

## Workers rally to call attention to plight

**OPEU:** Union members hope to avoid strike, but are prepared for the worst nonetheless

**Samantha Martin**  
*Oregon Daily Emerald*

Bob James wakes up every weekday morning at 6:30 a.m. and rides his bike to an 8:00 a.m. Chinese class that he is auditing. After class, he begins work at Carson Dining Hall, where as a food service worker, he manages the salad bar.

James takes a half-hour lunch break, unpaid, then works until 9 p.m.

Wednesday, in his break between the end of his class and work, James, an Oregon Public Employee's Union member for nine months, attended the OPEU rally in front of Johnson Hall. Approximately 200 other protesters joined him to voice dissent about the effects of Measure 8 on state workers and other unresolved contract issues.

James has been working at Carson for two years, which qualifies him as a level

one food service worker. This means he is at the bottom of the pay scale, and a state-wide strike would result \$70 decrease in monthly wages.

Bart Lewis, who is the treasurer of local 85 of the OPEU at the University, said there was no strike fund to cover lost wages for striking union members, because the fund was depleted due to the rising cost of health insurance for state workers.

James and his live-in girlfriend and her son would have to live off of money

they have been saving for the last two years to buy a house if he is forced to strike.

"I like my job and don't want to do anything that would damage the University, but at this time workers are not being treated right," James said. "I do my part and should be treated fairly." James said the level of anxiety for employees at Carson is rising each day.

"This [situation] pits one worker against the other," James said. "There

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## City Council votes to fund car camp through May

**Homeless:** The unanimous decision delays closure of car camp until May 31

**Ben Moebius**  
*Oregon Daily Emerald*

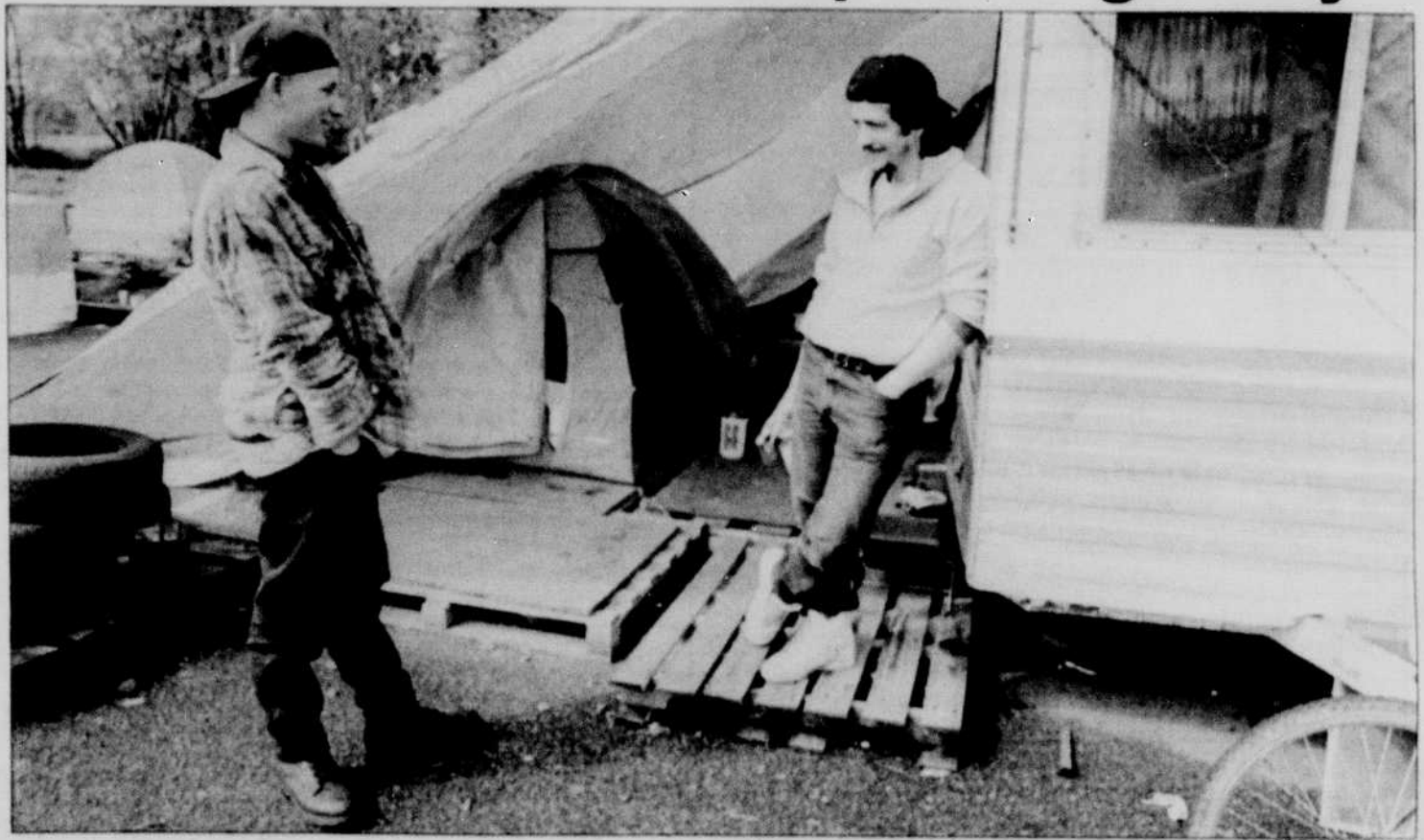
The Centennial Car Camp will avoid early closure thanks to \$5,000 in emergency funding granted by the Eugene City Council in a work session Wednesday.

The car camp experienced a budget shortfall of \$10,000, half of which will be covered by a prior donation from the Sacred Heart Health Care System, because of unexpected needs discovered by the managers of the camp, Lane ShelterCare. The shortfall would have forced the camp to close at the end of April.

The council decided, in a unanimous vote, to approve funding the car camp until May 31, when it was scheduled to close. However, the council also unanimously approved a motion to end the city's primary responsibility for the camp, which is located in a parking lot near Autzen Stadium, after this year.

The motion will shift responsibility to the Intergovernmental Human Services Committee, which already allocates funds for housing services

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Residents at the Centennial Car Camp, located near Autzen Stadium, received a reprieve from the Eugene City Council Wednesday. Councilors voted unanimously to fund the car camp through May 31; a budget shortfall would have forced the camp to close at the end of the April.

## Candidates seek aid increases

**Platform:** Nat Farnam, Eli Elder say students should protest cuts to federal financial aid

**Amy Columbo**  
*Oregon Daily Emerald*

Nat Farnam and Eli Elder, candidates for the ASUO Executive, said they are two "regular guys" who want to appeal to the majority of the student body who fail to vote during campus elections.

Neither of the candidates have been involved in the ASUO in the past. It is a feature that makes the team unique.

"We're outsiders and we're not stuck in all the politics of the ASUO," Farnam said.

"Hopefully, we address this apathy by appealing to the general student body who feel that they don't have candidates that express their interests," he said.



Nat Farnam and Eli Elder are running for the ASUO President and Vice President positions.

Farnam and Elder are running on a platform with the issues of stopping police harassment, rent increases and cuts in financial aid. They propose meeting with the police department, the city

council and the mayor to lobby for students' rights.

The two would like to increase communication between students

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## OSPIRG's statement OK'd by senate

**PFC:** Committee will hear OSPIRG's budget tonight

**Natasha Shepard**  
*Oregon Daily Emerald*

The ASUO Student Senate voted to approve the controversial goal statement of the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group with only one dissenting vote Wednesday night.

The revised goal statement was passed after less than half an hour of Senate discussion, approving OSPIRG's eligibility to be funded by student inci-

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### GOOD MORNING

► **SACRAMENTO (AP)** — One of two new Interstate 5 bridges quickly built to replace spans washed away in recent floods opened to traffic Wednesday.

The northbound bridge over Arroyo Pasajero, near Coalinga, opened about 2 p.m., 33 days after the washouts, the state Department of Transportation announced.

The southbound span was expected to open Wednesday night, said Caltrans spokesman Jim Drago.

Seven people died when their cars fell into the raging creek as they drove along the interstate on the night of March 10. One motorist survived by clinging to branches of bushes along the creek until he was rescued an hour later.

Contractor C.C. Meyers of Rancho Cordova had estimated costs of \$3.6 million to rebuild the bridges in 50 days. Working around the clock, Meyers completed the project 17 days ahead of schedule.