



Domestic partner registry proposal passes

The Eugene City Council removed the amendment that would allow transgenders to choose any restroom

Ken Paulman
City/State Politics Reporter

Facing a possible mayoral veto, the Eugene City Council voted 6-2 Tuesday to remove portions dealing with gender identity from proposed changes to the city's human rights code.

The amended proposal passed unanimously. The approved revisions include the establishment of a domestic partner registry for

same-sex couples, the addition of the terms "ethnicity" and "domestic partner status" to anti-discrimination ordinances, and allowing people to file private discrimination lawsuits.

Mayor Jim Torrey, who has stated support for equal rights protection for transgender people in general, opposed the public accommodation portion of the proposal because of privacy and cost concerns. Torrey had threatened to veto the entire proposal unless the City Council removed the portion allowing transgender people access to the restroom of their choice.

Torrey said that he would sign the amended

measure into law.

The portion of the proposal that would allow transgender persons to use public restrooms consistent with their gender identity, not their biological anatomy, has been the subject of much controversy.

In an open forum at Tuesday's meeting, a number of citizens expressed opposition to the ordinance. Arguments ranged from concerns about the vagueness of the proposals to outright religious condemnations of homosexuality.

Eugene attorney John Hudson said that the ordinance posed legal problems because gender identity is perceived and not objective.

"Who makes this determination?" he asked. Steve Light, a Eugene resident, expressed concern that the City Council might be overstepping its bounds in determining morality.

"What are we teaching our children when we redefine what is right and wrong?" he asked.

Councilor Pat Farr said he was concerned that the sexual predators might be able to abuse the ordinance.

"I would be concerned that people would be able to enter the bathroom under the guise of being transgender," he said.

Austin Shaw-Phillips of the University's Turn to **City**, page 3

Memorial on track

The city of Eugene has accepted a land donation to build a park in memory of former University star runner Steve Prefontaine

Danielle Gillespie
Safety/Crime/Transportation Reporter

A memorial park for former University runner Steve Prefontaine soon will be constructed near the intersection of Skyline Boulevard and Birch Lane — the site of his fatal car accident in 1975.

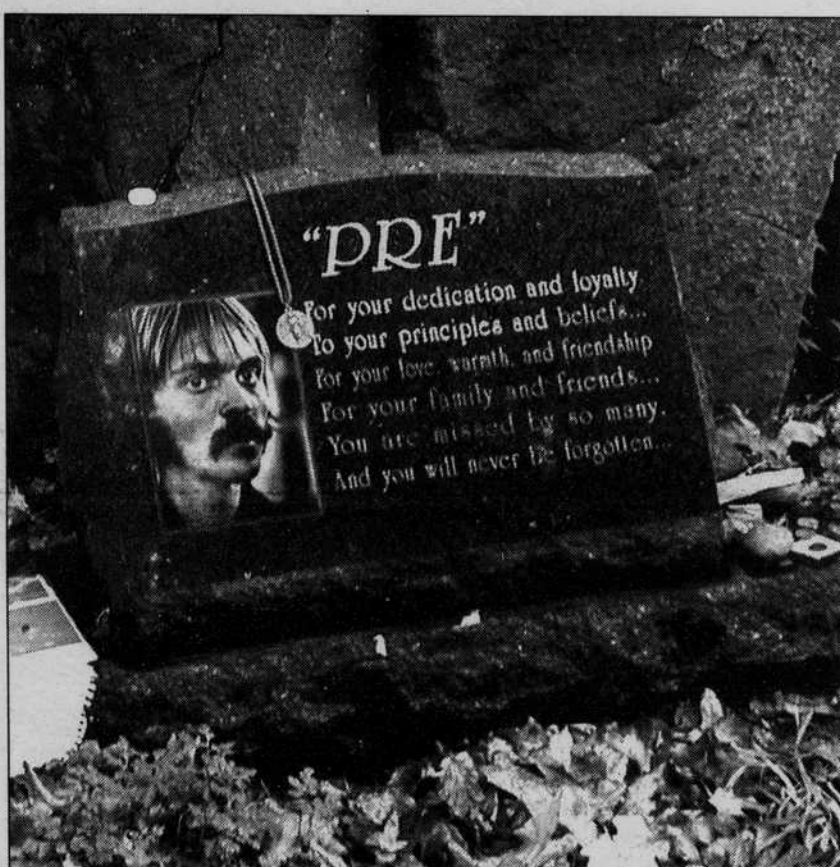
Nike CEO Phil Knight recently donated the land to the city of Eugene, and the city has plans to construct the park in the next couple years. The park, which has no set completion date, will be built around an existing monument.

Assistant Athletic Director for Media Services Dave Williford said the University is supportive of the new park and the efforts being made to honor Prefontaine's memory.

"Prefontaine was probably one of the few bright spots in our athletic history," he said. "Many people still identify the University with him and the park is obviously something we would welcome."

Eugene citizen Arne Alvarado's house sits just a few feet away from the Prefontaine monument, and he said he is excited to see a park constructed in honor of his old acquaintance.

"When I was growing up, Prefontaine would come jogging by here," he said. "He was a cool guy. If there were kids with a lemonade stand, he would make sure to have money in his pocket to buy some."



Danielle Hickey Emerald

A memorial park will be added to the current memorial honoring Steve Prefontaine.

Alvarado said he and his father, Bill, were the first two people on the scene the night Prefontaine lost his life.

Alvarado said the park will add to the already popular site. People often stop by and view the memorial, he said. The memorial is also a preferred site for runners to stop and stretch, he added.

City of Eugene Director of Parks and Open Space Division Johnny Medlin said the city has not set a timeline for developing the park, partially because funding is not currently available.

"It is not uncommon for the city to have a piece of land donated to them and, as public and private funds become available, make improvements to that site," he said.

Medlin said although the development of the park won't start for another couple years, the city already has plans to widen the road and create parking spots in the immediate future.

Contact the reporter at daniellegillespie@dailyemerald.com.

City's final OK moves child center ahead

The Eugene Planning Commission upheld the East Campus Children's Center use permit after hearing appeals from neighbors

Jillian Daley
Family/Health/Education Reporter

The Eugene Planning Commission decided on Tuesday to approve the University's conditional use permit to build its proposed East Campus Children's Center.

The Planning Commission held a public meeting in the Sloat Room of the Atrium Building at 99 W. 10th Ave. to make some changes to the hearings official's original approval documentation.

Toby Grant and Jeff Osanka, residents of the Fairmount neighborhood in the east campus area where the University plans to build, filed an appeal on Sept. 30 against the hearings official's original decision to grant the permit.

"We want to work collaboratively with the University," Fairmount Neighborhood Association member and former president Osanka said in a Nov. 11 press release. "We again ask the University to return to the process by which they involve the Fairmount Neighborhood as an equal partner in design and planning," he said.

Area residents have 21 days to appeal the decision on a state level to the Land Use Board of Appeals after it has been mailed by the commission.

"Together, we can create a child care center that works," Osanka added.

Some believe the current design is fine and are satisfied with the Planning Commission's final decision.

"We're very pleased that the Planning Commission has upheld the hearings official's decision," EMU Director of Student Activities Gregg Lobisser said.

Lobisser said he feels confident about beginning construction because the University's permit application has been approved by both the hearings official and the Planning Commission.

However, since the site was proposed, area residents have contested the permit that will allow the University

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WEATHER

Today: High 55, Low 45, mostly cloudy, chance of rain
Thursday: High 55, Low 40, cloudy, scattered showers

LOOKING AHEAD

Thursday
Campus Recycling proves reuse is just as important
Friday
It's new, it's muscular, it's the University's latest mascot

Other schools don't enforce logo use

Universities have similar graphic identity programs, but most don't force student publications to comply

Jan Montry
Campus/Federal Politics Reporter

The University's new logo policy may be a surprise to student groups, but the trend of creating consistent image policies is not a new idea. Many universities nationwide, including Washington State University and USC, have already developed similar "graphic identity programs" that specify which university logo can be used and who should use it.

University officials recently announced their new graphic identity policy that requires ASUO-funded groups to use the 'O' logo on all

new on-campus and off-campus publications. Since the announcement, which took place at an October ASUO Programs Council meeting, some student groups have spoken out against the policy. The University is the only Oregon University System school with such specific requirements, which apply to all new materials such as flyers, posters and letterhead published by ASUO-funded groups.

Oregon State University implemented its graphic identity program in a similar fashion as the University of Oregon, announcing its inception in 1999 and giving affected groups three months to use existing supplies. While the program suggests several logos that can be used, it doesn't force student publications to comply.

Ann McLaughlin, executive assistant to the

vice president for university advancement at OSU, said most requests to use the logo come from external groups.

"Typically we don't get many student groups wanting to do companion logos," she said.

Similarly, Portland State University only allows departments and offices to use the logo for "purposes which promote the goals of the university." According to its Web site, Portland State also reserves its seal for official documents and its athletic symbol for the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics.

Western Oregon University's publication policy states student groups must get a "stamp of approval" from the Office of Public Relations and Communications before putting posters on

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