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Plaza: Festivities to include a parade

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dignitaries, such as Mayor Ruth Bascom, DEI President Gene Swan and various city council members, will cut the ceremonial ribbon and place the last of the estimated 135,000 bricks in the new plaza after a few brief remarks. The bricks will form decorative patterns created by area artist Scott Wylie.

After the official dedication, there will be short vehicular parade through Willamette Street. Eric Jones, public information coordinator for Eugene Public Works, said regular traffic will be closed to Willamette Street until Saturday at 8 a.m. He explained safety concerns made the decision necessary. "No one has driven on this street in 25 years," Jones said.

Other activities on Friday include the DEI "Passport to a New Downtown" contest at 3 p.m.; Fiddlin' Sue will be performing at the plaza at 4 p.m.; the monthly Gallery Walk through downtown begins at 5:30 p.m.; and a "Happy Daze" dance will take place from 6 to 9 p.m.

The "Passport to a New Downtown" contest is very similar to a bingo game. Participants receive the card, and visit businesses in the area to get their cards stamped by the vendors. Once the card is completely stamped, people can deposit their entry coupon (located on the bottom of the passport) at the DEI booth located at Broadway and Willamette.

Jones said large balloons carrying greetings from Eugene's Korean sister city, Chinju, will be attached to various buildings. He also said "the world's biggest spotlight," with its 800 million candlepower, will announce the festivities to the city.

Saturday's activities will consist of family entertainment from noon to 5 p.m., as well as the drawing for the winners of the "Passport to a New Downtown" contest.

DEI Director Russ Brink said



MATHEW STIFFLER/Emerald

Onlookers gaze at one of the new pieces of art that will adorn the new plaza at the intersection of Willamette Street and Broadway.

Lane Transit District buses will not operate through the reopened Willamette Street until the new station opens in Feb. 1998. However, LTD buses will continue running their normal routes near the street.

Eugene voters approved the reopening of Willamette Street in May 1995. The city paid \$520,000 for the plaza's construction that began in May. The city, Lane

County Road Fund and private property owners contributed the \$1.8 million needed to reopen Willamette Street.

Brink said that the reopening of Willamette Street and the construction of a downtown plaza has been a hot topic of the city for years.

"This is sort of the culmination of our people's efforts to revitalize the downtown," he said.

Commissioner: Experience also an issue

■ Continued from Page 1

portant issue for Sorenson throughout his campaign and debate.

For example, Sorenson said, as a member of the LCC Board of Education, he alone opposed a proposal for an executive session by the board to work on internal personnel matters. He said he believed such meetings should be open for public scrutiny. The Board of Education later canceled the executive session.

"Openness is not something you advocate," Sorenson said. "It's something you expect from public officials."

Despite their differences, both shared similar views on Measure 46, in which "no-show" voters count as "no" votes.

Concerning Measure 46, Bartel said: "We have a representative form of government. If you don't like your representative, vote him out."

Sorenson agreed and promised to try to serve every one of his constituents, whether they vote or not.

The candidates also talked about the proposal to build a prison camp near Eugene.

Sorenson said the possible prison work camp in Oakridge would offer good opportunities for that area, and thinks "the Eugene site is worth pursuing." He said he had some reservations about the amount of utilities the facility would need.

However, he felt the state is moving in the wrong direction when it cuts the State Board of Higher Education's budget by 9.7 percent, while increasing the prison construction and maintenance budget by more than that percentage.

Bartel said he wasn't sure where he stood on the issue, but he also cited electricity and water usage concerns for the facility.

"I think there are so many issues we need to discuss as a community," he said.

History: Richard's colleagues praise his skills

■ Continued from Page 1

University.

"When I came here, the archives were badly started," Richard said. "I wanted the University to learn that they had an archive, that they could make use of it, and as an archivist I would be there to help. . . I only wish I could have gotten to it all."

But his colleagues agree that Richard did achieve his goal.

"Keith has contributed to one cause: the preservation of history for future generations," said George Shipman, University librarian.

To preserve the history, Richard also had to fully understand the University's past so he

could effectively pass along his knowledge and be the voice of the University.

"I don't think anybody can bring the history of the University to life like Keith did," said Mary Hudzikiewicz, assistant dean of Student Life. "He actually makes history seem like it was just yesterday; he makes it a real place."

Along with being the University's voice, though, Richard also found himself acting as the University's conscience.

"He stood up for them . . . broadcasted his message that the past is not lost, but remains our duty to understand, to acknowledge, to preserve it all," Shipman

said.

Part of being the conscience of the University is putting right what once went wrong.

In 1986 Richard illustrated this quality as he realized that a Japanese student in 1942 was not allowed to graduate with her class because of her heritage. Richard then invited the student to take part in the 1986 commencement ceremony where she would receive her diploma 44 years after her last year at the University.

University President Dave Frohnmayer spoke for the majority of Richard's colleagues when he said, "I don't know anybody who knows more [about the University]."