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TODAY

This is the Emerald's last summer issue. Don't miss our Law School edition of Back to the Books, Aug. 21.

INSIDE

George Lombard looks to strike again as the Ems try to stay out of the cellar against the A's

Local families can get a glimpse of a different culture by hosting an international student

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WEATHER

Mostly cloudy today with a 60 percent chance of rain and highs 70-75.

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REACTIONS

“It hasn't set in yet. When it does set in, I'm going to be crying for a long time. He's flirted with death so many times. It doesn't seem real; the only constant in your life is gone.”

— “Dave”
California native and Deadhead on East 13th Avenue on Wednesday

“I think he died of a broken heart. His wife left him six months ago.”

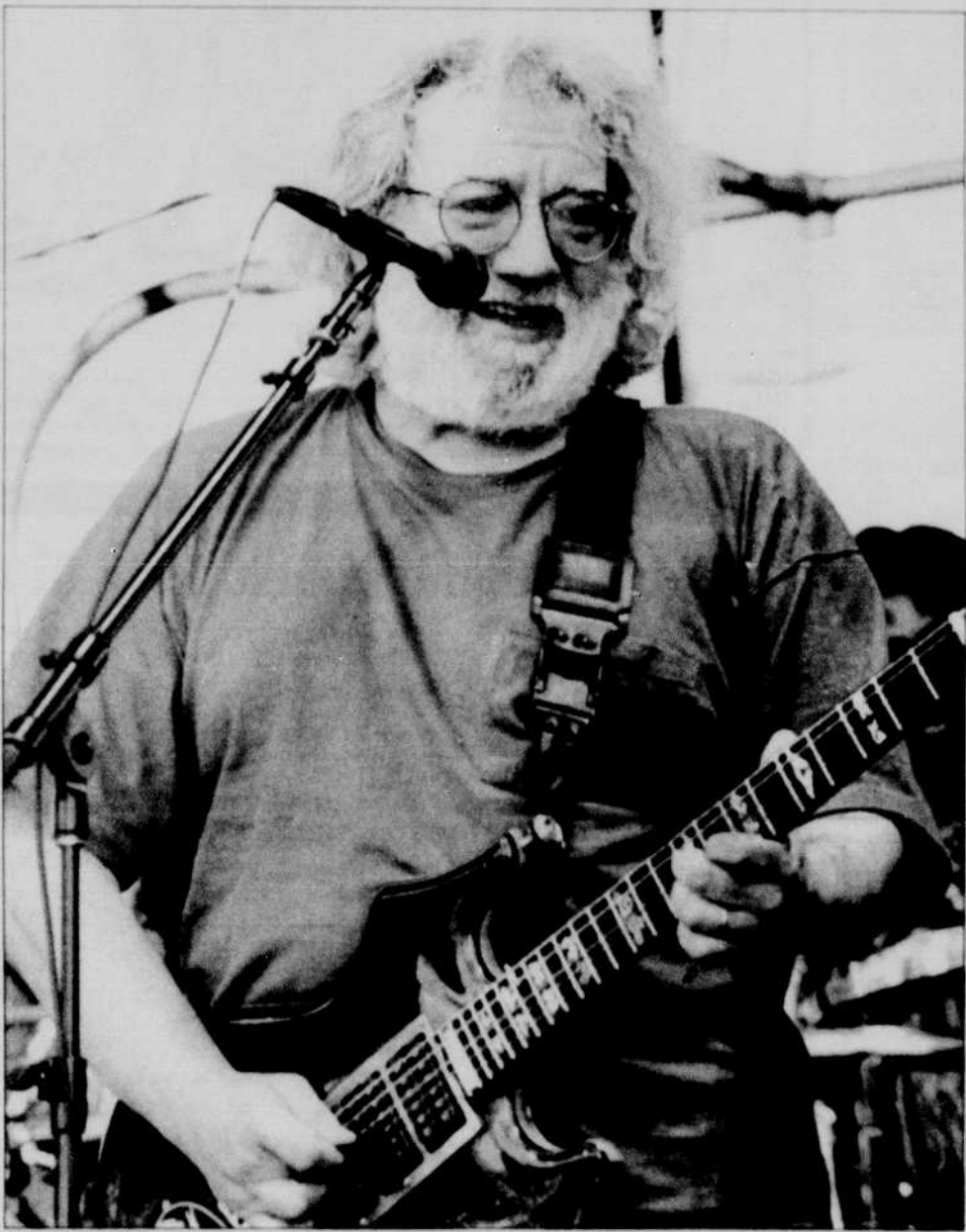
— “Kerry”
Eugene resident, also on 13th, who first saw the Grateful Dead in 1975

“Half the country has got to be in hard-core mourning.... People are not going to know what to do with themselves. He was like a prophet to so many people.”

— “McKenzie”
New York resident on the Downtown Mall

“A lot of people will be more in the mainstream now that he's gone.”

— “Celeste”
from Sonoma County, Calif., also on 13th Ave.



Jerry Garcia, seen here at Autzen Stadium in 1994, frequently visited Eugene with the Dead.

Rock icon Jerry Garcia dies at 53

■ **LEGEND:** The Grateful Dead guitarist and leader fell victim to a heart attack at a drug treatment center Wednesday morning

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Jerry Garcia, the master guitarist whose band the Grateful Dead symbolized the 1960s counterculture and remained a top concert draw three decades later, died Wednesday at a drug treatment center. He was 53.

The cause was a heart attack, the Marin County sheriff's office said. He was found in his bed at 4:23 a.m. by a counselor at Serenity Knolls, a residential treatment center for drug addiction in Forest Knolls. Garcia had a long history of drug abuse.

A nurse attempted CPR, and sheriff's department staff who were summoned also failed to revive him, said Dan Murphy, a sheriff's spokesman.

Word of Garcia's death quickly spread, especially on the Internet, where the Grateful Dead have an exceptionally wide following.

Within an hour, the Sausalito-based WELL computer network posted a notice that it was clogged by fans sharing their grief.

“The WELL is currently experiencing

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INSIDE

Columnist and Deadhead J. Daniel Pearson recalls what Garcia and the Dead meant to him and his fellow fans

Page 2

Fans join at Skinner Butte to say, ‘Thanks, Jerry’

■ **MEMORIAL:** By Anne Moser-Kornfeld
Entertainment Editor

Around 500 people visited the park to pay respects Wednesday

Deadheads from around the local area gathered on the grassy knoll at the base of Skinner Butte on Wednesday afternoon to honor their fallen leader, Jerry Garcia.

Some fans were still in a state of disbelief. “I was shocked, it's hard to put in words,” said “Polly,” 21, one of several Deadheads who declined to use their last

names in interviews Wednesday. Polly was one of close to 500 Deadheads who gathered at Skinner Butte — amid a media circus — to pay their last respects.

Rumors began as quickly as the word about Garcia's death hit the street. Deadheads believed Garcia, who died at 4:23 a.m., didn't die without meaning.

“Celeste,” a Deadhead who met with friends on East 13th Avenue, said, “4:20

is the time to smoke pot. It's non-coincidental that he died when he did. There's no such thing as coincidence.”

While it was no secret that Garcia used illegal drugs to excess and suffered from diabetes, most Deadheads agree with one Eugene resident, “Kerry,” who said Garcia's passing was “not about death. It's

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City Council approves Ferry Street Bridge plan

■ **PROJECT:** By Marcelene Edwards
Associate Editor

Decision may help preserve \$23.7 million in federal support

After months of discussion and a failed ballot measure, the Eugene City Council unanimously approved a plan Wednesday for the first two phases of the Ferry Street Bridge construction, which includes new traffic signals and safety improvement to the bridge corridor.

Ferry Street Bridge Committee members have

been working on plans to use the \$23.7 million in federal money that has been earmarked for the project by Oct. 1, and now the city is ready to take plans for the bridge to state and federal officials for approval.

However, in order to get that federal money, the city has to put up 20 percent beyond that \$23.7 million, or about \$6 million. The county has agreed to provide about

\$3 million toward the city's contribution, and is being asked to put up the other \$3 million, said Jan Childs, of the Eugene planning and development department.

With that deadline rapidly approaching, the City Council approved a recommended plan that would include:

- The reuse of the present bridge structure, with necessary

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City planners hope to ease congestion on the bridge.