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News briefs

University Senate chooses officers

Eric Bailey was appointed to fill the vacant business seat at the University Senate's first meeting of the year Wednesday night.

ASUO Executives Nilda Brooklyn and Joy Nair selected Bailey for the position. No one ran for the seat in last spring's election.

Senate members also confirmed Courtney Hight's appointment as the ASUO election coordinator.

Members passed a bookkeeping request made by the ASUO Women's Center relating to administrative expenses.

Nominations were accepted for several senate positions. Members nominated Sens. Katie Howard and Peter Watts for senate president.

Senators Andrew Elliott, Ben Lacy and Dominique Beaumont were nominated for vice president. Ombuds nominations went to Senators Rebecca Cambreleng and Eric Bailey. Senator Kate Kranzus received the sole nomination for senate treasurer.

Members will vote on these nominations at next week's senate meeting.

— Kara Cogswell

Drives, according to Robertson.

"A lot depends on the interests of the business community," he said. "We're trying to get interest from businesses before we start building laterals."

The laterals, which provide the service to the user, would extend outwards from a 70-mile fiber optic line that is already in place.

Eugene voters approved the plan in May 2000, granting EWEB the authority to provide advanced telecommunications to the city.

— Sue Ryan

Massage therapists to sponsor benefit

Eugene massage therapist Chris Osterlitz will be offering massages to raise cash this Sunday. He will be joined by other massage therapists from the Eugene area. Osterlitz is asking for a \$10 donation for a 15-minute massage. Proceeds from the benefit will be sent to the Mercy Corps Scholarship Fund.

The benefit will be held in Suite 200 at the Chiropractic Healing Center at 492 E. 13th Ave. from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

— Sue Ryan

EWEB to begin fiber optics services

The Eugene Water and Electric Board has targeted four areas of Eugene to be the first locations for delivering fiber optics services through its Metronet business plan. EWEB spokesman Lance Robertson said construction could begin by spring 2002.

Services would only be available to businesses during the first phase of Metronet and will not be available to individuals until 2007. Proposed services include ethernet delivery at megabit and gigabit speeds.

The first four areas to be offered service are the general downtown area, West 11th Avenue, the Country Club Road and Valley River Center area and Chad and Crescent

In Washington, doves begin to fly

WASHINGTON (KRT) — A new peace movement opposed to military retaliation for the catastrophic attacks of Sept. 11 is stirring, trying to find its voice and seeking support for nonviolence.

In Washington, a variety of peace groups are planning rallies and marches this weekend. Organizers for a march on the Justice Department and the Capitol on Saturday hope to lure protesters who had planned to be here for World Bank-IMF meetings that were canceled.

"We're just coming out of the grief and shock like everyone, but we need to speak out that our country should pursue justice, not

vengeance," said Carol Moseley of Gainesville, Fla., head of the Florida Coalition for Peace and Justice in Gainesville.

Another group, the Washington Peace Center, is planning a march of local residents on Sunday, much like the vigils and demonstrations that took place last week on more than 100 college campuses, according to organizers.

"Right now there's a need to tend to the grassroots, shore up the base, build organizations," said Scott Lynch, communications director for Peace Action, which used to be SANE, an anti-nuclear group.

Several organizers say they don't want to minimize the mass murder of Sept. 11, and they're mindful that many Americans see dissent as naive or unpatriotic.

But they say the 80-90 percent approval for military action in some public opinion polls masks deep misgivings about U.S. policy and the dangers of a vaguely defined war on terrorism.

"There's an attempt to silence the voices of those who question how we got into this," said Rev. Graylan Hagler, a Congregational minister in Washington. "We're dealing with a real atmosphere of chest-beating and saber-waving — and that compels us to act."

One sociologist who has studied protest movements said that peace activists could play an important role in a national debate if they aren't lumped together with those who blame U.S. actions for the terrorist attacks.

"If it's simply 'blame America,' they will be seen as irrelevant," said Todd Gitlin, a chronicler of U.S. resistance during the Vietnam War. "But if they encourage genuine questioning, and it's intellectually honest — a deep reckoning of where we're heading — that would be a major contribution."

— Frank Davies

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