



Mayor Jeff Miller and Mayor-elect Ruth Bascom embrace as she gives him a plaque for his service to the community.

# Mayor issues farewell address

By Jacqueline Woge  
Emerald Reporter

Mayor Jeff Miller urged the media to help educate the community during his farewell State of the City address Wednesday.

Miller issued the challenge after reviewing the successes of his last four years in office and listing what he believes Mayor-elect Ruth Bascom and the new City Council must remedy.

"We are in challenging and exciting times," Miller said. "Unfortunately, I don't believe the challenges we face have always been reported adequately.

"People don't know what's really at stake and don't understand the internal workings of the city," he said, asking the media to look beyond the cursory reporting of complex events and to report issues more deeply and broadly.

Miller acknowledged budget limitations and asked local media managers to recognize the importance of the moment and fund news efforts accordingly.

Miller said the council still needs to address issues such as affordable housing, public safety, reducing the cost of city services, funding a new library, opening Willamette Street and improving the Ferry Street Bridge.

Miller said Eugene could either fund the Long Range Plan for Public Safety now or spend even more money later in property damage, lost lives or reduced community livability.

The plan would provide for preventive policing against gangs, police in schools and more uniform fire protection, Miller said.

"Why not do it right the first time?" he said.

Miller also said the library should be relocated to the former Sears Building in the Eugene Mall. He said that even if Eugene could not create its ideal new library, it should at least buy the building and do minimal reconstruction now, leaving expansion for later.

In response to Miller's list of continuing issues, Bascom said, "I expect our agendas would be somewhat different."

Miller's list of community accomplishments during the past four years include expanding Mahlon Sweet Airport, launching the Interfaith Community shelter program, elevating Eugene's Martin Luther King Jr. celebration to national prominence and opening Olive Street.

Miller also made an impromptu addition: "The Ducks under my tenure have gone to three bowl games."

During the address, the council also recognized six citizens with Community Service Awards.

## ET ALS

### MEETINGS

ASUO Student Health Center Insurance Committee will meet today at 2 p.m. in the health center medical library. For more information, call 346-3702.

Rubicon Society will meet today at noon at DeFrisco's in the atrium at 99 W. 10th Ave. For more information, call 683-2194.

### MISCELLANEOUS

Student Employment will give a summer employment workshop today from 4 to 5 p.m. in Room 12 Hendricks. For more information, call 349-3214.

CISCAP will present two videos today for International Human Rights Day. The first video will be at noon in the EMU Ben Linder Room, and the second will be at 5 p.m. in the EMU Walnut Room. Discussions will follow the presentations. For more information, call 345-7662.

Catholic Newman Center will go Christmas caroling today at 4:30 p.m. after meeting at the Newman Center. For more information, call 343-7021.

Deadline for submitting Et Als to the Emerald front desk, EMU Suite 300, is noon the day before publication. The news editor does not have a time machine.

Notices of events with a donation or admission charge will not be accepted. Campus events and those scheduled nearest the publication date will be given priority. The Emerald reserves the right to edit for grammar and style. Et Als run on a space-available basis.

## CORRECTION

In Wednesday's Emerald story about biracial students, a quote was misattributed. Sarah Ross, Honoring Our New Ethnic Youth president, said she believes society is becoming more accepting of biracial families.

"To identify with both cultures, that's what I think would be the natural course," Ross also said. The Emerald regrets the error.

# Greeks bring Christmas joy to children

By Jason F. Jensen  
Emerald Contributor

Four-year-old Aaron Wheeler ran into the Pi Beta Phi house living room, and promptly ran out again, apparently frightened by the two dozen young women sitting inside.

A moment later, he crept cautiously back, weaving through the crowd of people until he stood below the 10-foot Christmas tree.

"Christmas!" he shouted in awe, and then disappeared again.

The Pi Beta Phi sorority and Theta Chi fraternity celebrated their 15th annual "Santa's Coming!" philanthropy function Wednesday night. The evening gathering was produced for the Headstart Program, which gives aid to underprivileged children.

"I think it's a really good way to brighten the kids' holiday season," said Kim White, philanthropy chairwoman for Pi Beta Phi. White's co-chair, Lisa Goldsberry, agreed.

"We were looking for a way to give back to the community. A lot of kids don't even have a Christmas tree," Goldsberry said.

The lack of Christmas spirit is one concern of the Headstart Program — a federally funded organization designed to provide a first, positive school experience for four-year-olds. Teresa Frizzell, family advocate for Headstart, said many families do not have the financial support to provide a traditional Christmas gathering.

"It's just the most wonderful thing that could happen to the family," Frizzell said about the celebration.

"This is the biggest gathering yet," said Theta Chi philanthropy chairman Adam Baas, glancing around the crowded room at the 50-60 young kids.



Four-year-old Mario Acuna frosts cookies with junior Nicole Portz of Pi Beta Phi Wednesday at the sorority's house.

Santa and Mrs. Claus made their appearance, of course. Santa was somewhat thinner, shorter and younger than tradition dictates, but the kids didn't notice. They were too busy opening their stockings, frosting cookies and making ornaments.

Five-year-old Nicole asked Santa for a Barbie Doll. And a Ninja Turtle Bicycle is the only thing Victor wanted. When asked his age, Victor said proudly, "I was five, but now I'm not."

## Oregon Daily Emerald

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