

## Further efforts by University to aid Amazon

□ Officials announce another engineering study on the project

By Arik Hesseldahl  
Oregon Daily Emerald

University officials announced a renewed effort to complete plans to demolish and rebuild the Amazon family housing complex at a news conference Monday.

Officials said they will commission another engineering study and will form new committees with more students than before to give input to the project's direction.

The University has planned to demolish several of the buildings at East 24th Avenue and Patterson Street to make way for new construction since January of 1992 when a similar study recommended that the buildings not be occupied beyond 1996. Critics of that report say it was completed in hurried fashion and did not conclusively prove that the buildings must be torn down.

Amazon tenant Nancy Forrest said she is pleased that another study will be conducted, but that she wonders if the second study will "simply replicate" the original study.

"Many of us here have discussed having an independent assessment of the buildings done by raising money from donations. If the University doesn't want to do this kind of study because of cost, we would love to pool our resources together with the precondition that the study also consider renovating these buildings," Forrest said.

"It could easily come down to a battle of the studies," Forrest said.

Forrest would like to see more involvement in the formation of study objectives from tenants who want the possibility of renovation of the existing buildings to be

Turn to **AMAZON**, Page 5

## Good news



WILSON CHAN/for the Emerald

Douglas King, of the Ministry from North Central California, hands out his religious comic, *Free Good News*, Tuesday on the corner of 13th Avenue and Kincaid Street.

## ASUO considers plan to remodel fee committee

□ Current proposal would create three subcommittees to direct incidental fees

By Edward Klopfenstein  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The ASUO is considering a plan that will drastically change its fee governing body and should end the administration's concern that Incidental Fee Committee politics might hamper the EMU budget, the ASUO president said last week.

Student government needs to separate the IFC's line-item power from its role as overall fee manager, ASUO President Eric Bowen said.

Under the current proposal, student government could do that by allowing incidental fee money to be directed on a line-item basis by three subcommittees. There would be one subcommittee for the athletic department, the EMU and ASUO programs.

The overseeing body, currently unnamed, would keep an eye on the fee structure and overall subcommittee budgets without dictating how funds should be spent.

"I think this is a model for success for students," Bowen said. "Now the fee is managed in the dark all year. This will put some reasoning in the fiscal process."

Incidental Fee Committees in the past have pushed for line-item management on funds to the EMU, a power that the administration said is unacceptable.

Because of the administration's fear that the IFC would micro-manage the EMU's portion of the incidental fee money, the administration has been actively trying to change the IFC's operating rules since 1991 and pull the EMU Board of Directors out from under the control of the IFC.

Bowen said the ASUO needs to break up the "micro and macro" power of the IFC and believes the suggested model could do that job.

Bowen devised the plan's outline along with the EMU board and IFC chairpersons at an ASUO weekend retreat about two weeks ago. Bowen said the proposal already has support.

Turn to **FEES**, Page 5

## Report says UW generous at giving students As, Bs

□ Accrediting body finds grade inflation across the country

SEATTLE (AP) — Too many As and Bs are given to students at the University of Washington, a national accrediting body said in a recent report.

In 1992, 70 percent of the grades given to undergraduates at the school were As or Bs, the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges said after its first such study at the University of Washington in 10 years.

The percentage of As and Bs was up significantly from 10 years ago, even though University of Washington students did not score higher on standardized tests, the group said.

In 1983, 60 percent of grades given to University of Washington undergraduates were a 2.6 GPA or above on a scale where 4.0 is all As.

A decade later, the number rose to 70 percent, Washburn said. Only 14 percent of the grades were Cs or Ds, and only 1 percent were Fs. The remaining 15 percent were in miscellaneous categories such as pass/fail or incomplete.

Grade inflation makes it hard for employers and graduate schools to sort out good and poor students, critics say.

## Homeless play part in community

□ Non-profit and church-oriented groups provide shelter, care to help curb homelessness

By Susanne Steffens  
Oregon Daily Emerald

He could have been one of us. Larry is 33 years old and is one of many who use a bus bench or a city park as living quarters. He survives the day by panhandling and collecting cans, and is happy with his lifestyle, saying he is "unable to find a place in our world."

Homeless people have always been a part of the local community in Eugene. In the Eugene Mall, in parks, in neighborhoods and around campus the homeless population gathers, causing concern to many local citizens.

The homeless represent very diverse backgrounds and can be from any number of societal groups. In Eugene and Springfield, there are between 600 and 2,000 homeless people. During the spring and summer, this number easily increases.

According to a 1983 report from the Eugene City Council, in which 380 homeless people were interviewed, more than 68 percent were homeless because of a lack of money and were looking for work.

In Eugene, the student population is in daily contact with the homeless who gather around campus. "The students seem to treat them better than the rest of the citizens, giving them both food and money," said Officer Ken Saxon of the Eugene police department, who patrols the campus area on bike.

Saxon is on a first-name basis with most of the homeless around campus and tries to help those who are sober to find work. He also sends people to Alcoholics Anonymous meetings because, for the majority, alcohol is the main problem.

"They can get up to \$120 a day in panhandling, which goes to alcohol or drugs," Saxon said.

A problem among the public is that they seem to view the homeless as more criminally inclined than they actually are.

"Most of the arrests we do on the homeless around campus are for trespassing, drinking in public and disorderly conduct, and the people behind bars represent a small amount of the homeless population," Saxon said.

Many of the students, however, feel the presence of the homeless constitutes a kind of violence that deprives them of the sense of safety. Some students are harassed when asked for money, and one student said she had a man follow her to her dorm because she didn't give him a dollar.

Turn to **HOMELESS**, Page 6