transit Authority in Seattle.

Though Povey has not received a reaction to the proposal, he said the city needs to look at options besides adding more parking garages, and the

Autzen plan is one possible option.

"We'd like to think that there are alternatives to high rise parking structures, and we encourage people to consider them," he said.

Mark Pangborn, LTD director of administrative services, said, "The city has definitely seen a need for transit, but transit is not the only need for downtown." He said downtown parking brings opportunity costs of traffic, pollution, and land use.

The proposed urban renewal budget has designated funds for a new transit station in anticipation of the station's move from its downtown 10th Avenue location.

Pangborn added that LTD has considered a link with the Autzen parking lot.

However, he said, some factors stand in the way. Autzen's isolated location is difficult to reach, especially for those from south and east campus neighborhoods.

If direct access was created, buses would have to leave frequently, every 10 minutes, for riders to use it.

The number of University students riding the bus has more than doubled since fall 1988, when LTD offered students bus passes through an increase in students' incidental fees. The plan could expand to include city employees, he said.

The University and LTD are planning a formal study of the feasibility of parking at Autzen. "It's still an interesting idea, and one we need to continue to explore."

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