

# Wilderness studies program 'lets go'

By MELODY WARD  
Of the Emerald

One student's independent studies program has evolved into a campus-based University of the Wilderness (UWild).

The experimental wilderness studies program, which will be offered the first time this spring, revolves around a concept UWild coordinator Dave Brown loosely terms "letting go."

Brown took a long standing interest in the environment and designed an independent studies program to study it, using the traditional academic disciplines to develop an interdisciplinary approach for understanding wilderness issues.

His thesis, *An Oregon Wilderness Handbook*, won the Northwest Institute for Environmental Studies award for the best undergraduate paper on an environmental topic. "There was no way I could have produced that paper, had I been hampered by excess requirements," Brown says. The handbook is being revised for publication.

"Letting go is getting out of the Ivory Tower and learning about the real world while still being a part of the University," Brown explains. "It's feeling secure enough as a student to break out of the traditional educational structure when it's advantageous. Too often we're stuck in a program that doesn't really meet our desires or needs."

Brown says the UWild program is a response to the growing demand for environmental education. "A 1976 survey showed student and faculty desire for integrated environmental education exists on this campus," he asserts. "The Honors College is reaching out in a no-cost efficient way to provide a unique experimental learning opportunity through UWild."

Spring term UWild will focus on the desert wildlands of Southeastern Oregon. Coursework throughout the term will be divided between the campus and field locations at desert sites.

The interdisciplinary program, which offers departmental credit in eight separate areas, including history, places more emphasis on field work than the normal academic curriculum, Brown says. Students participating in the program will have contact with up to 25 experts drawn from public, professional and academic communities.

"Basically, it takes credit from eight departments and makes it into a synthesized program," he summarizes. "It'll allow students to get out of the classroom and spend extensive amounts of time in the field."

Brown stresses the value of bringing divergent areas together to study environmental concerns. "Most departmental counselors have been less inclined to look beyond traditional departmental offerings and therefore caused students to miss out on some of the more innovative learning opportunities on campus." However, Brown thinks many counselors are presently changing their focus to include extra-departmental options.

"Departmental advising is good in that it can bring out a person's abilities in a specific field, but it should also help relate those abilities to other areas," Brown adds.

While coordinating the University of the Wilderness debut, Brown is also working as a lands and resources specialist for the Public Lands Research Group. "We're trying to involve students on campus in the public land managing processes," he says. "Our main purpose is to expose them to training in the field because many students coming out of universities have to be retrained in a job situation."

Admission to the spring session of UWild is tentatively limited to 16, but if more apply the students will be required to undergo a brief application and interview procedure conducted by the Honor's College, the Public Lands Research Group and Brown.

Students should apply for the program by March 15.

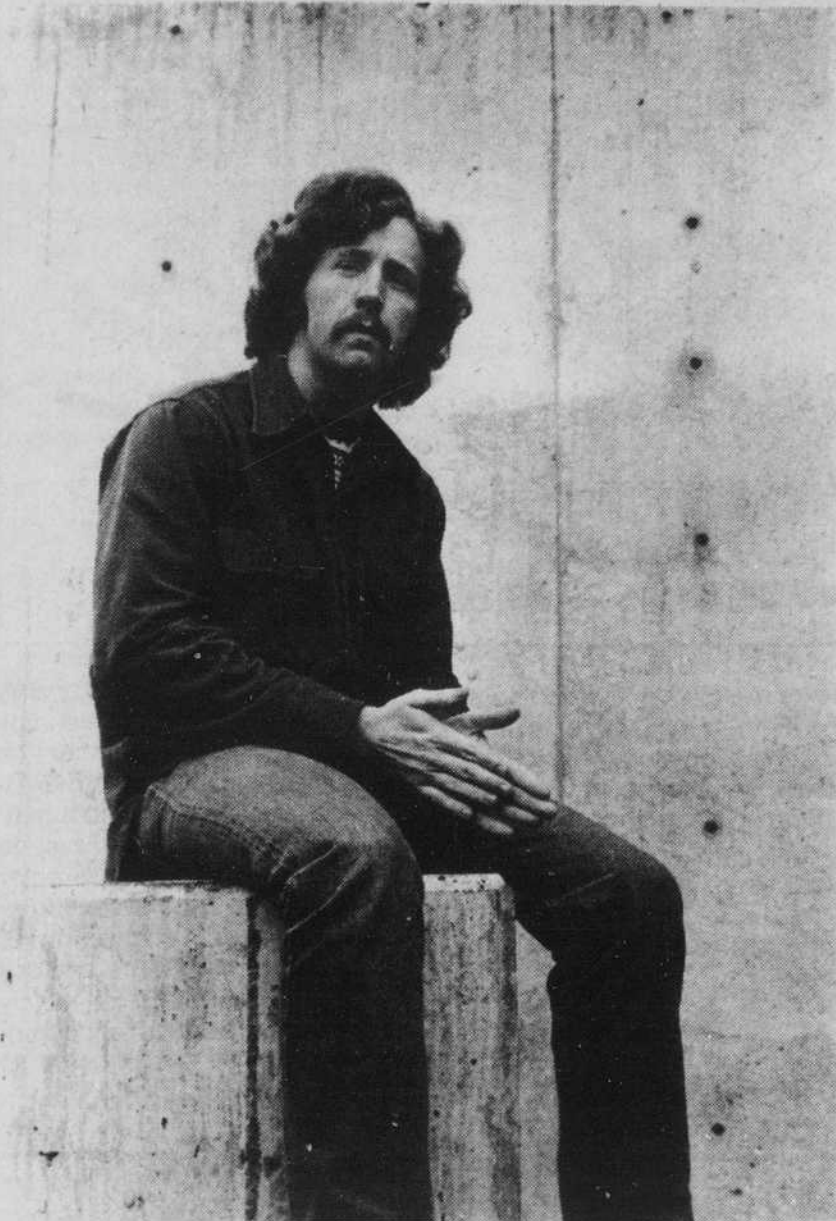


Photo by Dennis Hickok

University of the Wilderness coordinator Dave Brown

## Students to get help stalking the diploma

"Stalking the Elusive Diploma" is the name of a project during the next two weeks to give students accurate information about everything from the "D" grade to diploma requirements to dollar problems.

Representatives from Student Personnel Services will be in a Lane Transit District bus parked in front of Johnson Hall Feb. 22 and Feb. 27 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. to answer student's questions.

Another session is scheduled to be in the main hall of the University Library on Feb. 24 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"Students need accurate information, not hearsay that some use for their academic problems," says Kathy Wallin, who works for Student Counseling and Academic Advising offices.

Wallin advises students without immediate problems should drop by the bus and library during these sessions since the project entails "pre-advising."

"We want to catch problems before they start," Wallin says. "Some of the common problems are the D grade, the W designation on grade reports and inability to receive job information."

The project is being run now to prepare students for March 3 — the last day to drop courses and receive a "W" (withdrawal notice).

Participants in the project will be representatives from Career Planning and Placement, Student Services, Financial Aid, the Registrar's Office, International Student Services, Learning Resource Center, Academic Advising, Orientation Office and Counselor for Athletes.

Open Sunday

3¢  
Copies

Rapid Printing

Typing • Theses & Dissertations  
Editing • Resumes • Design & Layout • Advertising

Cooperative Printing

485-4899 • 762 E. 13th (next to Excelsior)

HOURS: 7:30 a.m. - 9 p.m. Monday - Friday  
9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday  
Open Sunday Noon - 5 p.m.

FEBRUARY

SALE



**Sweaters**

entire stock

**1/2 price**

**Socks**

REG. to 5.00

**1.99**

**Mufflers**

**1/3 off**

**Jeans & Purses NOW 8.99**

**Sportswear vests & pants 1/2 price**



13<sup>TH</sup> AVE.

CLOTHES WORKS

880 E. 13th on campus • 342-2320