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## Event: Initiative may reshape council

Continued from Page 1

to the second choice, or third, etc. And voters can rank several candidates equally, dividing their vote as needed among one or more candidates.

Although the system sounds complicated, Hornbuckle said that a computer can work it out in a matter of seconds.

The initiative would also increase the City Council to a 10-member body, up from eight, and expand the power of the council by limiting the city manager's authority. It would also allow council members to be paid for their work on the council.

The election would be conducted through mail-in ballot, but it would also be possible to go to a poll, Hornbuckle said.

One of the benefits of this new

process is that it would eliminate the need for a primary election because the candidates would not need to be narrowed down. Therefore it would be more cost-effective for the city, Hornbuckle said.

The computer program, developed by Jerel Software, counts the votes and does the distributing electronically.

"It's almost impossible to make a mistake in preference voting," Hornbuckle said.

Preference voting has been around for a long time, Hornbuckle said, adding that the founder of the League of Women Voters has been a big proponent. A similar type of voting system is used in Cambridge, Mass., although it is done by hand and not electronically. There it is well-received and draws specta-

tors to the counting on election night, Hornbuckle said.

Hornbuckle said he created the initiative because he believes voter alienation is a problem in this city.

Instead of having a race where an incumbent has the advantage because of name recognition, a voter will be better able to make an informed decision about a candidate's ideas, Hornbuckle said.

"It causes issue-oriented campaigns where voters have the ability to penalize candidates," he said.

Opponents of the initiative, including Eugene Mayor Ruth Bascom, say the initiative has a poor chance of passing because it includes too many issues. Also, she has said, voters do not really want to pay the city council.

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## Project: It will excite kids, coordinator says

Continued from Page 1

tion on 49 geographical locations across the state. The sites represented on ExplOregon were chosen based on the amount of information, photographs, and research collected about them. The state is divided into nine physiographic regions with physical characteristics unique to each of those regions.

"Kids do get excited about multi-media," said James Meacham, geographical coordinator for the project. "They can interact with images on the screen and explore areas they've been to or areas they will be going to."

Joe Searl, co-director of the project, said the CD-ROM was designed to serve as a supplement in the classroom, not to eliminate geography textbooks altogether.

"Since kids are being exposed to multi-media, we need more of it in education," Searl said. "Anybody that eliminates or relies on textbooks entirely is missing the point."

"ExplOregon" will be presented at the International Cartographers Association Conference in Barcelona, Spain, during the first week of September. Loy said every school in Oregon, kindergarten through high school, will be receiving a free CD-ROM courtesy of the Sony disc manufacturing plant, in Springfield.

**Change: OSSHE hopes to save \$1.1 million**

Continued from Page 1

The bill will allow more of higher education's interests to be served during the bargaining process, Anderson said, because only higher education officials are involved.

After the bill passed, OSSHE signed a letter of agreement with OPEU, outlining how new contracts would be negotiated.

If the union does not reach a contract agreement for 1995-97 with the state by mid-August, OSSHE will use the 1993-95 contract as a starting point for contract negotiations.

Meanwhile OSSHE is trying to work out all the kinks in the system, Anderson said. Each campus has been working with groups to design policies to make the transition easier, he said.

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