

SKYDIVERS TO PLUNGE NEAR PISGAH

It looks like Eugene Skydivers may have found a new place to parachute. After the city of Creswell put an end to the use of a long-used landing area on the eastern end of the city's Hobby Field, area skydive companies started looking for a new place to drop divers.

Farmer and skydiver Jim Evonuk offered the use of his farmland north of Seavey Loop Road, near Mount Pisgah, to Eugene Skydivers.

Eugene Skydivers owner Urban Moore applied for a permit to use the land, a 59-acre parcel that is zoned for exclusive farm use. The permit would last for five years.

At a recent hearing county planning staff recommended approval of Moore's application. According to a county planner's report, dropping 40 skydivers a day would have no significant impact on the land and nearby properties.

Staff at the Mount Pisgah Arboretum originally expressed worries about the noise that could be generated by airplanes flying overhead all day long. Mount Pisgah is a popular hiking area and the site of flower and bird walks as well as a popular site for marriages and other outdoor celebrations.

However, after watching a demonstration flight and jump, Pete Barrell, executive director of the Arboretum, says the group "has no official objections" to the permit.

The planes are usually 10,000 ft. and higher

when they drop parachutists, and Barrell said the demonstration jump was almost noiseless.

Dave Wright of Wright Brothers Skydiving also applied for a permit in a farmer's field, this one just east of Creswell Airport. The city of Creswell opposes Wright's permit, citing noise and safety concerns. — Camilla Mortensen

HOMELESS STATISTICS

Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy has put together a Blue Ribbon Committee to come up with a 10-year plan to help alleviate homelessness in the city and county.

How many people are homeless in Lane County? It varies from week to week, and not all are counted, but the city of Eugene has compiled some statistics on low-income housing and homelessness.

- 7,666 homeless individuals received social services in Lane County or health care at Springfield's Riverstone Clinic in 2005-06.

- 1,600 homeless individuals received emergency shelter or housing assistance in Lane County in 2005-06.

- 1,906 homeless children were enrolled in Lane County public schools in 2005-06. About half were in Eugene.

- 2,296 homeless people were counted in a one-night survey of both shelters and streets Jan. 25.

- About 12 percent of the 38,000 Lane County veterans are homeless.

Members of the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee include Andrea Ortiz, Susan Ban, Marcia Edwards, Chuck Dalton, Hugh Massengill, Terry McDonald, Clayton Walker, Hillary Wylie, Michael Milbradt, Colt Gill, Gerry Gaydos, Lynne McKinney, Susan Posner, Mo Young, Faye Stewart, Ron Chase, Tracy Lampman, Fr. David Lubliner, Jeremiah Megowan, John Van Lingham, and Dan

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



Whelan of Congressman DeFazio's office. Staff support is by Richie Weinman of Eugene Planning and Development.

CLEAN BEAVERS

OSU students recently voted to pay a fee of up to \$8.50 per term to help the university go from getting around 75 percent of its electricity made by burning coal to 100 percent made from renewable sources such as wind and hydroelectric power. The plan would kick in this fall if approved by the Oregon State Board of Higher Education.

Nationally, universities such as Cornell and UC Berkeley have already adopted similar programs. OSU is expected to join Southern Oregon University in Ashland as the second public university in the state in what is being called the "green campus movement."

OSU students voted to adopt the fee in the late April Associated Students of OSU elections. The vote was 2,385 in favor with 965 against, ac-

