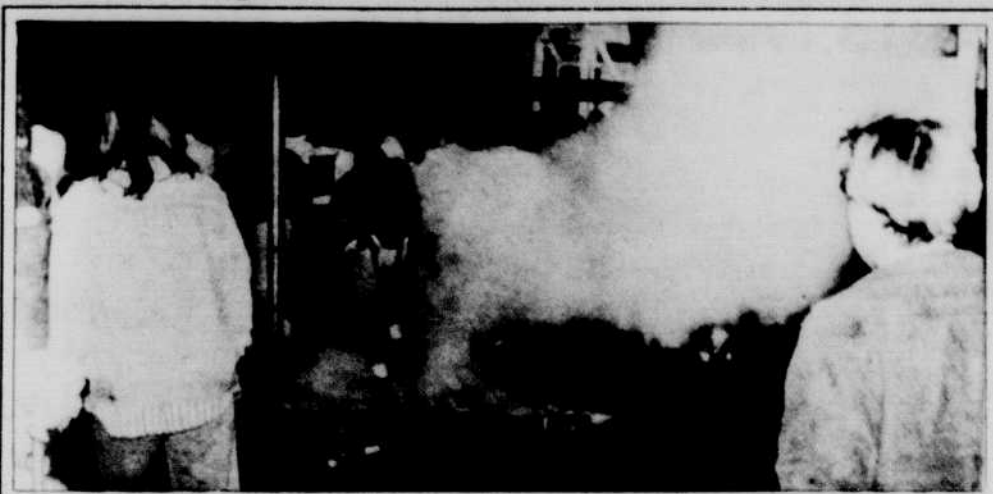


What a gas



EMERALD FILE PHOTO

FROM THE PAST:

Hundreds of partiers fled tear gas used by the Eugene police to break up crowds gathered in an alley courtyard in the West University neighborhood in April 1989. During the course of three

hours, police tossed about 10 canisters of tear gas into the crowd. The crowd refused to cooperate and disperse and began throwing bottles and other objects, according to police statements.

City spends \$50,000 on meters

By Rebecca Merritt
Oregon Daily Emerald

An increased level of theft and vandalism of Eugene parking meters has forced the city to spend \$50,000 on new meter locks.

Problems with parking meter crimes started about a year ago, said Jerry Gill, the city's downtown parking administrator. The city was losing between \$1,000 and \$2,000 a week from stolen parking revenues, Gill said.

"Parking meter thefts cost the city and citizens a lot of money," Gill said.

Detective Jerry Martin of the Eugene police department said individuals mastered keys to the meters and skim them daily for change. Meters in the core downtown area are hit the hardest.

"These aren't real smart people because there's not much money in the meters," Martin said.

Gill said a meter has — at most

— \$3 of change at a given time. Parking meter officials empty the meters daily. However, before officials realized the theft problem, meters were only checked once a week.

Two people who possessed a key that fit meter locks were arrested last year. Gill said one suspect has been caught stealing change from meters three times.

Police have problems handling parking meter theft situations because when a person is arrested he or she just has a small amount of stolen money and only can be charged with a misdemeanor, Gill said.

"It's very hard to tie that person to a series of crimes," Gill said.

Martin said city's problems became worse after an article in the *Register-Guard* about parking meter theft. The article, he said, gave people ideas and he hopes the same thing won't happen with *Emerald* readers.

After the article ran, he said, people started ripping out entire meters from sidewalks.

Gill said vandalism is more of a problem than theft in the University area. People try to open meters with sledgehammers or put super glue in locks. Some people have tied meters to their cars to pull them from the ground.

The new meter locks have been ordered and will be placed first in the downtown area.

"We're hoping they're going to be here real quick," Gill said. Each case will have an individual lock that can only be opened with one key. Right now, the same key can be used for all meters in a given area. The city will also replace some meters with older, stronger cases.

Gill said this is just the first phase of the city's parking meter project. More money is expected to spent on new locks in the next few years.

COMMUNITY UPDATE

- Margo Adair, co-author and teacher for the Tools for Change Collective of San Francisco, will present two free workshops on building effective alliances today. The first workshop is scheduled from 1 to 5 p.m. in the EMU Gumwood Room. The second workshop begins at 5:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St. Child care will be provided.

- Sacred Heart General Hospital is offering two peer-led support groups for the chronically ill and their care-givers. Group meetings are scheduled for the first and third Thursdays of each month at the hospital's north dining room. Participation is free. For more information, call 686-7044.

- The United Way needs volunteers for the following positions: cadet commander for Pioneer Youth Corps of Oregon, six hours per week; April Fool's Run volunteer for Family Resources, two hours per shift; cookie maker for Ronning Foster Homes, one hour per week; financial development assistant for YMCA and the University, two hours per week; health information volunteer for Eugene Clinic, four hours per week. For more information, call the Volunteer Connection, 683-9000.

- Emerald Valley Special Olympics is offering a volunteer training program March 15 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The free program is open to ages high school to adult. Organizers will offer a brief overview of area programs and volunteer opportunities. For more information, call Donna Ayres or Ellie Jones at 747-3536 or 1-800-696-4530.

- The Children's Miracle Network will earn money from the "Mr. Irish" pageant scheduled for 7:30 p.m. March 17 at Sheldon High School. Contestants were nominated by high school senior girls and will be judged on their appearance in a variety of apparel, an interview segment and a dance routine with the Sheldon Colleens. Contests independently raise donations.

- The city of Eugene has scheduled a meeting March 15 to discuss the possibility of developing a ropes course at Spencer Butte Park. The course would include ropes, cable nets and platforms for recreational use. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. at Hilyard Community Center, 2580 Hilyard St. For more information, call Marilyn Kalstad at 687-5329.

- The Lane Historic Preservation Council and the cities of Eugene and Springfield are sponsoring a logo design contest for Historic Preservation month in May. This year's theme is "The Economics of Livable Communities: History Worth Saving." All artists are encouraged to enter. Designs will be accepted at the Eugene City Hall through March 15. For more information, call Lisa Teresi-Burcham at 344-5546.

- Springfield residents interested in having their gardens featured in the Spring Garden Festival are asked to contact the Springfield Depot District by March 18. The city also needs volunteers to plan the event. The festival is scheduled for May 21-22. For more information, call 726-3657.

- The Big Brother-Big Sister Community Bowlathon is scheduled for Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Fairfield Lanes. For more information call 747-6632.

- An open house for Pearl Buck Center is scheduled for March 15 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. The center, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary, provides employment to individuals with development disabilities. For more information, call 345-8506 or 484-4666.

- McKenzie-Willamette Hospital's Women's Resource Center is offering a class for women on how to maintain friendships with other women while maintaining a busy lifestyle. The class is scheduled for Thursday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Registration fee is \$5. For more information call 343-3767.

Summer Japanese Study

Intensive 6-week program in Portland, OR, July 18-Aug 28. Earn 12 quarter hours. Study language (all levels) and culture with Japanese students on theme "Nature & the Environment." Three-day wilderness program included. Prior language study not required.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Editor-in-Chief

of the
OREGON DAILY EMERALD

The *Oregon Daily Emerald*, the independent student newspaper at the University of Oregon, is currently accepting applications for the position of Editor for the 1994-95 academic year.

Eligible candidates must be either an undergraduate student at the University enrolled for a minimum of six credit hours per term in three of the four academic quarters of his or her term as Editor, or a graduate student at the University enrolled for a minimum of three credit hours per term in three of the four academic quarters of his or her term as Editor. All applicants must be in good academic standing. Prior newsroom experience required.

The *Oregon Daily Emerald* is published by a non-profit corporation which operates independently of the University. The primary purpose of the ODE is to provide education and training for students in all aspects of newspaper operation by serving a campus audience with news, editorial and advertising content.

The Editor of the ODE, who reports to a 10-person volunteer Board of Directors, has responsibility for all editorial operations and all editorial content of newspaper. Term of office is June 7, 1994 through the last issue of Spring term, 1995, and is preceded by an orientation period which begins no later than May 2 and extends through June 6. This is a paid position.

Interested parties should pick up an application packet, which includes a job description, at the ODE front desk in Suite 300 EMU or call 346-5511 for more information.

Completed applications must be returned to the ODE Board of Directors in the ODE office by 5:00 p.m., Friday, April 1, 1994. An individual will be selected by the Board on April 19, 1994.

The *Oregon Daily Emerald* is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is committed to a culturally diverse workplace.

Oregon Daily **Emerald**

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