

# Amazon demolition screeches to a halt

**Reaction:** University officials outraged after Amazon advocates receive stay of demolition

Lori Bettineski  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Just when it looked like the threatened Amazon Family Housing complex was going to be bulldozed to extinction, protection was granted Monday

that now stops all demolition on the site until further notice.

The Save Amazon Coalition received an unexpected stay by the state Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) late Monday afternoon, which requires University officials to immediately stop all work at the low-income housing site until the board can rule on the coalition's appeal to the demolition permit.

A time for this ruling has not

yet been announced, but will likely take place late this week or early next week.

"This borders, if not crosses, the line of abusive process," said Mike Eyster, director of University Housing. "We still have plenty of time though, and it won't hurt the University's plans any. Even if we did miss the construction season, the demolition of Amazon would still occur. It will be replaced."

After the stay was granted Monday, Eyster immediately contacted the demolition contractors to prevent any irreparable damage from taking place before LUBA's final decision is reached.

"Our demolition contractor has been pulled off and I told our contractors Monday to halt all action immediately," Eyster said. "They won't be back until a final decision is reached."

Daniel Stotter, an Eugene attorney representing the Save Amazon Coalition, said that despite recent decisions against the coalition, Monday's stay is a positive step in the direction of saving the complex from demolition.

"It's the first victory we've had in this struggle and my clients are excited," Stotter said.

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## Women file suit against civil rights organization

**Accusations:** NAACP is accused of giving women lower salaries and fewer perks than their male counterparts

WASHINGTON (AP) — A \$2 million sex discrimination lawsuit has been filed against the NAACP, accusing the civil rights group of giving women employees lower pay and fewer perks than men who do the same work.

The lawsuit, filed Friday in U.S. District Court in Washington, was brought on behalf of about 40 women who held professional or management positions in the NAACP from 1991 through this year.

The lawsuit names as defendants the NAACP, former board Chairman William Gibson, Acting Executive Director Earl Shinhoster, Acting Deputy Director Fred Rasheed, General Counsel Dennis Courtland Hayes, former Executive Director Benjamin Chavis and former Deputy Director Lewis Myers.

The defendants "failed and refused, in nearly all instances, to properly investigate or redress economic grievances or questions of the women," the lawsuit says.

Messages left for Shinhoster, Rasheed, Hayes and Chavis were not immediately returned. Gibson was unavailable for comment. No forwarding telephone number could be found for Myers, who

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## Buyin' the books



NATALIE MONTGOMERY/Emerald

The first day of classes brings a rush of students to the Bookstore. Lines extended to the back of the store. A quick trip to the bookstore to buy just a few books could end up being an hours-long ordeal.

## Financial aid fraud explored by Congress

**Findings:** Ineligible schools continued receiving federal aid because federal laws were difficult to enforce

WASHINGTON (AP) — At 1993 hearings on student financial aid fraud, senators wondered why the Education Department had failed to crack down on ineligible schools that continued to receive millions of federal dollars.

Part of the answer was right under their noses.

Interviews and government documents show that members of Congress themselves often make it hard for the department to enforce the rules on home-state schools. Losses to defaulted loans and wasted grants run into the billions of dollars each year.

A stark example had come just a few months before the hearings when Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., called department officials to a meeting on Capitol Hill.

The purpose was to lobby the department to unconditionally approve Mercy College's proposed takeover of the bankrupt Center for Media Arts in New York.

The college wanted to use CMA as a satellite campus, but wished to avoid having to repay \$900,000 in federal tuition refunds due CMA's students. The department was insisting the students — and the taxpayers — be protected as a condition of the takeover.

In the wood-paneled Rayburn Room, just a few steps from the House floor, Nadler, Rep. Ben Gilman, R-N.Y., and six aides to other New York lawmakers lectured the bureaucrats for nearly four hours, not letting them go until 8:15 p.m., according to a written summary of the meeting.

"The amount of political pressure exerted against the department was truly extraordinary in this case," department official Diane Sedicum wrote in a memo a few days after the April 28, 1993, meeting. She called

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### GOOD MORNING

► Eugene voters must turn their vote-by-mail ballots in to the elections office by 8 p.m.

The election contains only one measure, a video poker tax referendum, and numerous school board, park district, port commission and fire and water district races. Voters who have not already mailed their ballots should deliver them in person to the elections office at 135 E. 6th Avenue.

The Eugene measure seeks to repeal a 10 percent tax on business' video poker commissions that was approved last fall by the city council. It was put on the ballot by a referendum petition campaign financed by the Oregon Restaurant Association.

The Oregon Restaurant Association is also urging the 1995 legislature to ban video poker taxes.

The council approved the tax to help pay for the community policing program. If it had been in effect last year, the tax would have raised about \$450,000.

According to Betty Burgess, a senior clerk at the Lane County elections office, an approximate count will be compiled shortly after 8 p.m.

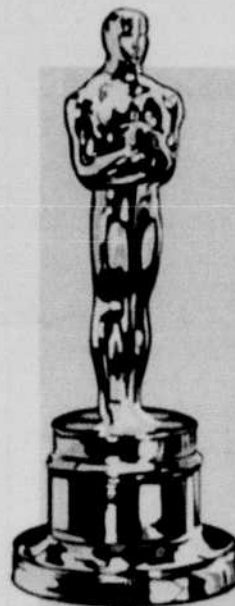
Final results will be posted within a few days of the election, Burgess said.

► SAN DIEGO (AP) — A parade of Republican presidential hopefuls courted California's most con-

servative political activists this weekend while Gov. Pete Wilson took his budding presidential campaign to Washington.

Sen. Phil Gramm of Texas, commentator Pat Buchanan, California Rep. Bob Dornan and talk show host Alan Keyes competed for the most conservative anti-tax, anti-crime, anti-welfare, anti-abortion message in appearances before 300 leaders of the California Republican Assembly.

There was no formal winner before the CRA, a coalition of more than 100 local political clubs that will not endorse a candidate until a September convention, but Gramm appeared to have an edge.



### THE ENVELOPE, PLEASE...

A selection of winners from Monday night's Academy Awards ceremony:

**Best Picture:** *Forrest Gump*

**Best Actor:** Tom Hanks

**Best Actress:** Jessica Lange

**Best Supporting Actor:** Martin Landau

**Best Supporting Actress:** Diane Wiest

**Best Director:** Robert Zemeckis

**Best Original Screenplay:** *Pulp Fiction*

**Best Adapted Screenplay:** *Forrest Gump*

**Best Foreign Picture:** *Burnt By The Sun*

**Best Cinematography:** *Legends of the Fall*

**Best Score:** *The Lion King*

**Best Song:** *Can You Feel the Love Tonight*

**Best Sound Effects:** *Speed*

**Best Costume:** *Ed Wood*