

# Community

SEPTEMBER 21, 1998

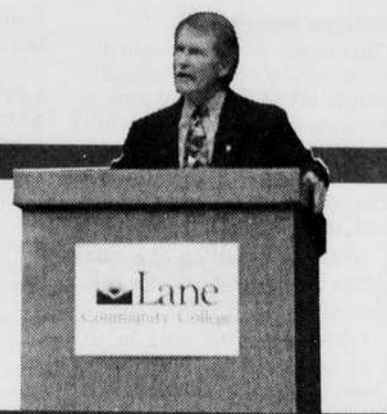
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Oregon Daily  
**Emerald**

## History

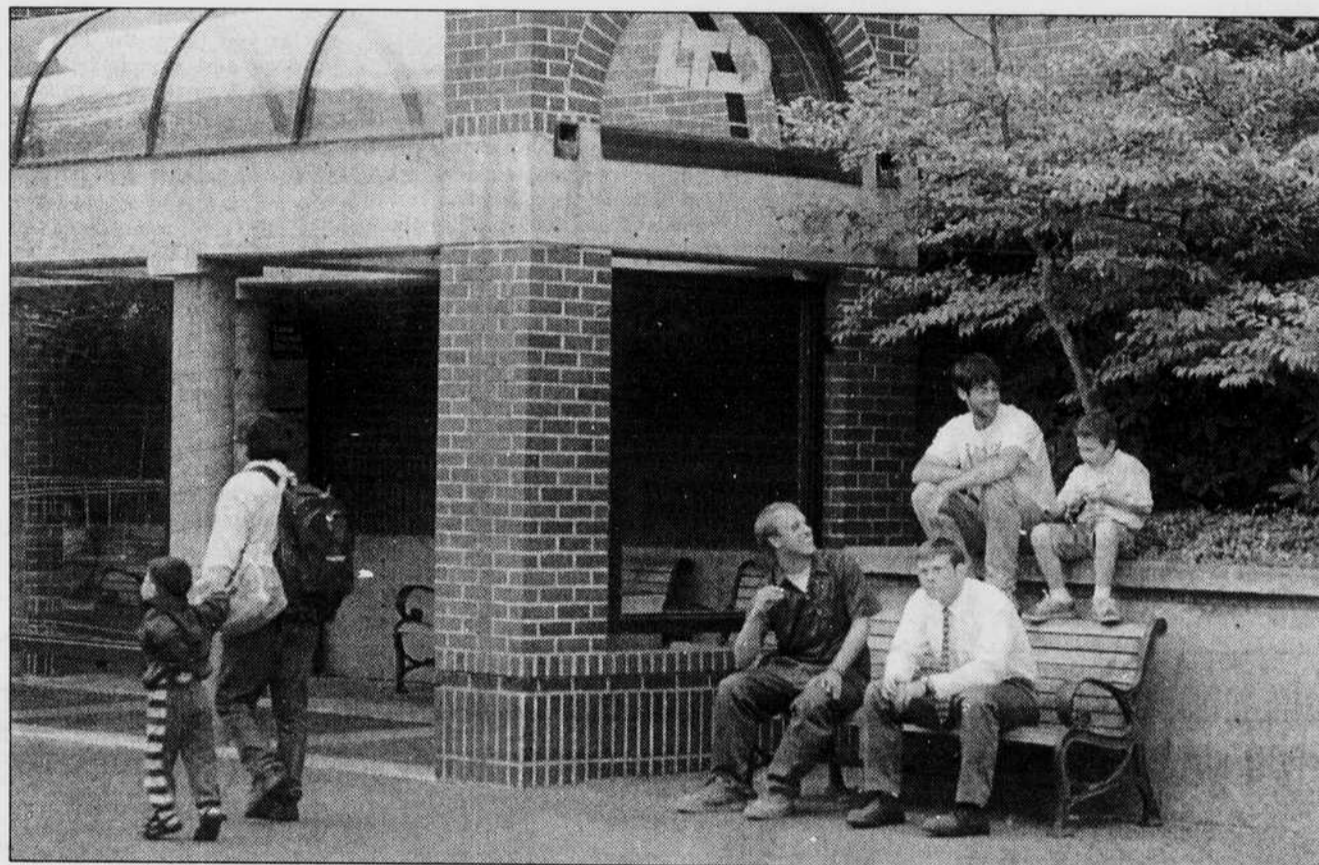
Eugene has one of the deepest histories of any city in the state/20C

## Gubernatorial race

Gov. John Kitzhaber engaged in a recent televised debate with his challengers/21C



### ON THE MOVE



Riders wait at the north LTD University Station for their bus to arrive.

LAURA GOSS/Emerald

## LTD examines new transit options

The new Bus Rapid Transit system could potentially be converted to light rail as Eugene grows over the decades

By Michael Hines  
Editor in Chief

The upcoming final meeting at Lane Transit District's offices will culminate a month's preliminary planning for a brand new public transportation program.

Bus Rapid Transit, or BRT, is LTD's new project that received a \$1 million grant from the government for preliminary work. Its final planning meeting will take place Oct. 7.

Public affairs manager Ed Bergeron said LTD is excited to begin the new program. "It seems to be gaining quite a bit of support," he said.

BRT is designed to increase travel speed and service



An LTD bus pulls into University Station.

LAURA GOSS/Emerald

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## Substation moves to Sacred Heart

The Eugene police have a 5-year lease to stay in the hospital's parking lot

By Rob Moseley  
Associate Editor

In terms of relocation distance, the movement of the Eugene Police Department's public safety station from the parking lot of 7-Eleven at 13th Avenue and Alder Street to the parking lot of the Sacred Heart Medical Center, just across 13th, isn't particularly noticeable.

But according to Eugene police officer Bev Mason, who has occupied the 20-square-foot blue trailer at 7-Eleven since its placement three years ago, the effects on the police department's ability to patrol the West University neighborhood after the new 1,300-square-foot facility is completed will be quite noticeable.

One impetus for the substation's placement, Mason said, was that, "we wanted officers to become attached to the area. People are more willing to come in here when they know us."

According to Mason, a major benefit of the new building will be the increased amount of office space.

"This is the most important thing, to me," Mason said. "Privacy."

Officers in the temporary facility often found themselves dealing with multiple cases in the substation's lone office. In the new satellite station, officers will each have work space of their own.

Included amongst those officers, if Mason gets her wish, will be a combination probation and parole officer. That officer would be able to monitor the movement of, for instance, known sex offenders into the area, according to Mason.

Another benefit of the new location is to students, who are no longer forced to journey downtown to interact with police.

"About half of our walk-ins [at the temporary facility] have been students," Mason said. "And I do expect more people to come in [to the new building]."

The project has been orchestrated by the West University Neighborhood Association, which includes representatives from both Sacred Heart and the Eugene Police.

"We offered a \$1 per year lease to the city

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## University 'insulated' from city, says Mayor Torrey

By Michael Hines  
Editor in Chief

Eugene Mayor Jim Torrey sat down with the Emerald and talked frankly about his perceptions of the University and its role in the City of Eugene.

**Q** Eugene had two riots involving students last year — one on Hilyard and one on Alder. Do you foresee this happening again this year?

**A** Well I would hope that it wouldn't happen because I think that it is a bad public relations image for both the city and the University, as well as the student body.

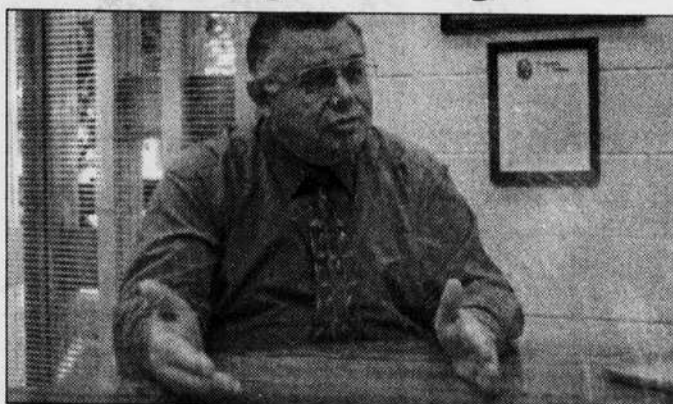
I understand that everybody likes to

### JIM TORREY QUESTION & ANSWER

have a good time. I understand that college students, away from home for the first time in many instances, experiment and move out into their lives, but I don't think it's necessary that we get to the point that it's disruptive to the safety of the community.

It would be my hope that we would find ways to accommodate to the degree possi-

Turn to TORREY, Page 2C



Eugene Mayor Jim Torrey said last year's riots were bad public relations for the city, the University and the students.

LAURA GOSS/Emerald