Morrisette seeks gambling repeal

By Jacqueline Woge

Mayor Bill Morrisette used his State of the City address Monday night to ask the Springfield City Council to repeal a gambling ordinance it passed

After reviewing the accomplishments of 1992 and thanking the council and staff for their hard work, Morrisette spoke of his concern about the possible harm continued gambling could cause

Morrisette said the \$3 and \$4 betting he envisioned taking place under the Social Games Ordinance has allowed thousands of dollars to change hands. When the ordinance was adopted in June of 1991, two establishments had licenses for four gambling tables. Currently, 37 total tables are licensed for 16 taverns.

The ordinance does not control who may deal the games or what type of games are played. He said games not covered by Springfield's card table license, such as craps and roulette, are allegedly being played locally.

In Nevada dealers are licensed and watched through one way mirrors to ensure honesty. Springfield has no watch mechanism.

Returning council member Bruce Berg said he believes it is time to ban social games. The council voted three to three last year, with Morrisette splitting the tie in favor of maintaining the ordinance. He said two of the council members that voted against the ordinance last year are still on

"From what I know now, I would probably ban gambling," Morrisette said. He said he hoped to review the issue in the next two or three months.

Three other issues Morrisette focused on were capping wages and benefits for public employees, promoting economic growth and the controversial Ballot Measure 20-08, involving the rights of homosexuals

Morrisette asked Springfield to allow the issue to be transferred from the political arena to the courts because of its questionable constitutional-

Berg said a Springfield resident is currently trying to challenge the constitutionality of the ordinance by claiming that the Springfield Utility Board is cutting his electricity because he is gay.

I assume most of us on the council would like to see the issue go away." Berg said.

Morrisette said his tactics in reducing wages would involve some roundabout methods.

Morrisette said he would use his influence as president of the Oregon Mayor's Association and chairman of the Lane Council of Governments to persuade other jurisdictions to reduce the salaries they pay their employees. This would allow Springfield to reduce its already below-median salaries without risking the loss of good employees to other jurisdictions.

Morrisette said he would focus his economic growth plan on the secondary wood products industry. "Operation Bootstraps" is based on an idea brought to him by a Springfield resident. The idea is to sponsor a contest for local residents on

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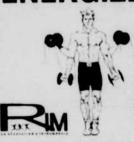
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JOHN SOLUM, Flute Sun.

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University Symphony and four finalists from the UO Concerto Competition. 8 p.m. Beall Hall \$4 General Admission, \$2 Students & Senior Citizens

ONDEKOZA—Japanese Taiko Drummers Sat. 1/30 8 p.m. Beall Hall Guest Ensemble

\$7 General Admission, \$5 Students & Senior Citizens BARBARA BAIRD, Organ, Sun.

GEORGE RECKER, Trumpet 1/31 4 p.m. Beall Hall Faculty Artist Series \$5 General Admission, \$3 Students & Senior Citizens

ET ALS

MEETINGS

MEChA will meet tonight at 6 at the NASU Longhouse information, call 346-3508. For more

Academic Advising & Student Services will present a National Student Exchange informational meeting today at 12:30 p.m. in EMU Cedar Room C. For more information. call 346-3211.

Ad Club will meet today at 5 p.m. in Room 215 Allen. For more information, call 686-4571.

Student Senate will meet today at 6 p.m. in EMU Century Room A. For more information, call 346-0630.

Unwanted Sexual Behavior will meet today from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m in EMU Century Room F. For more information, call 346-1091.

Students' International Meditation Societywill meet on the subject of Transcendental Meditation tonight at 7 in EMU Cedar Room D. For more information, call 687-5994.

EMU House Committee today at 4 p.m. in the EMU Board Room. For more information, call 146-3720.

Returning Students Association will meet today at 5 p.m. in EMU Room 27. Oregon Voice Magazine will meet with old and new staff tomorrow from 7 to 9 p.m. in EMU Room 21, across from the Computing Center.

Catholic Newman Center will feature Fr. Kent Burtner in a locture titled Protecting Yourself from the Cults that Want You' tonight at 7:30 p.m. at 1850 Emerald St. For more information, call

Campus Crusade for Christ will meet tonight at 7:30 in Room 110 Fenton. For more information, call 346-9757.

MISCELLANEOUS

The School of Architecture and Allied Arts will present a faculty lecture by Art History Professor Esther

Jacobson titled "Fieldwork in the Altay Mountains of South Siberia" tonight at 7 in 115 Lawrence Hall.

The Center for Asian and Pacific Studies will present a lecture today from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. titled "Archaeology Language Families and Colonization in Southeast Asia and Elsewhere by Dr. Peter Bellwood, specialist in Sootheast Asia and Pacific pre-history, in the EMU Gumwood Room, For more information, call 346-1521

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

Notices of events with a donation of 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 tun on a space available basis.

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