

NEWS

BY MEERAH POWELL



PREPARATION IS UNDERWAY FOR HAYWARD FIELD'S JUNE 11 DEMOLITION

PHOTO BY TODD COOPER

HAYWARD FIELD PROTESTER ARRESTED, DEMOLITION PROCEEDS AT HISTORIC SITE

East Grandstand supporters struggle to keep stadium alive

The wheels have been set in motion for the demolition of Hayward Field and the construction of a new facility, but historic Hayward Field and East Grandstand supporters are still trying to stop it — including a protester who was arrested after running around the track wearing a “Save Hayward” T-shirt.

Construction of Hayward Field is slated to begin June 19, according to the UO’s “Around the O” news website, but workers were spotted taking up wooden boards from Hayward’s East Grandstand on Monday, June 11, to begin the “inventory process, site preparation and some preliminary salvage work this week,” the site said.

As it stands now, Hayward hosted its final NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championship last week, June 6-9.

On Friday, June 8, local videographer Tim Lewis ran onto Hayward’s track during the meet, wearing a T-shirt that said “Save Hayward” and holding up another that said “Pre Lives For Now.”

The back of the “Save Hayward” shirt Lewis was wearing said, “Hallowed Grounds.”

Lewis was at the championship meet as a spectator. “I had tickets. I didn’t just bust in,” he says. He had made the T-shirts beforehand, he says, but wasn’t fully sure what he wanted to do.

Lewis says he grew up watching Steve Prefontaine run at Hayward Field. “He was my hero,” he says. Lewis says he also was a distance runner at North Eugene High School who spent a lot of time at Hayward Field himself.

He was sitting in the East Grandstand on Friday, the third day of the NCAA Championship, watching the races. After the 5,000-meter race, which he says was Prefontaine’s favorite, Lewis says, he decided to slip off the East Grandstand and onto the track.

He walked back and forth in front of the grandstand with people in the stands cheering him on.

Then, he says, “I decided, ‘Fuck it. I’m going to run

ACTIVIST ALERT

• Two comment periods are currently open to stop the proposed **Pacific Connector Pipeline and Jordan Cove Energy Project**: Department of Environmental Quality/Army Corps of Engineers joint water quality permits (deadline July 21) and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission fracked gas permit procedures (deadline June 18). The group 350 Eugene offers several support sessions for comment writing at 6 pm Friday, June 15, at the First United Methodist Church (13th and Olive) and 1 to 4 pm the Eugene

Downtown Library coffee shop area June 18 and 24. Go to world.350.org/eugene for more info.

• **National Pollinator Week is June 18 to 24** and local nonprofit Beyond Toxics is hosting the fifth annual Bee Jazzy celebration 5:30 pm Thursday, June 21, to benefit the Save Oregon’s Bees campaign. Halie Loren and the Dana McWayne Quartet will perform at the Silvan Ridge winery and the event features a silent auction, local favorite food carts and vendors. Saturday, June

23 Beyond Toxics hosts a Pollinator Garden work party at the Churchill Community Garden to “support food-growing and native pollinator education in west Eugene.” At noon June 24 is the Eugene Bee Survey in the Whilamut Natural Area. Meet along Pre’s Trail, north of the Knickerbocker bridge (“Walama Restoration Project Site” in Google Maps).

• Lane County refugee resettlement group, a church, and several local organizations are co-sponsoring **World Refugee Day**

“with an evening of activities to celebrate the richness and diversity of refugees.” The free public event features 20 information booths, food carts, Syrian line dancing, a play about refugees and immigrants, and a talk by photo journalist Paul Jeffrey, whose images have appeared in the *Washington Post*, *The Boston Globe*, *Time*, *Sierra*, *National Geographic Explorer* and more. World Refugee day is 5 to 8 pm Wednesday, June 20, at the First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive Street.