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Ruffled feathers over toxic mold, ranger office to range

By: **Rich.Riegel** (<https://djcoregon.com/news/author/richriegel/>) // March 12, 2001 // **4 Minute Read**

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Head duck files toxic mold lawsuit

EUGENE – University of Oregon basketball coach Ernie Kent has filed a lawsuit against a homebuilder and two contractors alleging that faulty workmanship in his home led to an infestation of health-damaging toxic mold.

Kent and his wife, Dianna, are seeking \$5 million from general contractor Lynn Development Corp. and McLaughlin Plastering Inc.

The lawsuit, filed Feb. 28 in Lane County Circuit Court, also names Michael Miller, a plumber who worked for Lynn, as a defendant.

The Kents bought the home in west Eugene in June 1997 for \$365,000. The house had been completed about a year earlier and had been vacant since its completion, the lawsuit said.

The Kents claim that the house become rife with at least nine types of toxic mold, causing family members to develop health problems ranging from joint pain to constant fatigue.

The Kents and their three children moved out of the home in December. They now rent a home in Eugene.

Wyden supports ranger office move

ASHLAND – A proposal to move the Ashland Ranger District to Southern Oregon University's campus is moving ahead with the support of U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore.

The plan calls for the ranger district office, a university classroom and a collaborative center on the Ashland campus.

SOU would build the facility and lease it to the U.S. Forest Service for an undetermined cost. Most funding would likely come from grants and donations.

The current ranger district office pays nearly \$150,000 a year to lease office space in downtown Ashland and is looking for a cheaper place.

"I think it's a fascinating idea," Wyden said. "They have a chance to do some cutting-edge work."

See [Harkins Row](#) ACCEPT interim president and member of the group Forest Visions, said the proposal is still in a conceptual stage.

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