

Oregon Daily Emerald

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Tuesday, August 10, 2004

SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON

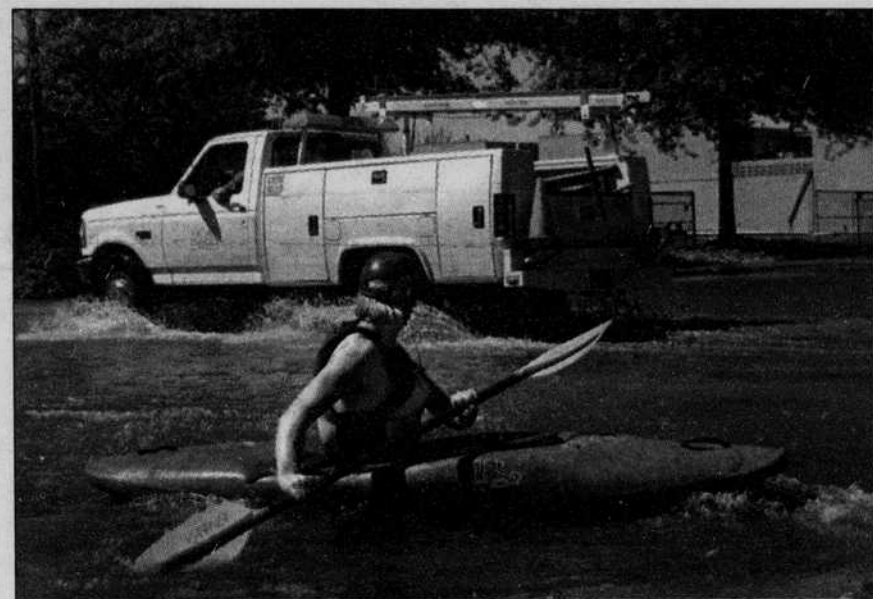
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GO WITH THE FLOW



Photos by Tim Bobosky Interim Photo Editor

Above: Pete Limbaugh, a senior business major, enjoys the water on Orchard Street near PC Market of Choice on Monday afternoon. The flood resulted from a broken water main. Below: Travis Reeder kayaks on floodwaters generated by the ruptured 16-inch water main.



STEVEN R. NEUMAN
FREELANCE REPORTER

Eugene residents experienced both a soothing break from the 95-degree heat and an unwelcome traffic obstruction when a 16-inch Eugene Water and Electric Board water main broke, pushing up dirt and rocks and flooding parts of several east campus blocks Monday afternoon.

The break occurred next to the sidewalk on the north side of East 15th Avenue between Walnut and Orchard streets. Water had flooded the street as far down the hill as Moss Street, two blocks away, and into the Williams' Bakery loading dock.

EWEB Water Construction Supervisor Todd Simmons said the break would not disrupt

water service to area customers; instead of shutting off the water, utility workers would throttle down the water pressure.

Mike Pigeon — who works at Fettucini and Co., a catering kitchen on Villard Street — said he first saw water pouring down Villard Street toward Franklin Boulevard at approximately 2:45 p.m.

"At first it was just coming down the one side of the street," Pigeon said, as cars drove through more than a foot of standing water in front of the building, sending waves crashing onto the sidewalk. Pigeon said that soon after, the water began flooding through the block and down the kitchen's driveway into the street.

Some saw the water as a break from the

summer heat and brought out inner tubes, swimsuits and kayaks.

Willow Norton saw the burst water main with her friend Kara Maltz while the two were already on their way to go swimming. Norton was home from college, visiting her family members, who live in the area, and decided to take advantage of the fast-flowing water flooding down the street.

"This ended up being kind of a detour, and now we're going to tube it down hopefully," Norton said. "Only in Eugene this would happen. The water seemed clean, it wasn't, like, sewer. (The water) was cold. It's a hot day. Why not? We met some guys who are going to go tubing with

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Nice day for a SWIM

Floodwaters caused by a broken water main poured down city streets near campus Monday

University increases parking near LLC

East 15th Avenue will be redesigned and widened to make room for more parking

BEN BROWN
NEWS REPORTER

This past week the University began work on the Living Learning Center, its new residence hall. With construction and parking already causing congestion problems on campus, the question is: How will this new building affect the University's already strained parking situation?

This past week the University closed East 15th Avenue from Straub Hall to Agate Street, but University Housing Director Mike Eyster said the

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August 3: University Housing prepares to break ground on LLC.

August 5: University removes outdoor tennis courts to make room for LLC.

Today: Parking added to East 15th Avenue to accommodate LLC.

August 12: Feedback about LLC's combined academics and living. University is making every effort to reduce the impact of construction on the parking situation.

Eyster said only five parking spaces will be closed during the school year resulting from the Living Learning Center construction. Most of the project's construction vehicles will be parked in the alley between Walton Hall and the construction site.

Eyster said those five spaces would sometimes be useable, but students should generally

consider them unavailable.

The rest of the parking on East 15th Avenue has been temporarily closed so the street can be redesigned to offer more parking spaces, said Rand Stamm, Department of Public Safety parking and transportation manager.

The plan is to widen the street and make all of the parking head-in, adding more than 30 parking spaces, said Stamm. Also, all of the parking meters will be removed and replaced with pay-on-foot meters.

"It's going to make it an attractive boulevard-type street," Stamm said.

Planning director Fred Tepfer said that although the city did not ask for more parking on

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OUS budget funds five projects on campus

Repairs and expansion efforts at various sites are slated for the 2005-07 biennium

OMIE DRAWHORN
NEWS REPORTER

The Oregon University System board Friday approved a \$1.156-billion capital construction budget request that includes plans to fund five University projects during the 2005-07 biennium.

OUS spokeswoman Lisa Zavala said the figure has increased slightly, from the last biennium's \$1.07 billion allocation.

The five projects were on OUS's 35-project capital repairs priorities list, ranked from most to least important. Other construction projects priorities on the University campus include Gilbert Hall remodeling, a new Integrative Science Complex, expansion and alterations to Condon Hall, and an addition to the theater complex.

"The budget allows us to meet our top priorities," said Chris Ramey, director and architect for University Planning.

In addition to the priorities submitted by University President Dave Frohnmayer and his staff, the University needs repairs and construction at 20 other sites, he said.

Approximately \$128 million of the construction budget is allotted for projects at the University, including the construction of a new education building and changes to the existing education complex. The new education building will be 84,000 square

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NEWS BRIEF

University ranks as 'best deal' on West Coast

Fiske Guide to Colleges, 21st edition, has rated the University as "the best deal in public education on the West Coast." The University has held that rating for seven consecutive years; less than two percent of surveyed colleges and universities earned a best-deal rating.

The publication surveyed 2,200 institutions, ranking 20 public and 23 private colleges as "best buys." According to the guide, the "UO is a university of manageable size in a great location. The liberal arts are more than just a slogan, and the programs in business and communication are strong."

The guide praises the College of Arts and Sciences and notes the University's green chemistry laboratory and instrumentation center as the first in the nation to use non-toxic materials in experiments. The guide also praises the schools of journalism and communication, architecture and allied arts, education, law, business and music.

"This is a great reflection of the quality of our faculty, staff and students," University President Dave Frohnmayer said. "Our consistency and our high ranking in the Fiske Guide underscore how well we use our resources, especially in these financially challenging times."

— Omie Drawhorn