

## State reps approve Souter

PORTLAND (AP) — Oregon's two U.S. Senators both voted to confirm the appointment of Judge David H. Souter to become the 105th justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Souter became the 105th justice with a 90-9 vote by the Senate on Tuesday. All nine opponents were Democrats.

Sen. Mark Hatfield, R-Ore., "normally supports presidential nominations unless there is an overwhelming reason not to," aide Bill Calder said.

Sen. Bob Packwood, R-Ore., later issued a three-page written statement to explain his vote. He said he considered Souter's professional compe-

tence and had "reviewed with particular interest Judge Souter's testimony on privacy, gender discrimination, civil rights and freedom of religion."

Packwood said he did not make his decision based on a single issue and does not know how Souter would vote on the issue of abortion, but is encouraged that Souter said he has not made up his mind on the issue.

"I take him at his word," Packwood said. "And knowing that he is of an open mind on the question of abortion, I find encouragement in his statements about how he would evaluate a claim that a particular right is fundamental."

## New look to be chosen for mall

By Gary Hoh  
Emerald Contributor

The Eugene Downtown Design Committee reviewed three designs of what the city's downtown mall could look like in the future and heard a sampling of citizen's opinions on the plans taken in a survey during the Eugene Celebration.

One design in particular would radically change the present look and operation of the downtown mall if it is adopted. The plan to re-design the mall comes after the loss of its two anchor stores, Sears, Roebuck & Co. and The Bon Marche.

"The downtown has changed," said Tom Beckwith, who heads the consulting group hired by the Downtown Design Committee to design the plans.

"What the committee has to decide is what it is going to be, how it is going to be done, and how it is going to function."

Some streets now closed to auto traffic are bound to be opened as part of changes implemented in the plans — a move that has been at the

center of the downtown debate.

"One opinion is for more access to help businesses, but the question is how much and where," Beckwith said. "The other is to preserve the special spaces (fountains, playgrounds, plazas and benches) in the mall."

The problem is to create a balance between the two.

The most feasible option, Beckwith said, would be to open Willamette Street in such a way that it could also be closed to traffic during the "sunny season" and for special occasions.

The corner of Broadway and Olive Street was cited as the heart of the retail district, and a traffic corridor forming a loop around the six-block area could be created to identify the area as a major retail "node," Beckwith said.

However, some committee members said the areas east of the central mall — west of the Oregon Electric Station and Fifth Street Public Market — are becoming very successful and should also be considered in a new design.

A total of 572 people attending the Eugene Celebration two weeks ago filled out a survey on their use of the mall and their opinions on new designs.

The survey is just a sampling and not a scientific study, Beckwith said.

At least 90 percent of the respondents said they liked the outdoor spots on Broadway such as the seating and eating area in front of Rosewaters Cafe, the street and sidewalk area between Oak and Pearl, the new "historic" light standards and stores with overhead awnings.

Only 57 percent liked the large central fountain at the intersection of Willamette and Broadway.

The most highly recommended additions to the mall were more restaurants, cafes, night clubs, theaters, cinemas, commercial service stores, produce or flower markets, and book, tape or video stores.

The Downtown Design Committee will hold a meeting Tuesday to decide which plan to adopt; a public forum on the design will be held in two to three weeks.

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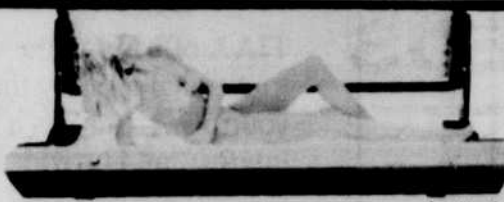
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