

# City Council undertakes task of redistricting

■ The 2000 Census shows that Eugene's eight wards have grown unevenly, and new districts must be drawn

By Aaron K. Breniman  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Certain sections of Eugene are growing rapidly, and it's time once again for the City Council to address those population variations. During a Wednesday work session, the council voted 7-1 to work out that redistricting itself, rather than leave the job to a subcommittee or public task force.

The projected 2000 Census data presented to the City Council during the work session reaffirmed two things about the city and its current wards: Eugene population growth

greatly exceeded growth projections in certain wards, and ward boundaries will most likely undergo massive change to ensure equal representation.

Ward 3 Councilor Bonny Bettman, whose ward includes the University and much of the West University neighborhood, said the effect redistricting will have on students hinges on how the new lines are drawn. But she also mentioned that the redrawing of the lines will attempt to ensure equal representation among students.

While official figures from the 2000 Census will not be available until June, early estimated figures show that the population of Eugene has increased by slightly over 25,000 residents in the past decade.

Wards 5 and 6, which are both lo-

cated in north Eugene, saw the largest population increases with nearly 9,000 and 6,000 people respectively, according to the figures supplied to the City Council. During that same time, the population in Ward 3 increased only by about 400.

Most of Wednesday's discussion regarding the redistricting process was centered on facilitating public input.

"There is going to be significant change this redistricting process," Jim Croteau, the city of Eugene's principal planner, told the Council. "We are recommending a more extensive citizen involvement process."

Public information will be available about redistricting from the city of Eugene Web site and the city

manager's office.

"With regard to the process, I want to make sure we get public comment at the right time — before it's too late," Ward 8 Councilor Nancy Nathanson commented.

The Citizen Charter Review Committee recommended that the City Council place instant run-off voting, or IRV, on the ballot. However, the exact ballot — either May or November — remains uncertain. The committee also recommended that the City Council consider and discuss the feasibility of increasing the number of wards from eight to 10.

Instant run-off voting, committee Chairman Jon Belcher said, would have many advantages. He described the cost implications of a single election and how IRV could

eliminate the possibility of "spoiler candidates," as Green Party candidate Ralph Nader has been called during the aftermath of Election 2000.

IRV involves voting for candidates using a preferential ranking system.

"I don't think [the system] is broken," Belcher said, "but it does need some fixing."

Mayor Jim Torrey solicited the individual opinion of committee members in attendance after Belcher addressed the council.

"Our community is growing more diverse socially and politically," committee member Ken Tollenaar said. "I think IRV is a way to accommodate these larger charges within the community."

## UO, OSU scolded by Senate for 2001 Civil War date

■ The University Senate worries the December game compromises academics for lucrative network deals

By Hank Hager  
Oregon Daily Emerald

For just the second time in Civil War history, the Ducks and Beavers will square off on the football field in December, and some on campus don't like it.

The University Senate approved a resolution April 11 that essentially scolded the athletic departments of both schools for scheduling a game so close to Finals Week.

"It's a huge distraction from what is first, which is academics," said James Earl, English professor and senate president.

Earl said he is not worried about the short term effects of the decision, but said it could be a problem if games are regularly scheduled this late.

He said senate members were concerned because the University administration had sent a letter to all academic departments reminding faculty to respect Dead Week, and right after this, the date of the

game was scheduled at the end of the week.

Scheduling athletic events during important academic times at the University is not always avoidable, said Dave Williford, assistant athletic director of media services for the University. He said the Athletic Department has a policy of not scheduling games during Finals Week, but sometimes it just can't be helped.

"The University of Oregon, because it is on a quarter system, is handicapped," he said. "It's still something that is completely out of our control."

He said games that are controlled by the NCAA, such as the basketball tournaments in March, cannot be changed to dates that fit the University's needs. Those dates are decided upon beforehand and do not take into account the schools that participate.

He said if a situation arises where University teams are required to play games on the road during a period of test taking, there are different ways to accommodate the students.

Williford said professors are contacted by the Athletic Department

to reschedule tests if possible, and if the student-athlete is not able to, a proctor will travel with the team to administer the test.

He added that freshmen athletes, as well as all athletes who do not have a GPA of 2.0 or above, are required to attend a study hall throughout the year.

Dan Williams, vice president for administration, said the lure of lucrative television rights revenue and national exposure prompted the date change for the Civil War. But, he added, changing the date of the game took serious consideration.

He said he understood the senate's concern that the game may make Finals Week seem unimportant, but the advantages of playing in December had to be taken into consideration.

"The advantages far outweighed the risk," he said.

He said athletic directors normally schedule pre-season games, but during Pacific-10 Conference play, the games are scheduled by conference officials.

Earl said the payments made by the networks to push the game to a later date shows that athletics is playing an increasing role in college.

The date change is "a big red flag telling us athletics is so big now it is encroaching on academics," he said.

Earl said the importance for sports channels to show games on TV every day of the week puts even more stress on student-athletes and has a direct affect on their studying habits.

He said the senate's resolution is a message to the University to monitor what happens in their scheduling.

"We were sending what we think is a shot across the bow," he said.

## 400 officials prepare for McVeigh execution

By Rex W. Huppke  
The Associated Press

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. — From a command center in the federal penitentiary, officials will oversee nearly 400 state, local and federal law enforcement officers during the days leading up to Timothy McVeigh's execution.

The command center will open May 9, a week before McVeigh is scheduled to die by lethal injection for the 1995 bombing of the Oklahoma City federal building, which killed 168.

The number of officers in the area will grow as the execution date approaches, Warden Harley Lappin said at the prison Wednesday. All 30 schools in Vigo County will close that day, along with all county and federal courts in Terre Haute.

Some law enforcement authorities and residents have expressed fear of some kind of terrorist attack when McVeigh is executed May 16.

"At this point in time, we don't have any indication that any organized group is planning any sort of act in support of the tragedy at Oklahoma City or in this case the execution of Timothy McVeigh," said Robert Reilly, special agent in charge of the Indianapolis FBI office.

Lappin said news organizations are expected to begin setting up on prison property between May 9 and May 11. By May 12, all roads onto prison grounds will be guarded and all vehicles will be checked.

The day before the execution, death penalty activists will be allowed to park at two different Terre Haute parks. Buses will take protesters to the prison grounds at midnight on the day of the execution, which is scheduled for 7 a.m. EST.

There are currently nearly 200 law enforcement officers in Vigo County. More than 200 additional officers, including FBI agents and federal marshals, will join them, Lappin said. The Bureau of Prisons will also send in more than 150 additional personnel, bringing the total prison staff to about 650.

Despite preparations for the executions, the prison has been running smoothly, Lappin said.

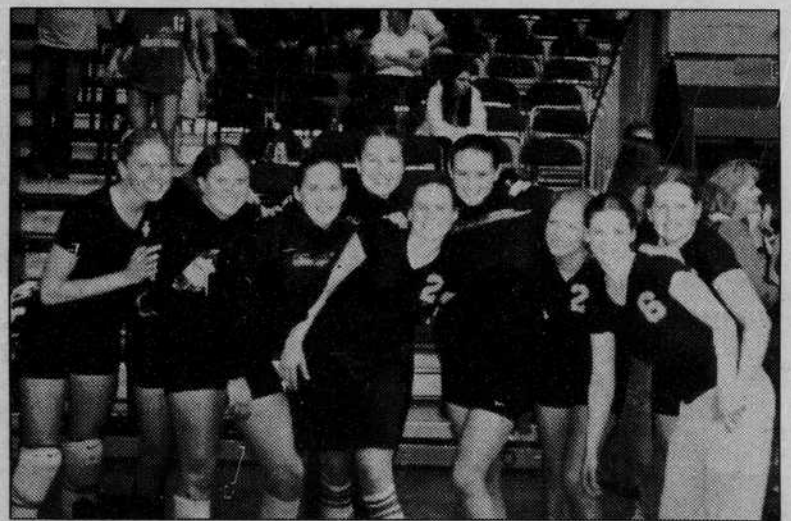
"We're communicating quite a bit with the inmates, they watch the news every night, they know exactly what's going on," Lappin said. "They know that for a period of time during this execution, they'll be locked in their cells, and they understand why."

## CONGRATULATIONS

Women's Club

Volleyball players:

Lisa Dohrmann  
Carli Halligan  
Jessica Mae Van Ourker  
Heidi Swanson  
Nicki Daman  
Kristin Layne  
Annie Pogue  
Stacey Terry  
Sara Sanzone  
Tina Austinson  
Coach: Cody Banner



## NIRSA

National Intramural and Recreational Sports

## NATIONAL

Collegiate Club

## CHAMPIONS!

Championship Game  
UO vs. Purdue

Kansas City, MO  
April 13-15