

Research park test results are in

By Tammy Batey
Emerald Reporter

No dangerous compounds have yet been found in the soil of the Riverfront Research Park site, but other test results involving paint waste are not expected for a few weeks.

Physical Plant personnel received the results from the soil samples last week, said Diane Wiley, University project representative. No dangerous compounds were found in the soil samples, but results from analysis of some paint waste are not expected for a few more weeks.

The results of the paint tests are important because they will determine how the paint should be disposed of, Wiley said.

However, "a greater concern for the University is environmental," she said. "Is there residual contamination?"

L.R. Squier Associates Inc. of Lake Oswego, the University's environmental consultants, did testing on four parcels of land at the research park site a year ago, Wiley said. Another consulting firm, Geotechnical/Environmental, consulting then made recommendations.

The research park, a cooperative effort between the University and the city of Eugene, will house firms and companies involved in projects complementing University research.

Employees of the L.R. Squier firm discovered a crushed bar-

rel containing a deer carcass on the Silva Orchard parcel, Wiley said. Because of this discovery, the environmental consultants swept over the entire western portion of the orchard with metal detectors last spring.

The consultants discovered other construction debris, including steel cable and paint waste, which was attributed to campus construction.

University personnel soon learned that the region had been a barrel pit in the late '70s and early '80s and some soil was "obviously contaminated," Wiley said. Nineteen test pits equaling about 10 cubic yards were excavated, and the soil beneath examined.



World on His Shoulders

Brad Nile gives his son Richard a piggyback ride under cloudy skies Tuesday as he walks down 13th Avenue. Today's forecast is for rain at times, with highs in the mid to upper 40s.

Photo by John Stoops

Parking

Continued from Page 1

to meet with the ASUO to see how students might be worked into the program.

Oliver said she believes it will be possible for students to be incorporated into the program.

One concern about the reimbursement program is that people will turn in their permits, take the refund but continue to drive to campus, parking in neighborhoods near campus, Oliver said.

The University is taking into consideration the effects of the proposals on the surrounding neighborhoods, she said. "We want to make sure that we are not just moving the problem into somebody else's lap."

Oliver said the part of the package she finds most appealing is the proposal for a cam-

pus shuttle system, which would alleviate the parking problem in two ways.

First, she said, it would help distribute cars at parking spots throughout the University because people could park farther from the center of campus and still get to their destination quickly and easily.

Second, it would encourage more people to take the bus, as they could ride LTD to east campus bus stops and then take the shuttle to any part of campus, without having to walk, Oliver said.

Ed Bergeron, a task force member and LTD employee, said his co-workers are optimistic about the proposals.

"They seem to make more intensive use out of space on campus," he said. "It makes sense to make use of the resources that are already there."

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