

Student politician

City Councilman Bobby Lee splits his time between graduate studies and community action

PAGE 4

One wild cat

Adia Barnes, the top-scoring Arizona forward, leads her team against the Ducks tonight

PAGE 7



TODAY

Graduate students can learn about funding in a workshop at 10 a.m. in 125 Chapman.

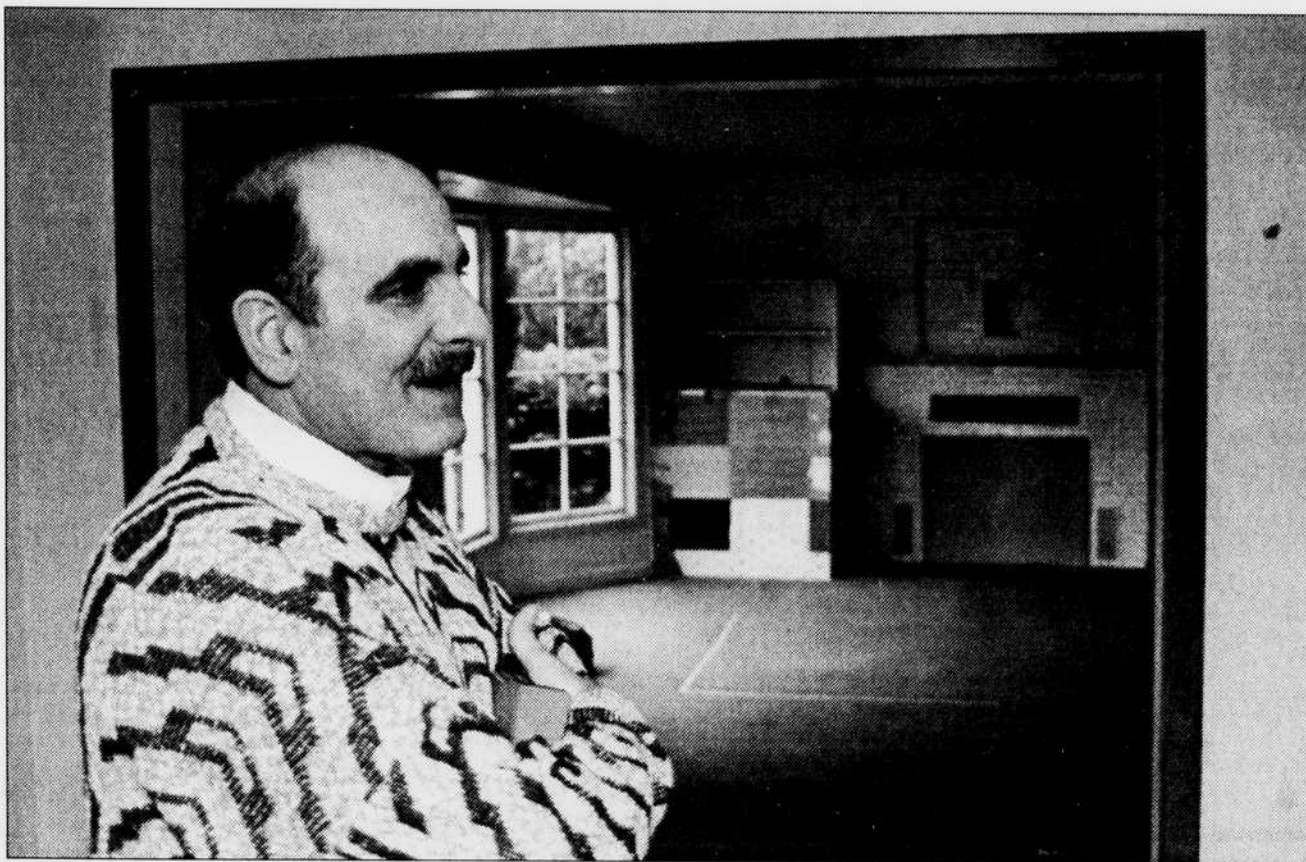
WEATHER

Today
Rain
High 52. Low 44.
Friday
Rain
High 51. Low 42.

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MICHAEL CRISP/Emerald

Frank Gaddini, family housing area director, discusses future plans for a former child care facility Wednesday. The house on Villard Street is being renovated into a single-family dwelling.

Villard House changes hands

The former child care center will be rented to a family this spring

By Teri Meeuwzen
Higher Education Reporter

The house was warm and inviting to all who visited. The low windows made it easy for toddlers to peer into the outside world. Neighborhood dogs and cats visited the large backyard. Toys were scattered around the house, finger paintings lined the walls and an indoor sandbox gave children a chance to build and explore. Songs were sung while young faces smiled and hands clapped.

"I thought the preschoolers had more rhythm than the others," said Megan Wheeler, lead teacher and on-site director of the Villard House. "I think it was because they were closer to the beat of their own

hearts."

The Villard House was close to many hearts. That's why it was difficult for Wheeler when she was told that the Villard House would be turned back into student housing.

"When we were told, we were devastated," said Wheeler, who is also director of the EMU Child Care and Development Center. "We were in love with it. We'll forever have the Villard House in our vocabulary."

The Villard House was returned to the student housing pool in September after 25 years of serving as a place for toddlers to grow and learn.

"Nearly 500 children played and learned

"The family who gets to live here will have a lot of fun with it."

Frank Gaddini
family housing
area director

Turn to HOUSE, Page 3

EMU board votes down funding cut

The ASUO Multicultural Center narrowly escaped losing its funding for construction

By Michael Hines
Student Activities Reporter

The EMU board members used words like "prioritizing" and phrases like "choose a victim" when discussing the allocation — and un-allocation — of funds in its meeting Wednesday.

The ASUO Multicultural Center escaped becoming the "victim," but board members said soon something will have to give.

Since the board first allocated \$75,000 to the multicultural center several weeks ago for renovations, the city of Eugene decided that the basement level of the building must have a new emergency sprinkler system at a cost of \$33,330.

To pay for the new expense, the board considered renegeing on funding for the multicultural center.

This was a consideration that multicultural center co-director Glen Banfield called "unacceptable."

"I've been involved with such decisions before," he said. "When we're talking about the multicultural center, we're talking about a lot in this University."

Several board members agreed, but others wanted to keep the money.

"The MCC is still getting a lot of space," EMU board president Kim Guevara said. "Right now we cannot afford to be thinking with our hearts; we need to think with our heads."

Ultimately, the board voted 8-5 to allocate funds for leveling the floor of the multicultural center and to form a group to petition the Student Senate for funding to help pay for the sprinkler system.

The board is also keeping in mind future costs, such as \$175,000 to install a fire alarm system within five years. In addition, it will have to spend \$100,000 for elevator renovations by November 1999.

Turn to EMU, Page 6

Professor of Japanese, comparative literature dies of cancer at 53

Associate Professor Alan Wolfe was head of the East Asian languages department before taking official leave in 1996

By Kari Thorene
Higher Education Reporter

Alan Wolfe, 53, associate professor of Japanese and comparative literature and departmental chair of East Asian Languages and Literature, died Jan. 21 of pancreatic cancer.

"It's pretty somber around here," said Steve Kohl, associate professor of Japanese. "Alan was so central to the department for nearly two decades. This is a major loss."

Wolfe was survived by his wife and two children.

Wolfe was hired in 1980 to teach Japan-

ese literature. He was appointed to a three-year term as departmental chair of East Asian languages and literature on July 1, 1995, but was only able to serve a year of the term after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Wolfe has been on leave since fall 1996.

Wolfe published three chapters in books on Japanese literature, as well as one book, "Suicidal Narrative in Modern Japan: The Case of Dazai Osamu," published in 1990.

"He brought the East Asian literatures into world literature in the sense that he earned the recognition of East Asian literature in comparative literature," said Michael Fishlen, associate professor of Chinese. Fishlen has been the acting East Asian languages and literature department chair in Wolfe's place this year.

"Back when he was hired in 1980, the

University was still coming out of this era — as were most universities in the country — where world culture or world literature meant European, or European and North American. It was still a work in progress that Asia and the Middle East be included in the culture of the world," Fishlen said.

Wolfe was instrumental in the development of the department in other ways, Kohl said. "He was very centrally involved in the development of the graduate program in Japanese literature." The program is now about two years old, he said, but Wolfe had been working on it for most of the previous decade.

"At the time he fell ill, he had served one year as department head," Kohl said. "He intended to continue; however, his illness made that impossible. In the meantime, he has been very active in departmental af-

fairs. He wasn't teaching classes, but he was as fully involved as he could be."

Fishlen said Wolfe was an intellectually stimulating presence in the department. "He was wonderful in the sense that he was so bright, interested and knowledgeable in a range of subjects," he said. "He read a lot and applied his reading."

"He was very honest and very straightforward," Fishlen added. "If you even thought about blowing smoke at him, he'd immediately hold up a 22-inch fan in your face. You always knew where you stood with him."

A memorial service for Wolfe is scheduled at 11 a.m., Jan. 23 at England's Eugene Memorial Chapel, located at Pearl Street and East 18th Avenue. The service is open to the public.