

WUNDERLAND
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5 VIDEO GAMES
VIDEO ADVENTURE
VALLEY RIVER PLAZA

CHILDREN

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and campus child care coordinators.

"We cared for 21 (children) last year and 42 this year. There just isn't the space," said Suzy Blanchard, director of the Amazon Co-op Child Care Center.

A parent from the audience suggested that the new Family Center could be used as a place where parents can leave their children. Currently, the Family Center is not being used as a day care and parents are encouraged not to leave their children there.

Claypool-Frey said she believes the center isn't large enough for a day care type situation.

Vice President for Administration Dan Williams, who did not attend the town meeting, said an anonymous donor has made a pledge of about \$250,000 to be a starting point for the construction of a new child care facility.

Williams said the donor's of-



File Photo
Limits in child care funding poses problems with the dramatic increase of children in need of the facilities

fer has been in effect for about three years and would be a start for a major fund-raising campaign to construct the roughly \$1.5 million child care facility.

Carolyn Levy, an expectant mother, addressed the need for infant care.

"There are no options for infant care other than a list of people who might be able to take care of the baby," Levy said.

Jane Wagner of PACE, which currently serves 35 children, said she had to charge twice as

much for an infant the program took in as an exception. Even the amount of care givers approved by the state Children's Services Division is limited and can only serve two infants at one time.

Wagner also said she was looking at expanding the age category to keep children through their third year.

As for the child care programs in general, a parent showed concern about the amount of time the children spent with their toys and if there was a way the children could be more actively engaged in learning.

"Children learn by playing," Blanchard said. "Learning social skills is one of the primary goals of the program."

Blanchard added that Oregon's education plan in the next few years is to push this kind of active learning into the lower grade levels, simply because children learn more that way.

On Nov. 18 there will be another meeting from 6 to 8:30 p.m. in the EMU Fir Room.

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TUESDAY MANIA
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OPERATORS

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except for picking beans out at McBee's," Nelson said, turning the page of a newspaper.

"When I worked the cord board phones, sometimes three people would answer the phones at the same time," said Nelson, just before speaking into her headset the three words that campus operators know best: "University of Oregon."

An amazing feat considering that on the Monday of New Student Week, the campus operators handled a record amount of 1,497 calls, answering each call in 20 seconds on the average, Grover said.

"When you can't remember something, you ask Dianne," said the other full-time operator, Lois McDonald, who has been working in Operator Services since 1972.

McDonald said she also has answered some unusual calls.

"One person asked how long to cook a potato, and another asked who posed for the Pioneer Mother," McDonald said.

These are some of the more humorous calls, she said. But she also said she receives a lot of calls during her early morning shift from parents

trying to locate their kids.

"You have to remember that the campus operators are the University as far as people are concerned, and you have to be helpful," McDonald said.

When calls come in from worried parents, the campus operator serves as a sounding board and a link to the University, McDonald said.

Three student operators share the fourth full-time position, which opened in March of this year.

Jenny LeBlanc, a senior psychology major, works nine hours a week as a campus operator.

"This job really works out well for me because I can get a lot of studying done between calls when we are not too busy," she said.

When asked what callers could do to make their jobs easier, the operators answered unanimously, "Look the number up."

The University provides a directory in each student room, and the directories are also available at each area desk, Grover said.

"Have patience, know what you want before you call, and have a paper and pencil in hand before you call," McDonald said.

"And make sure the pencil works," she added with a smile.

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