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New ice rink starts off with brisk business

By Michelle Boucher
Emerald Contributor

Motorists may be watching for ice on the streets, but Lane County has been looking forward to another slippery patch — Lane County Ice.

Lane County Ice, 796 W. 13th Ave., is the new Eugene ice skating rink that officially opened Dec. 22 and celebrated its grand opening this weekend. Activities included hockey games, figure skating, broom ball competitions and plenty of public skating.

Safeway donated a 12-by-6-foot cake covered with 20 pounds of frosting and the rink's logo.

The opening has had incredible response.

"It's a big success. I hope it keeps up," said Roger Lloyd, foreman and senior guard.

"I think it's the best thing in Eugene," said 7-year-old Toby Kirklin. "If it wasn't here, I would have to go somewhere else."

The overwhelming response has caused many skaters to be turned away.

"There have been 300 people on the ice and 200 waiting in line that have been turned away," Lloyd said. "We have had three times more business than expected."

Only 1,000 yearly passes were expected to be sold, but more than 3,000 have

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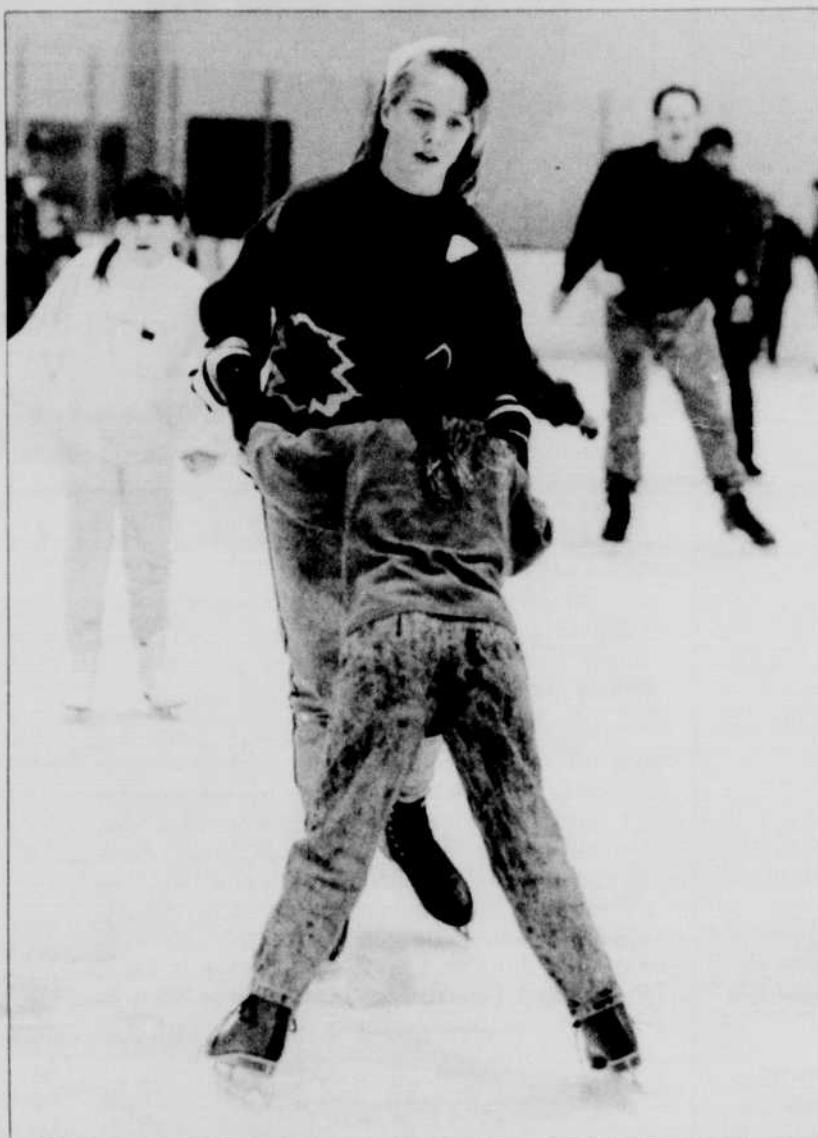


Photo by Steve Card

Lane County Ice, which opened Dec. 22, has capitalized on business brought by residents from Canada and the East Coast.

Lingering racism called 'insidious'

By Joe Kidd
Emerald Reporter

Although some of the more overt signs of racism have ended, "some covert types have become more insidious," said Charles Dalton, president of the Eugene-Springfield chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Dalton and University professor Clarence Spigner identified breakthroughs and addressed remaining problems of racial equality in a panel discussion remembering Martin Luther King Jr. Friday in the Eugene city council chambers.

"We made ground in the sixties, held our ground in the seventies, but lost ground in the eighties," Dalton said, speaking on "The Unfinished Quest of Martin Luther King Jr."

Increased violence against minorities and the availability of new, more powerful illegal drugs are two examples of "lost ground" Dalton and Spigner identified.

Spigner said he sees a growing threat of violence against minorities as an unresolved issue. "The white supremacy movement is growing in popularity in the Northwest," he said, citing the movement and the 1988 beating death of a black man by three Portland skinheads as examples.

The two invoked King's name in coming up with ways to solve these continuing problems. Dalton said, "Some of the tactics King used were sit-ins, non-violence, the courts and the elective process. We should use these tactics now, especially the elective process."

"I'm afraid that I'm speaking to the converted. People here are more educated than the public out there," Spigner said in addressing the audience. "We must not only live the ideals that King died

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Monday In-Depth

How active is Brand's affirmative action?

Is Myles Brand the affirmative action president he wants to be? He's off to a good start — but some students with disabilities and gays, lesbians and bisexuals are concerned.

By Denise Clifton
Emerald Associate Editor

Just one week after he was named Paul Olum's successor to the presidential office, Myles Brand began talking about his plans to overhaul the University's lackluster affirmative action program.

In a May 5, 1989 *Emerald* interview, the new administrator pledged to create an aggressive affirmative action program by hiring a new director and recruiting minority faculty. And the University turned its eyes upon the leader with renewed hope and anticipation.

Eight months later, these hopes are heightened as Brand has kept his word and hired a new affirmative action director, Harvard-educated Diane Wong. He also increased the affirmative action office staff and funding to eight full-time employees and an annual budget of \$373,000.

In addition, Brand announced all students admitted after fall 1990 will be required to take a course focusing on a non-European-American topic or involving race or gender issues, and he promises to begin recruiting minority faculty soon.

But some of Brand's critics charge that he does not go far enough in his affirmative action plans. While Brand is com-



mitted to promoting gender and racial equality, some gay and lesbian students, and students with disabilities, feel Brand may shortchange them by not addressing the special problems these students face.

The plan

"We want to change the culture of the

University and how people perceive it," Brand has said.

To determine how to grant all wishes of people affected by affirmative action, Brand revealed a plan at the Jan. 10 University Assembly meeting to have two task forces, faculty recruitment/retention and affirmative action, chart the affirmative action course for the University's long-range overhaul.

The task forces will decide the specific strategy for affirmative action, Brand said the day after the meeting. "We have to do this in a timely manner and get a lot of input from many people," he said.

Brand said he expects the planning process to last 12 to 18 months, with the final plan to be implemented within five to seven years. "We're going to be moving at a steady rate and we'll be getting something done about it," he said.

And many people appear to believe someone finally has arrived to solve the University's affirmative action woes.

Positive outlook

"I'm really excited because I see this as an opening up, because he's getting something started so something can be done," said Hasani Kudura, coordinator of the ASUO Women's Center. "He's been talking about changing the culture of the University, and I think it's really courageous to say that."

Sophomore Maria Mendoza, who is on the leadership team for the Office for Multicultural Affairs, said she is encouraged by the new course requirement.

"Many students have trouble under-

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Plans hinge on task forces

By Joe Kidd
Emerald Reporter

The University is up to its collective neck in task forces.

Task forces could be found in several places here last year. Three were initiated in response to specific problems.

But this year the phrase "task force" will be uttered even more often. The Planning Process Committee announced last week that, among many other changes to take place, eight new task forces will be created.

The task forces created last year, and two of those proposed for the future, will fit in with another area of change, the University's affirmative action program. Here is a look at what those task forces are doing.

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