## Drug paraphernalia sold despite local ordinance

**Emerald Reporter** 

The sign on the door reads: "All accessories are designed. marketed and intended for use with tobacco, snuff and legal

However, much of the merchandise sold at Hunky Dory Pipe and Tobacco, 293 W. 7th Avenue, is suitable for consumption of substances besides use with drugs," said a Hunky Dory employee who would only identify himself as "Lar-"We have no control over what people do with them once they leave the store.

"If they come and say 'I want a hash pipe,' I can't sell them anything." Larry said. "All I can say is, 'we don't have

Amid the tobacco, traditional tobacco pipes, incense, jewelry, posters, bumper stickers and T-shirts sold at Hunky Dory is an assortment of merchandise with functions that can cross the line between legitimate and illegal

There are plastic, glass and ceramic water pipes ranging in size from four inches to nearly two feet tall. There are one-hit pipes called "pinch hitters" and several small "smokeless pipes." There is a wide variety of soapstone, wood, glass and brass pipes, all less than three inches long.

Along with the merchandise that is used for smoking, many items are advertised for use with substances that are inhaled. Glass and steel tubes are advertised for use in snorting snuff, and sifting mechanisms designed to use with herbs, spices and teas are sold.

Enforcement of the drug paraphernalia laws is difficult because many of the items in. question have legal uses, said Kurt Wuest, a Eugene Police Department detective.

All they have to say is it is a legitimate item." he said. There are very, very few items that don't have some legitimate use. It is hard to prove that it will be utilized for consuming

Determined to play some part

in the war on drugs, the Eugene City Council passed an ordinance in 1988 banning the sale of drug paraphernalia to minors. Because minors cannot buy tobacco, they have no legitimate purpose for buying the paraphernalia.

Hunky Dory owner Bob Smalley Ir. said the ordinance has had no effect on his business. "We've always had a noone-under-18 policy." he said.

City Councilor Roger Rutan said the ordinance was passed in an attempt to take a stand against drug use.

'It is a token measure to try and make a statement. It was one way to say that the legal sale of this right under our noses was just not right," he

"The bottom line is that

people who violate this." Rutan said. "But when you are trying to fight the war on drugs you pick anything you can get your hands on.

It is a requirement of the police department to enforce the ordinance, Rutan said.

The penalty for violating the ordinance would be a class-A misdemeanor, which is punishable by up to one year in jail and a \$2,500 fine, said police Sgt. Rick Siel

The department enforces the ordinance by monitoring the businesses that sell questionable merchandise. But Siel would not explain how police monitor the businesses. He added, however, that he knows of no citations that have been



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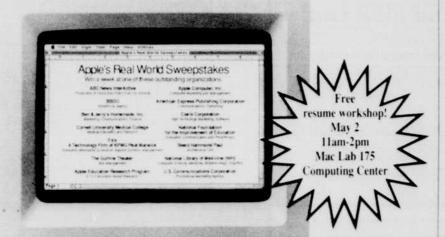
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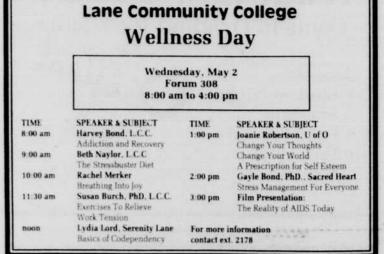
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