## Redistricting

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Because the city council adopted state criteria for reassigning councilors, the original Indigo choice would have moved Bettman from her current Ward 3 to Ward 4, north of the Willamette River. The state policy dictates that the representative with the highest number of constituents in the district remain assigned there.

Bettman, who currently represents the West University neighborhood and a large part of the University campus, will now become the councilor in the new Ward 1 in South Eugene.

The resolution follows eight months of work on the new districts by planners and council members, who did not always see a clear end to the task.

'It has been a painstaking, long and at times painful process. Councilor Scott Meisner said.

The other option before the council was the Violet-A scenario, which would have varied the least from current boundaries.

'It seems the councilors right now pretty much represent their ward and the will of their district," Carol Feinberg-McBrian said, who spoke during the meeting's public forum. "I urge you to consider the Violet option because it seems to reinforce that."

Resident Nick Urhausen said that incumbency should never have been a part of the council's reasoning.

"The city councilors are sup-



posed to be here for the voters," he said. "The councilors are expendable. Not any one of them deserves the guarantee of a seat.'

The council redraws the boundaries every decade based on new population figures from the U.S. Census. Eugene grew about 22 percent in the last decade, with Wards 5 and 6 growing the most in size. These wards are north of the Willamette River, in the Santa Clara and Cal Young/Coburg Road neighborhoods

"We need a plan that more fairly divides up the area," Nathanson said. "I want a plan that has the long-term best interests of the city."

The new ward boundaries must be in place by Jan. 1, 2002.

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

### **News** brief

Professors, psychologist speak on Afghanistan

A public forum on possible resolutions to the situation in Afghanistan will be held at 7 p.m. today at the First United Methodist

Church, 1376 Olive St.

Community Alliance for Lane County is sponsoring the session, which includes three speakers. Martin Hart-Landsberg and Zaher Wahab, both professors at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, will speak about the government's ap-

proach to the conflict in Afghanistan and ideas for resolving it. Dr. Carl Peterson, a psychologist in Eugene, will talk about the trauma in New York City following the events of Sept. 11. He recently visited the city to counsel workers.

- Sue Ryan



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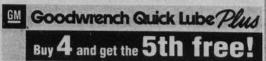
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