

# Fireworks banned in south hills

By Laura Ennis  
Emerald Contributor

The use of fireworks is immediately banned year-round within Eugene's city limits, except on the Fourth of July, following a unanimous vote by Eugene City Council Monday night.

In addition, the council voted to ban the use and sale of fireworks year-round, including the Fourth of July, in Eugene's south hills area, which has received much attention lately because of the high development of houses within the heavily wooded area.

Two fireworks stands, run by charities, will have to relocate outside the south hills area west of Harris Street. The ban encompasses a section east of Harris St.

The ban was proposed by City Attorney Bill Gary because of the dry weather and the concern of fire caused by fireworks. The recent rain did not do anything to sway opinion.

"We had a dry spring with a couple rainy days," said City Manager Mike Gleason. "But just because the grass is wet, it does not mean that the

dry trees are not a danger. It takes months of rain for the risk to decrease."

Around the city, especially in the south hills, a special crew of firefighters will be on patrol, using a megaphone to alert residents of the ban. However, most of the patrolling will have to be done by Eugene residents to protect the city from fire danger, said council member Ruth Bascom.

"I don't know how I'm going to tell the 15-year-old next door to me," she said, "but this has to be done."

Violations should not be reported to 911, said Fire Marshall Dave Ness, because emergency services are already overloaded. Complaints should be reported to 687-5111. Violators face a \$500 fine.

The amendment prohibits the use of fireworks, but does not prohibit the sale of fireworks outside the south hills. This feature, proposed by council member Debra Ehrman, caused dissension from two other members.

"We're speaking from both sides of our mouths by selling a 12-year-old fireworks and then telling

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# Meet offers kids chance to compete

By Hope Neelson  
Emerald Reporter

Lisa jumped more than eight feet in the long jump, taking the blue ribbon in her age division of the All-Comers Meet, but that's nothing new for her.

"I have a pile this big of them," nine-year-old Lisa Heinonen said, holding her hands a foot apart.

"I've been doing this since I was four," Heinonen said. "I like to do sports and I like to get a ribbon."

Lisa was one of more than 300 kids who turned out at Hayward Field last Thursday to participate in the first of six rounds in the All-Comers Meet.

All-Comers Meet Director, Al Tarpenning, who has worked on the event since 1968, said it was the biggest turnout he has seen in six or seven years.

"I want to thank the parents for getting their kids involved," he said, looking around the

track. "The kids are here and that's what it's all about."

Organized annually by the Oregon Track Club for the past 35 years, Track City Track Club recently helped to sponsor the popular meets, which are roughly divided into events for children 12-and-under and athletes 13-and-over.

Children and adults compete for ribbons given out in different age divisions, with 12-and-under participating on Thursdays and ages 13-and-over competing Fridays.

Although ribbons are given out to first through fifth places for kids, they are also given out simply for participating, and events include sprint and distance events, low hurdles, and field events such as the high jump, long jump, and shot.

"It's just a concept of giving youngsters an opportunity to find themselves, and an opportunity to have fun," Tarpenning said.

Kids already involved in

track clubs such as the Oregon Track Club and Track City track club can enter for free, but any youngster can enter three events for a \$2 dollar entry fee and compete.

One such entry was nine-year-old, Amy Johnson, who said she entered her currently favorite event, the shot, because it looked fun.

"Today I found out I improved from last year by 5 feet 8 inches," Johnson said, taking a blue ribbon for her 14 foot, 8 inch throw.

Johnson also competed in an event just added to the curriculum, the softball throw, taking a blue ribbon for her 71 foot throw.

One more serious entry, 11-year-old Chris Sprague, has been training for the shotput event with Track City track club and a personal trainer, Melissa Christenson.

Sprague lifts weights every-

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