

Voters approve Broadway reopening

■ Downtown street will open to cars again, but design and funding issues still need to be worked out by officials

By Sue Ryan
Oregon Daily Emerald

Eugene citizens voted Sept. 18 to reopen the Broadway pedestrian mall in downtown Eugene. Now, city officials say they must decide how to handle the task of opening an area that has been closed to traffic for nearly 30 years.

The measure, which passed with a 67 to 32.9 percent vote, will open Broadway as a through street for the three-block segment between Charnelton and Oak Streets.

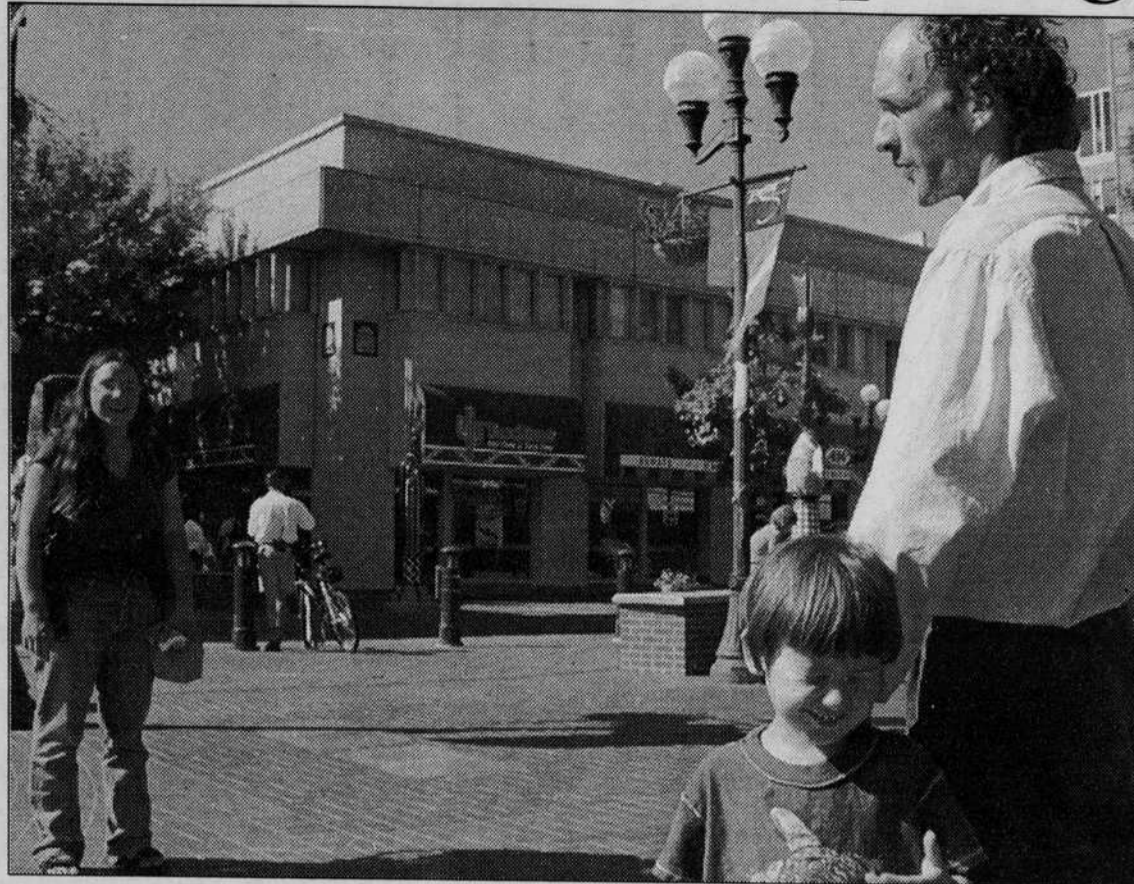
"The next step is for us to ask City Council to approve the work plan so we can come up with design options for the public to consider," Braud said.

City planners are scheduled to appear before the council about the Broadway plans on Oct. 10. Braud said the cost is unknown at this time because the street has not been designed yet.

City Councilor Bonny Bettman said she is concerned about how the city will pay for the project and how the new design will impact the city.

"The way opening Broadway will result in a successful reopening is not to move people through downtown as fast as you can in their cars," she said, "but to look at how to create that streetscape so there is a circulation of people that will be most beneficial to the area."

Councilor David Kelly echoed Bettman's desire for a street design that will accommodate both pedestrians and auto traffic, and he said city staff members are accumulating



Jonathan House Emerald
Tony Russell (standing with Angela Jaster and her daughter Grace) is one of the many downtown entrepreneurs who will be affected by the reopening of the Broadway pedestrian mall. Russell attributes the City Council's recent decision as a "reactionary response against the kids" who hang out downtown.

funds for the construction.

"The expectation is that funding will come from county roads, city funds and adjoining property managers," he said.

The Oct. 10 session will look at big-picture issues regarding the design, according to Kelly. He said the process will allow time for the community to weigh in on the design.

"We think it will increase foot traffic," said Robin Pendoley, the manager at Cafe Paradiso. "But we're bracing for the fact that our business will be affected for a period of time during construction."

Adam Bernstein, who manages Adam's Place, a bar and grill on Broadway, said the reopening is a good thing for the community.

"I hope construction doesn't deter customers from coming," he said.

There were 30,391 total votes cast in the Sept. 18 election, with a voter turnout of 37 percent. The issue of preference voting failed.

Sue Ryan is a community reporter for the Oregon Daily Emerald. She can be reached at sueryan@dailyemerald.com.

EWEB increases prices 36 percent

■ Many community members feel the new system will help conserve energy in the face of a substantial rate hike

By Lindsay Buchele
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Eugene Water and Electric Board voted to enact a 36 percent rate increase on residential electric bills Friday, along with an 11 percent increase in water bills to begin with the November bill.

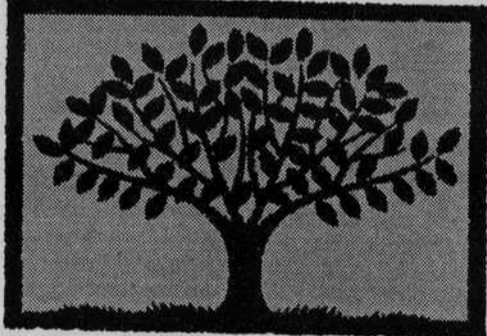
EWEB spokesman Lance Robertson said the increase was expected, since the Bonneville Power Administration, which supplies 70 percent of EWEB's power, warned the board that wholesale rates could increase by as much as 250 percent this fall. Wholesale rates only went up 46 percent, Robertson said, but EWEB still needed to pass the increase on to customers.

The board decided that a tiered rate structure, which charges an increasing percentage rate as customers use more energy and water, will save most residential customers more money than a flat 36 percent increase on electric and 11 percent on water.

"More than 70 percent of our customers are going to be better off with a tiered rate structure than a flat rate," EWEB President Dorothy Anderson said.

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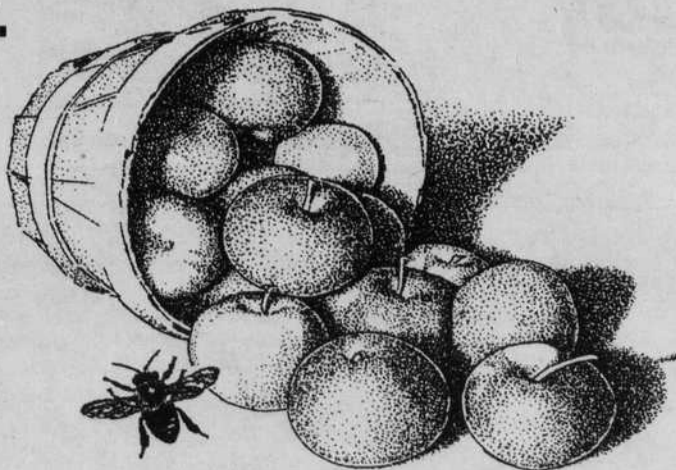
OREGON HILLEL



L'Shana Tova



The Board, Staff and Students of Oregon Hillel welcome you with wishes for a happy, healthy, peaceful New Year.



Upcoming Events:

Kol Nidre Services
Wednesday, September 26, 2001
Gerlinger Lounge on Campus,
7pm
Call Hillel for Tickets

Yom Kippur Services
Thursday, September 27, 2001
Gerlinger Lounge
10:00am-Morning Service
6:00pm-Afternoon, Evening
and Ne'illah Service
Break the Fast following services
Call Hillel for Tickets

Kabbalat Shabbat
Friday September 28, 2001
6:00pm-Services
7:00pm-Dinner

Pizza Night
Monday October 1, 2001, 6:30pm
Pegasus Smokehouse Pizza parlor
790 E. 14th, Eugene

The Week of Sukkot
(Festival of Booths/Harvest festival)
October 2-9

Check out our calendar
for more details!

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