

• What do Eugeneans want to see happen at **Civic Stadium**? The public, as documented in a recent Lindholm Company phone survey, appears to favor selling it to the city and preserving the historic stadium as a soccer field and public park. The survey found that 60 percent of respondents supported selling Civic to the city and 28 percent opposed. We wager that more people will come around, especially as the prospect of swapping an important historic recreational site for a big-box store right in the middle of town looks worse and worse. Money to purchase the Civic acreage would not come from the General Fund, in which the city is experiencing a shortfall, but rather from city parks bond funds, approved by voters. Eugene city councilors recently tabled the idea of the city buying the stadium land, figuring the purchase had little public support. Wrong.

In a related development, we learned this week that **School District 4J** can use the proceeds from the sale of Civic Stadium land for more than just capital improvements. Board policy is that “Net proceeds from the sale or lease of facilities will be placed in a district capital improvement fund and used to acquire and develop land and/or upgrade and improve district facilities unless the board decides otherwise for compelling reasons.” The board already moved \$2 million from facilities funds to support teachers and school operations last year and another \$1 million is to be moved this year, according to 4J spokesperson Kerry Delf.

• We’ve heard a lot of griping about the **Multiple-Unit Property Tax Exemption** during the ongoing city of Eugene budget discussions. Is MUPT an unnecessary corporate giveaway or a useful planning tool to be used selectively to direct infill where we need it? Neighborhood advocate Paul Conte and 1000 Friends of Oregon Willamette Valley Advocate Mia Nelson will debate MUPT at noon Friday, Nov. 1, at the City Club of Eugene meeting at the Hilton Ballroom. Let’s get educated.

• The Eugene City Council approved two 15-person **rest stop sites** Monday evening for homeless people needing a safe, legal site to sleep. The nonprofit-managed rest stops are a tiny step in the right direction. Just how tiny becomes obvious upon looking at the SLEEPS protest sites filled with far more than 30 people. Homeless advocates say the site at Chambers and Northwest Expressway is too sloped and prone to flooding, and they complain that opening one camp soon and another later is too slow a pace to deal with the shelter emergency.

• The **Environmental Scorecard** from the Oregon League of Conservation Voters is now out and our local lawmakers in Salem are doing fairly well. The last Scorecard was two years ago. Earning 94 percent gold stars this time are Reps. Sara Gelser (who will be running for the Senate next year), John Lively and Nancy Nathanson. The ratings have slipped a few points for Sens. Chris Edwards (89) and Floyd Prozanski (88), and Reps. Phil Barnhart (89), Paul Holvey (88) and Val Hoyle (78). Enviro would like to see these numbers higher, of course, and we’re hearing concerns that two high-ranked lawmakers in the state are leaving the Legislature. Sen. Jackie Dingfelder (100) is taking a job with the city of Portland and Rep. Jules Bailey (88) is running for Multnomah county commissioner. If there’s a consolation prize, Roseburg Rep. Bruce Hanna is considering *not* running for re-election and he has one of the worst OLCV records in the state (6). Roseburg Sen. Jeff Kruse earned a zero rating this time. It appears low OLCV ratings are bragging rights in some circles.

• From our sports closet: Oregon’s football team keeps rolling along, and the men’s basketball team looked impressive in its first exhibition, but if you want to watch **the best athlete in Eugene** you better get to a volleyball game. Oregon’s Liz Brenner is playing great volleyball for the Ducks. She played great basketball and softball for the Ducks and has thrown the javelin great distances for the Ducks. That’s right, she has competed at the highest NCAA levels in four sports for Oregon. Her performance earned her recognition as a finalist for the 2013 Sullivan Award, which goes to the nation’s top amateur athlete. Right now, she is tearing up the volleyball court, and Oregon has some great home games coming up. ASU comes to town at 6 pm Friday, Nov. 1, and Arizona takes on the Ducks at 7 pm Saturday, Nov. 2.

• A third-year **UO law student** recently told us that he will finish with a \$100,000 debt, and that’s smaller than the debt carried by many others. Maybe that’s the market saying “don’t go to law school.” But such heavy debt limits career choices and sends young lawyers to the conservative corporate jobs with the highest salaries. The poor public interest law sector will continue to starve, even though that kind of law is what inspires many idealistic students to pursue a law degree in the first place.

in the protests at home.

In Lane County, he hopes to also be given the opportunity to make changes from within. “We need to focus locally and get our head above water,” Schoolcraft says.

Within the Lane County government, Schoolcraft would like to see a salary cap, and more “hiring from within” for upper level positions, rather than bringing in “people who already make \$150,000 and then get raises. They just pull crap like [Liane] Richardson.”

Schoolcraft would also like to explore alternative options to contentious local issues, such as the mining of Parvin Butte.

“Why aren’t we mining silt out of the dams?” Schoolcraft asks, explaining the benefit to farmers as soil and cutting down on the impact of big mining operations. He would also like to see “our mills back up” and an end to raw log exports.

“I just want to do what the people want,” Schoolcraft says, expanding on his own frustration with the current government “not listening.”

Schoolcraft also has ideas on public safety funding, such as a 1 percent tax on every for-profit business in Eugene as a way to supplement public safety. He also says he would like to see urban development projects brought out in the open. Schoolcraft has said if he wins, he would give half of his first year’s salary to the public safety budget, and would “encourage others to do the same.”

Schoolcraft, who describes himself as “just barely” a Democrat and fiscally conservative, has not yet reported raising any funds for his campaign.

Outside of the political realm, Schoolcraft gained fame in the 1980s for competitive footbag and has been called “the godfather of freestyle” in the sport. He was inducted into the Footbag Hall of Fame in 1997.

More than anything, Schoolcraft says he wants to make the government a more approachable and open part of the community.

“People should not fear their government; government should fear the people,” Schoolcraft says. — *Jordan Tichenor*

YOUTH SOCCER OPTIONS GROW WITH PELADA

Pelada Football Academy, a youth soccer academy founded as a nonprofit in February, aims to give more kids the opportunity to play and learn while seeking to complement and not compete with other soccer clubs by bringing in kids and their families who find recreational soccer too recreational or competitive soccer too competitive. These kids, in addition to clinics and scrimmages, will have a chance to play more than just soccer. Futsal, a form of indoor soccer with more reliance on technique and fancy footwork, is just around the corner with the upcoming Pelada Football Academy Futsal Tournament, Nov. 16 and 17 at Willamalane Indoor Courts in Springfield.

“I try to organize our program so it works in conjunction with those other ones, so we’re not trying to take players off of Metro or Kidsports,” says Joey Garah, director of the Pelada. “We’re trying to serve those people who are lost in the middle ground. They are not necessarily looking for college scholarships, not trying to win big titles, but they do value the training and teaching element of the game. We’re finding right now that that’s a lot of kids.”

Played on a smaller court with fewer players per side and more excitement offensively, Futsal is fast-paced and places particular emphasis on individual skill. The tournament is composed of high school boys and U-13/14 (under age 13 and 14) and U-11/12 boys and girls. The registration deadline is Nov. 6.

“One of the main things I hear about soccer and people who don’t enjoy watching it is they want to see more points, and Futsal is that way,” Garah says. “You tend to see more high-scoring games, and that action is always in your goal. You don’t have to be a player or fan of the sport to see that more goals are going in and that it is more packed action. I think part of the reason it is taking off is because it’s a lot of fun.”

Traditional soccer may not be as high scoring, but it sure is taking off. Last fall, when Pelada was first organized before becoming a nonprofit, Garah estimates about 44 players were in the system within the U-14 and U-12 boys and girls classifications. Now, he estimates about 130 are associated with the academy, incorporating U-10 and U-8 age groups. Additionally, Garah and his colleagues with Pelada run soccer clinics in the summer for U-18 high-schoolers.

“I just continue to hear from families that they were looking and looking for something like this,” Garah says, “so as long as we keep hearing that feedback we will keep trying to spread out and make it more accessible to everybody.” — *Nick Poust*

SLANT INCLUDES SHORT OPINION PIECES, OBSERVATIONS AND RUMOR-CHASING NOTES COMPILED BY THE EW STAFF. HEARD ANY GOOD RUMORS LATELY? CONTACT TED TAYLOR AT 484-0519, EDITOR@EUGENEWEEKLY.COM

ACTIVIST ALERT

• Author **R. Sheldon Lewis** will read from book *The Torah of Reconciliation* at 6:30 pm Monday, Nov. 4, at Temple Beth Israel, 1175 E. 29th Ave. Free, donations welcome. Sponsored by Jewish Events Willamette-valley (JEW) and Temple Beth Israel. See JewishEventsWillamette-valley.org.

LANE COUNTY AREA SPRAY SCHEDULE

• ODOT is now doing fall roadside spraying in Lane County. Details for Highway 36 are listed below, **Highways 99, 126** and others have been sprayed recently. You may reach District 5 offices at (541) 744-8080 or call their automated information line at (888) 996-8080 for more information.

• **Highway 36** was sprayed by ODOT on Oct. 15 and 17 except for an 8-mile stretch adopted by Members of Beyond Toxics where weeds were cut and pulled by hand on Oct. 17.

Compiled by Jan Wroncy & Gary Hale, Forestland Dwellers: 342-8332, forestlanddwellers.org

lighten up

BY RAFAEL ALDAVE

If life were fair, county commissioners who handed the taxpayers a redacted investigative report would get back a redacted paycheck.