

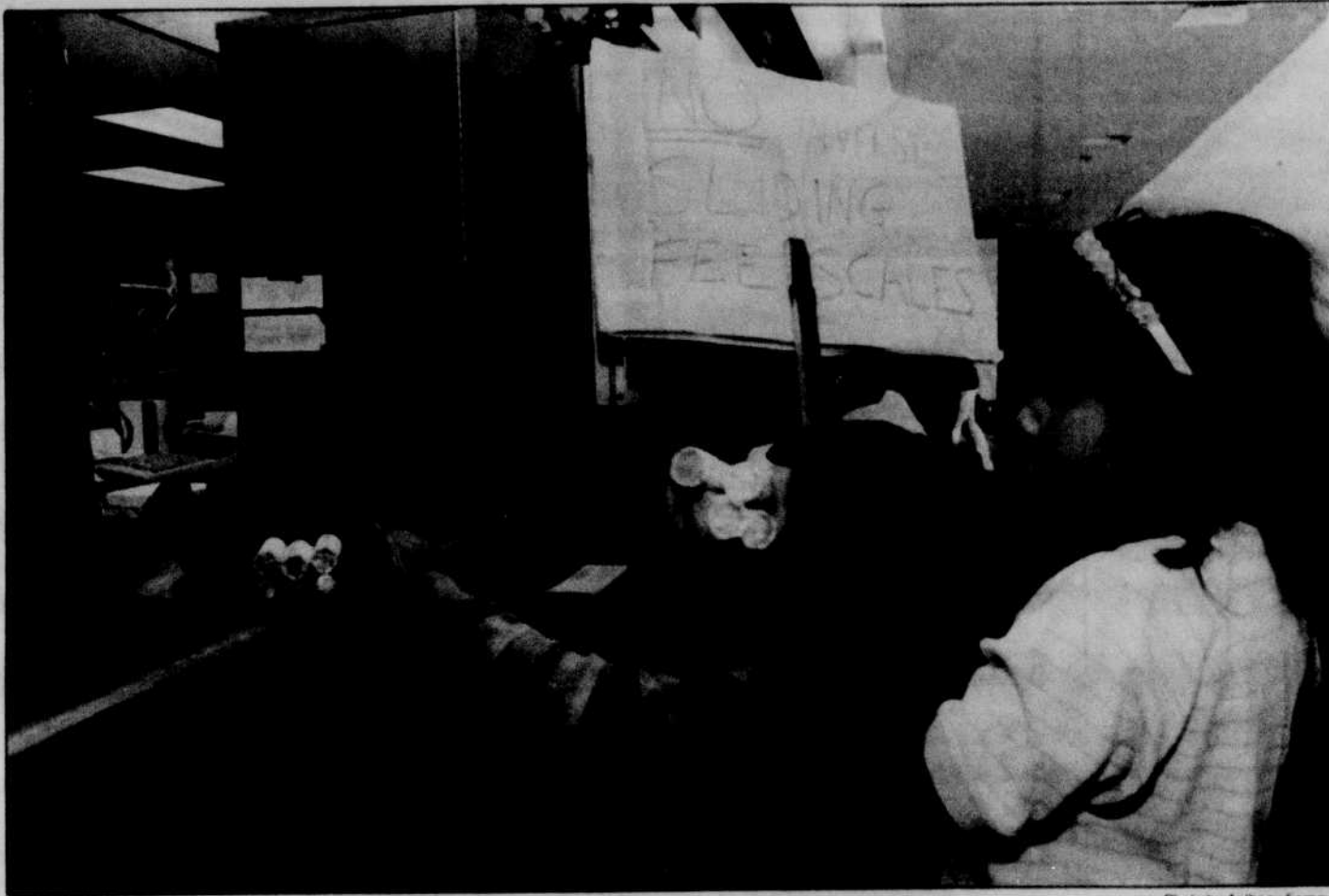
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Eight-year-old Luketan Somnasang (right) and younger brother Jong, five, hand rolls of coins to pay the rent at Oregon Hall.

Housing tenants protest increase

Family housing residents pay rent at Oregon Hall with coins last Thursday

By Ed Carson
Oregon Daily Emerald

Tenants in family housing who believe they are being short-changed by the University responded in kind.

Protesting proposed rent increases in family housing, several families gathered at Oregon Hall last Thursday at noon to pay their rent in coins.

Holding signs that carried slogans such as "Save Family Housing" and "Double Taxation without Explanation," the tenants said they wanted to send a message to the University of how the \$20 to \$40 monthly rent increase going into effect Sept. 1 will affect student families.

"We're here to demonstrate how much every one of these coins means to us," said Amazon tenant Laurence Miller.

Suzanne O'Shea agreed.

"We want to make a statement of the hardship that tenants in family housing face," O'Shea said. "We want them to physically see the hardship."

The protesting tenants charged that the University is abandoning the mission of family housing to provide self-supporting, low-cost housing in order to make up budget shortfalls. In particular, protesters criticized the University's plan to dramatically increase its



Cydni Carter, four years old, and brother Danny, seven, hold signs as part of a protest Thursday at Oregon Hall.

Turn to PROTEST, Page 4

'Tilt train' makes stop in Eugene

More than 3,000 people turn out to see the X2000

By Ed Carson
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Eugene-Springfield area saw a glimpse of Oregon's transportation future when a new high-speed "tilt train" rolled into the Eugene Amtrak station last Thursday.



X2000

Even though the train stood still, the long line and vendors were reminiscent of a Disneyland ride. More than 3,000 people toured the Swedish-built X2000 passenger train. While waiting in line, they could buy an ice cream bar or an X2000 T-shirt for their children.

They also got to see the hydraulic tilting mechanism operate, which is one of the technological improvements that allow the X2000 to travel through curves 30 to 40 percent faster than standard trains.

The X2000 is capable of speeds up to 150 mph. However, the train could only travel up to 79 mph in Oregon because of poor railroad conditions.

Earlier in the day, the X2000 took Gov. Barbara Roberts, state legislators and other dignitaries on a demonstration trip from Salem to Albany.

The demonstration run and Eugene tour are part of Amtrak's nationwide publicity campaign to drum up support for high-speed rail. Since May, the X2000 has been touring key railroad corridors around the country, trying to convert the public away from airplanes and automobiles and back to the railroads.

The Northwest Corridor from Eugene to Vancouver, B.C., was recently designated as a high-speed corridor. Oregon will need to spend \$450 million in order to improve track conditions to permit speeds of up to 125 mph.

One of the major advantages of tilt trains is that they do not require an entirely new track to reach top speeds, unlike "bullet trains" in Europe and Japan. This makes high speed service possible at a fraction of the cost of bullet train systems.

WEATHER



Today should be partly sunny after morning clouds, but during the night, it should be mostly cloudy. Highs should reach the mid 70s, with lows in the upper 40s.

DOING TIME AT SCHOOL

SEATTLE (AP) - A judge gave a young defendant an option for avoiding a stiff sentence of community-service work: attending college. Jackson Gooch, 23, a first-time offender, faced up to a year in prison for manufacturing and selling counterfeit steroids. But at Gooch's sentencing last Friday, U.S. District Judge John Cougenhour instead imposed five years' probation and 4,000 hours of community service - the equivalent of 500 eight-hour work days. Then came the catch: Cougenhour said he would give Gooch 1,000 hours of credit against the community-service work for each year he maintains a college GPA of 2.5 or better. Gooch attends Green River Community College.

SPORTS

PORTLAND (AP) - Paul Allen, the billionaire owner of the Portland Trail Blazers, broke ground Monday for the most expensive stadium ever built for an NBA team. Allen and Mayor Vera Katz donned hard hats and climbed aboard huge backhoes to scrape the first shovels full of dirt off of the site of the team's new \$262 million arena. The stadium will seat more than 20,000 people, an increase of more than 7,000 seats over nearby Memorial Coliseum, home to the Trail Blazers since the team's first season in 1970. The new stadium, still nameless, is expected to be completed in time for the 1995-96 season.