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EWEB gets criticized for manager dismissal

By Stephanie Mencimer
Emerald Reporter

The "Monday night massacre" of Eugene Water and Electric Board general manager Jean Reeder has provoked several community members to take action against the EWEB commissioners responsible for dismissing Reeder.

Former state legislator Jack Craig took advantage of the political climate to announce at a press conference Thursday his intention to challenge EWEB board vice president Randy Thwing in the board's primary election in May. In addition, Craig announced his support for a recall of all the commissioners who orchestrated the firing of Reeder.

"Signatures for my nominating petition were obtained before the Monday night debacle," Craig said. "However, after personally viewing this startling, unprecedented, vindictive and illegal performance, I was convinced on the spot that recall was the only viable remedy to counter this action."

A recall is a formal method for citizens to remove elected officials from their posts before

the end of their terms, said City Recorder Kathy Fieland.

Although no formal action has yet been taken, Fieland said, she confirmed that several inquiries about recall proceedings had come through her office. Fieland will not release any names until a formal decision has been made.

Rep. William Dwyer, D-Springfield, also announced at Thursday's press conference that he will file a bill in the next legislative session to amend the Oregon public meetings law as a result of Monday's action.

Dwyer said the way commissioners Solin and Thwing handled Reeder's termination was "nothing more than a sneaky way to circumvent the Oregon Public Meetings law."

He said he was appalled by Solin's explanation of the decision-making process used in Reeder's case, saying although Solin avoided making a technical violation of the law, he definitely violated it in spirit.

Solin maintains that he, Thwing and Rob Willis did not violate the law because the

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Picnicking parrot

While enjoying an outdoor meal at the University recently, Allison Rubin shares some bread with her Quaker parrot, Papa Mo. Rubin, a dance major, brought her pet to campus for a dress rehearsal of a performance set for today.

Photo by Mark Ylen

Brand hears SETA, other issues

By Peter Cogswell
Emerald Reporter

University president Myles Brand responded to questions ranging from animal research to family student living during an open forum Thursday in the EMU Ben Linder room.

Brand's first question came from a member of Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and dealt with the return of macaque monkeys to be used in psychological research at the University.

The student wanted to know how modern science would benefit from psychological studies using monkeys.

Brand responded by saying the research deals with how people link up visually, and the model closest to humans is monkeys. The research is neurological and deals with selective attention, he said.

The student then volunteered himself to be used as research for the psychological experiments because, "the research of Dr. Richard Marrocco (who will be in charge of using the monkeys) makes me neurotic and this is one of the qualifications," he said.

Brand responded by telling the student many legal questions would have to be answered before this could take place.

Brand was next asked about a proposal to expand eligibility for family housing to allow people with domestic partnerships to apply for family housing.

As it stands right now, only stu-



Photo by Martin Thiel

University President Myles Brand fields student questions during an open forum Thursday.

dents with a marriage license can apply for family housing. Brand was told that the existing policy discriminates against a large number of students at the University.

He said the University is undertaking studies to see what other universities across the nation are doing to solve this problem.

Brand added he hopes to have a solution within two to four weeks but realizes the University must have a

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Double barrier challenges rights of disabled women

By Daralyn Trappe
Emerald Contributor

In a continuing effort to support disabled students and provide education and awareness, Students for Equal Access sponsored a film presentation and a forum Thursday to discuss the specific concerns of disabled women.

The film, entitled *Don't Go To Your Room*, addressed the "double barrier," that being female and being disabled presents. Several women spoke of their feeling that job discrimination against women is multiplied by the fact that they are disabled in some way.

Disabled women were encouraged to join together to discuss their concerns, to address the problems of discrimination, and to decrease any sense of isolation.

The issue of assertiveness was an overriding topic at the meeting. Whether in public, in the workplace or in private relationships, disabled women were encouraged to be aware of their rights and to insist on fair treatment.

One woman spoke of the fact that disabled people are legally protected against discrimination, but unless they fight for enforcement, the laws are useless.

The film also addressed the problems of abuse that some disabled women face. Some women had been sexually abused by their attendants, by family members or by strangers.

It was pointed out that a disabled woman involved in any type of abusive relationship will have trouble finding assistance at a women's shelter. This

happens because many shelters are not yet equipped with wheelchair ramps and other necessities a disabled woman might need.

The message of the evening was that disabled women should stand up for their rights and assert themselves when in abusive or discriminatory situations.

SEA has been active on campus since fall 1989, when several disabled students became concerned about the availability of funding for in-class services such as note-takers and sign language interpreters.

"We were concerned that we weren't going to get sufficient funds for the people who really need those services," said Marianne Miller, a visually-impaired student who is secretary for SEA.

The group also formed to "provide a network among the disabled students on campus. We knew there were about 150 disabled students, but we didn't know each other's names. What we really needed was a group identity," Miller said.

SEA is currently working with Disabled Student Services to lobby the Incidental Fee Committee for funding and to gain official recognition as a campus organization. Earlier this year, Miller and SEA co-director Julie Huber were told by University president Myles Brand that the University Administration would match whatever funding SEA might get from the IFC.

The film, which is closed-captioned, will be presented again during spring term.