

## 'Escape' to off-campus credits

The ESCAPE Field Studies Program has a way to bypass credit hours typically spent in University classrooms.

By working as a volunteer at one of ESCAPE's 70 participating agencies and schools, students receive one to five hours of upper-division University credit.

"It's not your typical learning situation," says director Trudy Flanery.

ESCAPE is an "experiential" program that allows students a lot of flexibility, and students who make the most effort gain the most from the experience, she says.

"Otherwise they're just looking at it as a program for bogus credits and they're not putting that much into it," Flanery says.

Approximately 400 students enroll each term in the program, which is coordinated and supervised entirely by students, she says. To receive credit, students must complete a mid-term and final conference and a final project.

There are no prerequisites for the program, and anyone who "has the energy to do some-

thing away from campus" can be an effective volunteer, Flanery says, adding that the ESCAPE staff conducts a leadership training session at the beginning of the term, before sending students out to their agencies.

Volunteers at schools work at jobs ranging from tutoring refugee and gifted children to coaching or teaching arts and crafts.

In addition, just about any position where the student is in a "direct helping relationship" with other people — such as health care and legal aid agencies — can count as ESCAPE credit, Flanery says.

The ESCAPE program, which has been in effect at the University since 1969, is divided into

three divisions: community service, coordinated this year by Jeff Conway; public schools, coordinated by de Shauna Blankinship, and the Bethel School Project.

Credit also is available for former ESCAPE volunteers who would like to work as an ESCAPE "volunteer coordinator," she says, and ESCAPE can be repeated as many times as a student wants.

Students interested in positions should contact Blankinship or Conway at 686-4351.

ESCAPE staff members will be at McArthur Court during registration and outside the Fishbowl during the first two weeks of classes to talk with students about positions available.



## Tickets

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term last year — for a total direct athletic department subsidy of \$544,066. Ticket sales are expected to bring the subsidy up to last year's \$766,571 level.

The revised subsidy system is the result of complaint's last year that free tickets discriminated against students who did not attend sporting events, Edmunson says.

By negotiating with the University administration, the ASUO obtained a compromise — students paying half price for athletic tickets and less in incidental fees.

But University Pres. Paul Olum told the ASUO the athletic fee would go up again next year if student ticket sales fail to make up the \$222,500 difference, Edmunson says.

"It would be false security to think the battle was won last year over the athletic ticket increase," he says, adding that students will continue to have to support the athletic department until "it doesn't need it anymore."

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