

Oregon Daily Emerald

An independent newspaper

Bring on the Hawkeyes

Alissa Edwards and the Ducks are ready to dance with Iowa in the NCAA Tournament. **PAGE 11**

Remember Tijit?

Tijit, software to transfer files, is one of the projects of Markum Communications Corporation. **PAGE 4**

WEATHER TODAY



CLOUDY

high 50, low 40

SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON



Laura Smit Emerald

Withney Workman, 6, has lunch with her classmates at the Child Care and Development Center. Her mother, Kathleen Workman, struggles to pay tuition and child care costs, but a bill proposed in the Oregon House of Representatives may help ease her burden.

Bill aims to support student parents

Oregon House Bill 2462 would help student-parent families afford school and child care

By Lindsay Buchele
Oregon Daily Emerald

Student parents often juggle bills for items from tuition to child care, but a bill proposed in the Oregon House of Representatives will help ease their burden.

There are 936 families on

the waiting list for a grant that could help them afford to go to school and pay for child care. These student-parent families will wait up to 15 months to receive one of the 250 grants available each month to assist in paying for child care.

House Bill 2462 is designed

to increase the amount of money available through the nationally funded Student Block Grant to \$3.9 million. The increase in funds would come from state money. Officials of the Oregon Student Association, one of the pri-

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Court hearings set to resolve elections mess

■ A hearing-filled night beginning at 5 p.m. today will address a number of election grievances

By Beata Mostafavi
Oregon Daily Emerald

The ASUO elections grievance war will finally be fought in court today, and with four back-to-back hearings regarding various grievances, the ASUO Constitution Court justices have a long night ahead of them.

Tonight between 5 and 11 p.m. in Room 241 of the Knight Law Center, the court will hear the parties involved with the grievances that have sent this year's election into a tailspin of uncertainty.

At 5 p.m., the court will hear the case of Bret Jacobson and Matt Cook v. Jeff Oliver. Three hearings will follow, including the grievances against the Multicultural Center's ballot measure, the ASUO Elections Board, and Executive candidates Nilda Brooklyn and Joy Nair. Jacobson and Cook's appeal of the ASUO Election Board's decision to disqualify them from the race halted the Executive general election on March 4. The board voted in favor of Oliver's grievance filed against the pair because their campaign distributed fliers in the residence halls.

The court halted the general elections for the ballot measures after five student senators filed a grievance against the MCC

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BAILEY



BROOKLYN



JACOBSON

AutoCraft's forced relocation may impact University

The siting of a new courthouse is forcing the business to move, and it's considering a piece of property the University leases

By Jessica Blanchard
Oregon Daily Emerald

The recent decision by the General Services Administration to site a new federal courthouse in Eugene may trigger a domino effect that could force the University off a piece of city-owned property it leases for garbage collection, recycling services and storage.

The \$70 million courthouse will be built on about four acres just east of the Ferry Street Bridge overpass, on property owned by Chiquita Brands International and neighboring business AutoCraft Body and Paint. The city has already negotiated with Chiquita to purchase its property for \$4.1 million and hopes to have the sale finalized by April.

But negotiations are ongoing

between AutoCraft owner John Woodrich and the city. Woodrich will have to move his business to make way for the courthouse, and he had protested the forced relocation when the city first began its campaign for the federal building. On Thursday he said that he has no problem with the courthouse being sited in Eugene; he just wants to make sure his business and his 29 employees are "taken care of."

AutoCraft's employees and supporters waged a campaign of their own in recent months, writing more than one hundred letters in an effort to sway government officials from choosing Eugene as the site for the new courthouse.

"We've been consistent from the beginning," said Steve Cornacchia, attorney for AutoCraft.

"AutoCraft does not wish to be a problem for anyone, but they have a unique business and a unique site."

Therefore, any move the business makes will have to be to a site that meets the company's "particular needs," he said, which include a large space for doing auto-body work, and a new location that is as visible and convenient to its customers as its current location.

Woodrich estimated that 85 percent of his business comes from the University, Sacred Heart Medical Center and car dealerships located near the Ferry Street Bridge. Woodrich said his business, at 411 E. Eighth Ave., is located on the fifth-busiest street corner in the state, with an average of 200,000 cars driving by

each day.

The city is examining the costs of relocating AutoCraft's business to a new site, Eugene City Manager Jim Johnson said. Woodrich confirmed Thursday that the site AutoCraft is eyeing is a city-owned parcel of land on Franklin Boulevard, west of Louie's Village restaurant and across the street from the Phoenix Inn. The land, which has been leased to the University for a few years, is less than a mile away from AutoCraft's current location.

Johnson said the site has been surveyed recently, and AutoCraft is getting an estimate on the cost of building on the property and remodeling an existing building to render it suitable for an auto-body shop.

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“We're not quite sure what we'd do if we lost this space.”

Greta Pressman
campus relations manager, facilities services

