

# AMAZON

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Bruhl was one of nine protesters who was arrested earlier Thursday morning for attempting to block the bulldozer from entering the site. Like other supporters, Bruhl claimed the stay issued by the board on March 28 was still in effect, which halted demolition until the board could hear an appeal issued by the Save Amazon Coalition on April 27.

The board had issued a final opinion on the matter May 5, which ordered city of Eugene Planning Director Jan Childs to write new findings to support that the University had satisfied all requirements for seeking a demolition permit.

Childs completed the findings Wednesday, stating the University had satisfied all requirements for obtaining the demolition permit and could proceed with the demolition.

"The city had assured us that it had met all conditions of the LUBA ruling, after careful review by its legal counsel, and that the University has the authority to proceed with the demolition and replacement of this unsafe housing," said University President Dave Frohnmayer.

"We were also advised by the state Attorney General's office that the city's action gives us the authority to move forward," Frohnmayer said.

The Save Amazon Coalition filed an appeal early Thursday morning challenging Childs' findings and requested that an interim stay be issued until their appeal could be heard.

The board agreed and has given the City of Eugene — the respondent in the case — 10 days to respond to the motion. The board will then issue an order either granting or denying the coalition's motion for stay.

If the board denies the motion, the interim stay issued Thursday will be lifted and the University can then proceed with the demolition.

Daniel Stotter, the coalition's attorney, said the board did confirm Thursday that all earlier demolition should not have occurred and that the original stay they issued was still in effect.

"The University has disregarded the law," Stotter said. "Unfortunately, we can't bring the buildings back that were

## ARREST

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transported to the Lane County Jail, cited and released on the agreement that they would not return to the site.

All nine were charged with disorderly conduct and were ordered to appear in Eugene Municipal Court on May 25 with bail set at \$255.

"I was handcuffed and put in the van where it was very uncomfortable," said Karl Gery Sorg, a 72-year-old World War II veteran who lived in Amazon under a GI Bill. "The officers had to assist me out because I couldn't walk well with the handcuffs on."

Martha M. Prall, an 83-year-old former resident of Amazon, was also arrested, along with Stephanie Eleanor Lee Avebury, 29; Suzanne Irene O'Shea, 42; Carole Emily Bruhl, 43; William Roy Linquist, 51; Liam Donal Cassidy, 21, and Omar Nathaniel

Ely, 25.

Eugene Police Sergeant Dennis Baker said the activists must have been "tipped off" about the demolition beforehand.

"When they saw the equipment coming, they were there and hurried down the street to block the way," he said.

Frank Gaddini, area director for Amazon and East Campus, said he regretted the activists were arrested, but they were given "fair warning."

"The opposition came out in full force and did what they felt they had to do," Gaddini said. "I really wasn't surprised by Hornbuckle's appearance. He has clearly drawn the line that he doesn't support the University's decision to rebuild Amazon."

Both Gaddini and officers said more arrests would be made in the future if activists attempt to block the way of the bulldozers.

**T**hese delay tactics are fruitless.

The University will go forth with their plans and are convinced the demolition will take place.

— MIKE EYSTER

Director of University Housing

destroyed here today."

Stotter said members of the coalition had received an anonymous tip Wednesday night and immediately prepared the appeal to take to the board Thursday morning.

"We took the appeal to the board this morning, and they worked to grant the stay as quickly as humanly possible," Stotter said.

Worried that more buildings would be demolished, a copy of the board's stay was rushed to the site as quickly as possible by the supporters, although three buildings had already been demolished.

Several supporters also claimed legal action would be taken against the University's demolition Thursday, but no official word has been released

as to whether Stotter will seek such action.

Despite supporters claims that Thursday's demolition was "illegal," University officials are confident that no laws were broken and that they have continued to abide by all rulings in the dispute.

"We wouldn't have gone ahead if that was the case," said Mike Eyster, director of University Housing. "The University is very careful with the action they take, and everything we've done is appropriate. We simply acted on the city's ruling that we could proceed."

Despite continued efforts by the coalition to stop the University's demolition plans, Eyster said eventually the demolition will take place.

"These delay tactics are fruitless," Eyster said. "The University will go forth with their plans and are convinced the demolition will take place."

Before the stay was granted, Gaddini said bulldozers were planning to demolish seven buildings Thursday and more today.

About 15 buildings stand to be razed at this point as part of the University's plan to have the site cleared and ready for reconstruction by fall 1995.

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