

Blue Mountain School is adjacent to the park and Mosby Creek runs through the park. The creek is habitat for endangered Chinook salmon, according to the National Marine Fisheries Service, but Winter says no spraying was done near the creek or school.

In response to public concern, Winter is offering to contact interested parties seven days before future spraying. To be on the Blue Mountain call list, call 682-2000. — *TJT*

EUGENE-SPRINGFIELD RATED FIRST IN CYCLING

Eugene-Springfield has a higher rate of bike commuting than any other large metropolitan area in the nation.

Almost 5,000 people, 3 percent of locals, bike to work, according to the 2000 U.S. Census. That percentage ranks Eugene-Springfield as #1 among urban areas with more than 50,000 commuters.

Compared to cities of any size, Eugene-Springfield ranks third, behind the smaller Missoula, Mont., area and the #1 ranked Corvallis area, with almost 5 percent commuting by bike.

Most of the local bike commuters come from Eugene rather than Springfield. In Eugene, 5.5 percent commute by bike, compared to only 1.3 percent in Springfield.

Comparing cities rather than metro areas, Eugene's 5.5 percent ranks second in Oregon for bike commuting behind Corvallis with 7.1 percent on bikes. By comparison, 1.8 percent commute by bike in the city of Portland and 1 percent in Salem. Census data ranking the Eugene only bike rate compared to cities nationally was not readily available.

Despite Eugene's comparatively high number of bike commuters, bikers are a dwindling minority in Eugene. In 1980, 8 percent biked to work; in 1990, 5.8 percent biked; and in 2000, 5.5 percent biked.

Overall, Eugene is still struggling to solve the car problem that has choked many cities with smog, asphalt and snarl. In the last decade, the percentage of people walking, biking or busing to work in Eugene increased only half a percentage point.

Two-thirds of Eugene commuters still drive to work alone in their cars. That percentage of car commuters is slightly lower in Portland where 12 percent of commuters use public transportation. But in Eugene more people bike to work than bus.

— *Alan Pittman*

IT'S SUCH A FINE LOOKING BUDGET

The city of Eugene last month received its 20th consecutive Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

The GFOA has awarded hundreds of the awards to cities across the nation since starting the contest in 1984. The contest apparently focuses on "presentation" in the city's budget document and not so much on whether the city is making the best use of taxpayer money. Entering the GFOA contest costs \$450 a year, according to the application form. — *Alan Pittman*

CHURCHILL STUDENTS HONORED BY GOODALL

Ambassador to the U.N. Jane Goodall recognized Churchill High students and project leaders at a recent gathering at Pacific University in Forest Grove. The honor was for their work on the Churchill Community Garden Native Planting Demonstration,

Restoration, and Teaching Garden, funded by a grant from the Weddle Foundation.

The students, from the Rachael Carson Center for Natural Resources, were Clarissa Williams, Sarah Francis, Sarah Coon, Robi Phetteplace, Cassy Duyck, Danny Stratton and Caitlin Townsend. Project leaders were Heidi Branchesi, Mitzi Colbath and Lynn Lomax.

DI TAKES A BREAK

Don't be surprised next week when *Ducks Illustrated* disappears from *EW*. As the football season winds down, the sports magazine will go to a less-than-weekly schedule. *DI* will be back for a Bowl Game preview

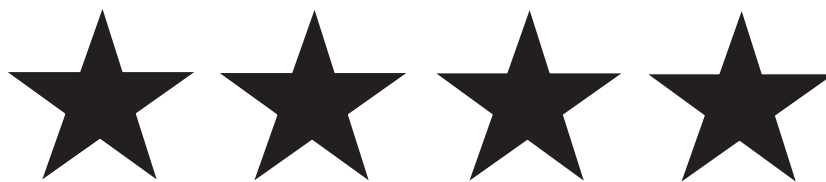
Dec. 11, then for a Pac-10 Basketball preview issue Dec. 24. The magazine will publish about once a month over the winter and spring, covering Duck basketball, wrestling, volleyball, track and other sports.

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

• In last week's cover story on sustainability, Jack Roberts of the Lane Metro Partnership is reported to be "lobbying for ... revoking Eugene's Toxics Right to Know ordinance." But Roberts tells us that in the interview with Alan Pittman he "simply explained some of the problems local businesses have encountered trying to comply

with it. At no time did I suggest revoking the ordinance, nor have I suggested that with any elected officials or anyone else."

• *EW* just learned this week that a Slant item back in our June 5 issue was based on erroneous information. We wrote about a *Columbia Journalism Review* article that said the *R-G* gave equal presentation of letters for and against the Iraq War, despite receiving letters 4-1 opposed to the war. For the record, *R-G* Associate Editor Paul Neville tells us, "The intern that *CJR* had do the survey incorrectly reported our policy. I told her that we attempted to run pro and con letters in approximate proportion to the numbers received."



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