

Free parking to end in Fairmount area

Starting Feb. 15, two-hour parking signs will pop up in the neighborhood

By Colleen Pohlig
Emerald Reporter

People who park in the Fairmount neighborhood east of the University, and who are tired of the current parking and construction situations, are about to see some changes in the area. Beginning Feb. 15, the free ride for University employees and others accustomed to parking all day in the area will roll to a stop. Two-hour parking signs will be posted in the neighborhood, which is bounded by Agate Street between E. 22nd Avenue and Franklin Boulevard on the west, and by E. 22nd on the south, Fairmount Boulevard on the east, and Franklin to the

north. However, with a special permit, residents of that area will still be able to park free. Also on Feb. 15, the construction on the parking lot at 15th and Moss, also called the Bean Complex lot, will be completed.

When construction started in the beginning of September, planners gave the finish date at Dec. 27. Delays are attributed to wet weather, said Janet Labue, University Physical Plant employee and director of the parking lot construction. Although a third of the lot is completed and in use, the completion of the parking lot will free up a total of 750 spaces, 150 more spaces than the original lot. "We are relieved the lot is almost done," said Mary Tegel, resident and member of the East Campus Neighborhood

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The Fairmount Boulevard area east of campus as of Feb. 15 will no longer feature free, unlimited parking. Photo by John Stoops

The changing face of environmental activism

Radical activism loses popularity as students look for different ways to help the environment

By Koalani Roberts
Emerald Contributor

In 1988 and 1989, nearly 35 University students were actively involved with a campus chapter of Earth First!, a radical, direct-action environmental group. Many of those were chaining themselves to trees and blocking logging roads in protests. Now, the University has no formal Earth First! chapter, and no more than six students are actively involved at the community level. Campus and community celebrations of Earth Day in April 1990 were organized in part by 100 to 200 students working with the Survival Center, a number that has dropped to 10 students in fall 1991. Is environmental activism at the University dying after a peak at the end of the 1980s? Some say recent increases in student environmental activism for "safe" issues such as recycling are overshadowed by decreases in more radical environmentalism. Others say concern only appears to be declining. Environmental activism is not as noticeable as in the past because of changing attitudes about activism, and because today's action often takes forms other than protests. The University may not be as "green" as student environmentalists would like, but there is evidence student awareness is increasing. "The U of O is one of the strongest environmental campuses in the country," said student senator Brian Hoop, a former director of the Solar Energy Center and the Survival Center. Environmental Studies Professor John Baldwin, who has taught at schools in Wisconsin, Texas, California

and Oregon, said environmental concern here is much higher. Enrollment in Baldwin's Introduction to Environmental Studies class increased significantly about three years ago to 120 and has "stayed high and steady," he said. About 400 students each year enroll in one of four introductory environmental classes. Baldwin said the growing, yet limited, number of other classes on environmental issues is not enough to meet the increase in interest.

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— Brian Hoop

An environmental studies minor began in 1988 with one graduate. As of the beginning of December, 98 students had declared intentions to pursue the minor, a number that may be low because students aren't required to declare a minor until graduation. In addition to increased interest in environmental classes, several environmental committees and programs have gained momentum recently. The Environmental Affairs Committee, a student-faculty committee that addresses environmental issues on campus, was formed in the fall after students pushed for it for two years. For the first time, a member of Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals was appointed to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, a group required at every university to insure compliance with federal animal research guidelines. In addition, the University has "the most compre-

hensive, cutting-edge recycling program of any campus in the U.S.," said Alexandra Foote, director of the Student Recycling Program, a student senator and a member of the Environmental Affairs Committee. Despite this apparent increase in student concern for and involvement in environmentalism, the consensus is that it could be better. "The University of Oregon has a big reputation throughout the land as being a very environmentally hip place to be," said Derek Top, project leader of OSPIRG's alternative energy group. "I think it's exaggerated," he said. "It's here, but it's not necessarily a heaven for environmentalists." "In the two years I've been here, I've noticed the campus community becoming increasingly more conservative," said Howard Brotine, Survival Center co-director. "Students are less radical, less willing to make sacrifices." Brotine said he sees more community support than University support for environmentalism, and wondered if the University only feels liberal because it is in Eugene. "I don't think people realize how much effort it takes to turn concern about the world into action," Hoop said. In large part, he said, people have failed to see the "economics of student activism." Hoop said because school was relatively inexpensive in the 1960s, students didn't have to rush through and be so focused on academics. However, tuition nationwide has increased 30 to 50 percent in the last few years. "Students might care, but they don't have the time," Hoop said. Today's students may find themselves working two jobs to pay for school and taking up to 20 credits a term in order to they graduate on time. "I'm sure (students) care, but are not ready to make a commitment to activism because it's a lot of work."

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HIGH-WAGE STRATEGY

Ray Marshall, one of the leaders in the national movement for broader work force development policies, will discuss U.S. economic development strategies tonight.

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OVERSEAS SUCCESS

Japan was readying trade concessions to make Bush's trip a success in his bid to find jobs for Americans by tearing down Japanese trade barriers.

See **STORY**, page 9



HOOPS

Portland visits Mac Court to wrap up Duck's non-conference season tonight. See **SPORTS**, page 12