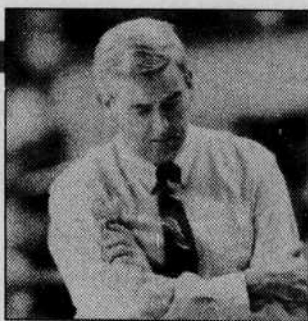


INDEX

Opinion	2
News	3
Sports	9
Classifieds	14
Crossword	15
Comics	15

TODAY

Be sure to get your tickets early for the Thursday night men's basketball game against Washington.



INSIDE

The Oregon men's basketball team lost to USC Saturday night, 79-69

The power of the Force draws crowds to opening of Star Wars this past weekend

9
4

WEATHER

Mostly cloudy.
High 55. Low 40.

University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

Oregon Daily Emerald

An independent newspaper
Volume 98, Issue 87

IN FOCUS: TRANSPORTATION



Congressman Peter DeFazio presents a proposal for a new Ferry Street Bridge Friday in Alton Baker Park. The new design will help to alleviate traffic problems as well as being more bicycle and pedestrian friendly.

City approves Ferry St. Bridge Project

CITY: Congressman DeFazio helped raise \$30 million in funds for a three-year project to improve the bridge's safety

By Eric Collins
Community Reporter

Congressman Peter DeFazio could shield himself from the rain, but not from showers of praise Friday afternoon in a press conference announcing the funding for a \$30 million Ferry Street Bridge improvement project.

The Springfield democrat was instrumental in securing a \$23.7 million federal grant in 1991 to fund 80 percent of the project.

"I'm not sure why [DeFazio] is being modest, but it's because he stood up and brought this money to the community that [the money] is here," said Grace Crunican, director of the Oregon Department of Transportation.

DeFazio said he was worried that the project would not be implemented, especially after voters rejected a 1994 measure to widen the bridge to six lanes. But after revising the plan, city councilors approved the project in 1995.

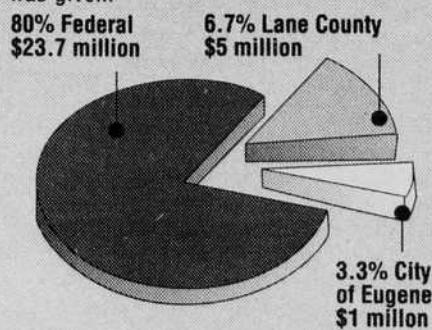
"It's been a decade in coming," DeFazio said. "It's been a difficult process, but I think it's a much better project for that."

Mayor Jim Torrey also singled out the

Turn to CITY, Page 7

FERRY STREET BRIDGE CORRIDOR

Where money for Ferry Street Bridge corridor improvements came from and how much was given.



SOURCE: City of Eugene Public Works

MATT GARTON/Emerald

MCC to try impeaching senator

RECALL: PFC Senator Sari Wisch faces non-fulfillment of duties charges before the Constitution Court

By Thom Schoenborn
Managing Editor

The Multicultural Center will try to impeach Programs Finance Committee Senator Sari Wisch for non-fulfillment of duties at a hearing before the Constitution Court tomorrow night in the Law School.

Alexandra Berwick, an ASUO Multicultural Advocate and co-chair of the MCC Board of Directors, filed a petition that claimed Wisch did not fulfill her duties as a member of the PFC. In addition, the petition claims Wisch denied the MCC the process of a budget hearing.

During fall term, the MCC changed the wording of its goal statement. Wisch said she told the PFC Administrative Assistant to change the MCC's budget hearing date from Jan. 25 to Feb. 22, based on her feeling that its budget would be tabled due to the goal statement's language.

In a memo from Wisch to MCC Director Dee Eason, Wisch recommended that the MCC "revise the language again in order to make it inclusive, instead of exclusive."

The MCC's petition says Wisch denied the Center the process of a budget hearing by changing the date of their hearing without notifying anyone from the MCC.

Wisch said she did not notify the MCC of the date change, but said she felt she was helping the MCC by pushing back its hearing date. As the tag for the MCC, Wisch said she is supposed to advise the MCC about its budget.

The MCC's petition says Wisch was not in the Senate office on Jan. 10 to sign the MCC's final budget proposal. Wisch stipulated that fact, but said she was not re-

Turn to RECALL, Page 7

Smokers cough up an extra 30 cents for tax

MEASURE 44: Effective Feb. 1, the new tax goes to help fund the Oregon Health Plan and anti-smoking education plans

By Laura Cadiz
Higher Education Editor

Andrew Rowe's health will soon start benefiting from his smoking habit.

Starting last weekend, Rowe and other smokers now have to pay an extra 30 cents for a pack of cigarettes. Part of that tax will go to the Oregon Health Plan, which Rowe participates in.

But the tax won't help Rowe's smoking habit. Rowe said he will have to start buying cheaper brands of cigarettes because he only wants to spend \$2 on a pack.

"I smoke a lot and I have a job; that's how I support my smoking habit," he said.

Effective February 1, Ballot Measure 44 increased the tax on cigarettes from 20 cents to 50 cents a pack. The majority of the

tax goes to the Oregon Health Plan, while a small amount funds anti-smoking education.

Dwight Secrist, a clerk at 7-11, said the tax hasn't effected the sales of cigarettes. "People are griping, but they're buying it," he said.

Kandi Ogden, a smoker of three years, is one of those people griping.

"I don't think the money is just going to things related to smoking diseases," said Ogden, an English major. "I don't think it's fair to target one main population to pay for one area of study."

But Anna Forester, a smoker of two years, said she doesn't like the tax, but understands the need for it.

Turn to MEASURE 44, Page 8



Dwight Secrist, clerk for the 7-11 store on E. 13th Ave., selects cigarettes for customers who are "griping" about prices.

CHAD PATTESON/Emerald