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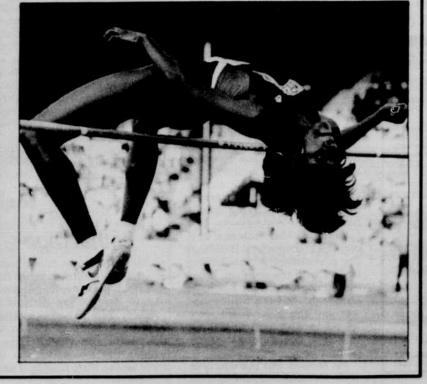
Track attack

Oregon's Tyrza Hunt (above left), Lisa Bedwell, Erika Klein and Camara Jones take a victory lap after their win in the 4x400-meter relay at the Pac-10 Championships this weekend at Hayward Field. Arizona's Marc Davis (right) repeated as champ in both the steeplechase and the 5,000, shown here over Duck Pat Haller. Sophomore Tanya Hughes of Arizona (lower right) broke the collegiate record in winning the high jump Friday. Oregon's Kim Hyatt (lower left) added a conference title in the javelin to her impressive list of credentials Friday. See stories, pages 7-9.

Photos by Jeff Paslay and Michael Shindler







Groups may try stopping Veneta Dead concerts

It's not the band, but traffic, fire hazards and crowds that cause concern

By Tim Neff Emerald Associate Editor

Opponents of two upcoming Grateful Dead concerts near Veneta are weighing their options to block the performances in the wake of Lane County approval of a permit for the events.

The Fern Ridge Community Coalition and the Elmira Community Homeowners Organization may seek an Oregon Circuit Court ruling to reverse the county decision. The Lane County Board of Commissioners granted a "mass gathering" permit for the concerts by a 3-2 vote at its May 20 public hearing.

Mike Farthing, a Eugene lawyer who represented the Fern Ridge group in the approval process, said concert organizers have not adequately addressed health and safety concerns.

"The area is not big enough, nor does it have the infrastructure for an event of this size," Farthing said.
"Autzen Stadium would be a better location."

About 40,000 people are expected to attend the concerts Aug. 22 and 23 at the site of the Oregon Country Fair. The fair normally attracts about 20,000 people.

Farthing said the Grateful Dead concerts will cause traffic snarls and create a fire hazard during what is normally the driest time of the year.

"It's not the Grateful Dead we're focusing on," Farthing said. "It's the sheer number of people. They will create the fourth largest city in the state."

But Kit Kesey, one of the event organizers, said those health and safety concerns have been adequately addressed. Concert sponsors will provide toilets, water sources, security, fire suppression equipment and medical facilities and vehicles.

Those provisions satisfied the majority of the county commissioners.

Commissioner Jerry Rust said because the health and safety concerns were addressed, the commission was required by state statute to grant the mass gathering permits

"If a group meets the health and safety criteria, the counties don't have any discretion in the matter," Rust said. "We've had a thorough look at it, and all the bases

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LAB WORK

The University fares well in national rankings of the top research institutions.

See RESEARCH, Page 4

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

The new crosswalk signs on Agate Street, installed as part of an experimental federal program, may provide glimpses of the future for street signs.

See CROSSWALK, Page 6



WHAT A YEAR

IFC members wrap up a year of budget crunching and unexpected membership changes.

See IFC, Page 6