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DeFazio opposes federal aid cuts

The congressman asks how a \$14.3 billion national budget reduction affects student finances

BY JOE BAILEY
NEWS REPORTER

Several weeks after the U.S. House of Representatives passed a spending reduction package that included \$14.3 billion in cuts to federal financial aid, Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Ore, visited campus Thursday to voice his opposition to the spending cuts.

At a forum hosted by the ASUO in the Lillis Business Complex, DeFazio listened to students talk about how further financial aid cuts would impact their lives and said that Republicans in Congress have their priorities wrong.

The House passed a bill on Nov. 18 that cut about \$50 billion from the budget; the largest cuts were

directed at Medicaid benefits, food stamps and student loan subsidies.

The cuts to student loan subsidies would raise the interest for students borrowing money to pay for college, DeFazio said.

University student Tony McCown told DeFazio that debt from student loans could have a crippling impact on his career.

McCown, who is married and has a four-month old son, said that after he and his wife transferred to the University from Lane Community College, they had accumulated about \$40,000 of debt between them.

After they graduate from the University, the McCowns expect to have more than \$100,000 of



TIM BOBOSKY | PHOTO EDITOR

U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Springfield, talks with Tony McCown, chief justice of the ASUO Constitution Court, about cuts to student financial aid.

combined debt.

McCown said that he would like to attend law school and work in public interest law, but he's

afraid he will have to find higher-paying work to pay off his debts.

DEFAZIO, page 6

UO Senate passes three motions Wednesday

University government decisions addressed Westmoreland and Department of Defense funding

BY MEGHANN M. CUNIFF
NEWS EDITOR

The new draft of the diversity plan and a public hearing regarding U.S. Department of Defense funding on campus will be part of the University Senate's agenda sometime next term.

At its meeting Wednesday, the senate watched a presentation about the diversity plan, heard an update on the state of the University by President Dave Frohnmayer and passed three motions. One motion calls for public hearings about DoD funding — at least one to be held in front of the senate — and the others call for the University to close the school for University Assembly meetings and waive the fees for a records request by the Westmoreland Tenants Council.

The diversity plan

The Diversity Executive Working Group submitted a draft of the Five-Year Diversity Plan to Frohnmayer on Nov. 22, Interim Vice Provost for Institutional Equity and Diversity Charles Martinez said, and copies of the draft should be available next term after all revisions are made.

Martinez discussed the reasons for the diversity plan and presented statistics detailing inequalities between minority groups and white people at the University level.

The original draft of the plan was released last spring and caused a great deal of controversy. A group of professors sent a letter to Frohnmayer denouncing the plan as "Orwellian" and "frightening." Frohnmayer

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KATE HORTON | PHOTOGRAPHER

Thursday was the 50th anniversary of Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Ala., bus. The anniversary gained even more significance this October, when Parks died at age 92. The Lane Transit District remembered her life and contributions by taking part in "A National Transit Tribute to Rosa Parks." LTD, in conjunction with the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Eugene Human Rights Commission, reserved a seat on each bus for Parks. The seats were marked by a laminated sheet with a picture of Parks and the words "On December 1, 1955, she changed the course of history and inspired us all." LTD also gave free day passes to anyone who donated a canned food item to FOOD for Lane County. Before the event, LTD gave presentations at local elementary and middle schools and encouraged the children to draw pictures about what Parks meant to them. The pictures were compiled into a quilt, which LTD hung at its Eugene Station Customer Service Center at 11th Avenue and Willamette Street.

Student architects redraft downtown Eugene

A studio class combining ideas of landscape and city planning redeveloped the Riverfront District

BY CHRIS HAGAN
NEWS REPORTER

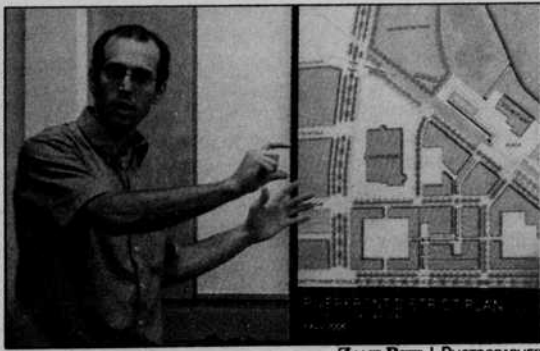
Imagine 25 years from now, coming off what is now the Ferry Street Bridge into downtown Eugene on a tree-lined, median-divided road. Travelers looking to their left will see the completed Wayne L. Morse Federal

Courthouse. Straight ahead would be the University's new basketball arena.

That would be the plan if it were up to the students in Architecture 4/585 and Landscape Architecture 4/589, Going Downtown: Eugene Remapped.

ARCHITECTS, page 7

Graduate student Jesse Schwartzberg presents his plans for the Riverfront District to a review panel of University professors and Eugene officials. The presentation was the final product of the class Going Downtown: Eugene Remapped.



ZANE RITT | PHOTOGRAPHER

Students host winter Kwanzaa celebration

The Black Student Union will provide dinner and perform skits to share in the cultural holiday

BY EMILY SMITH
NEWS REPORTER

The Black Student Union will be serving up free fried chicken, sweet potato pie, collard greens, macaroni and cheese, mashed potatoes and cornbread for all who attend its annual Kwanzaa Celebration on Saturday night in the EMU Ballroom.

BSU Programs Coordinator Assistant Abriana Wheatfall expects about 150 people to show up, and she said she's hoping a wide range of students will be interested.

The traditional soul-food dinner and live

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