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Mall shuttles start today

University students can take a load off their feet this holiday season and climb aboard a Lane Transit District Christmas Shopper's Shuttle bus for half fare.

Beginning today, the shuttle buses will run through Dec. 31, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays. There will be no bus service on Sundays, Thanksgiving or Christmas.

The busses will make continuous loops, stopping at the University, the Fifth Street Public Market and the Eugene Downtown Mall every 10-15 minutes.

The shuttles, which cost 25 cents, bring the total number of

busses serving the University from four to 10 per hour, says Steve Brye, a University graduate in Urban and Regional Planning. Riders can transfer to the shuttle busses free, and shuttle patrons can transfer to the regular busses by paying the normal 50-cent fare, he says.

LTD used a section of Brye's almost completed master's thesis to help design the shuttle service.

Brye says the shuttle service does what University students and administrators often have longed for - that is, to bring low-cost, frequent bus service to the University area.

However, for the service to

continue beyond the Christmas shopping season, Brye says students "have to get out there and use it."

"If we show LTD that this (the University route) is a hot route, they're not foolish, they'll go ahead with it."

Brye notes that the shuttle busses stop near the Greyhound, Trailways and Amtrak stations, frequent students destinations during vacation time.

Bus riders aren't the only persons to benefit from the shuttle service, he says.

"It's a chance for merchants to show off their wares to students."

Lap sit sets "Autzen record"

Saturday's attempt at a record-breaking "lap sit" wasn't as successful as the football game that followed.

Organizers of the "sit" were hoping for 6,000 people to form the largest human chair ever, but when 10:30 a.m. came and went, only about 450 were present.

Everyone got a little closer and cozier, and the chalked one mile circle around the parking lot shrank to a fraction of its original size.

"This is the only lap sit ever at Autzen stadium - so we do have a record," said Effie Fairchild, an organizer of the event.

The record they set out to break was set by 5,810 people last September in Tokyo.

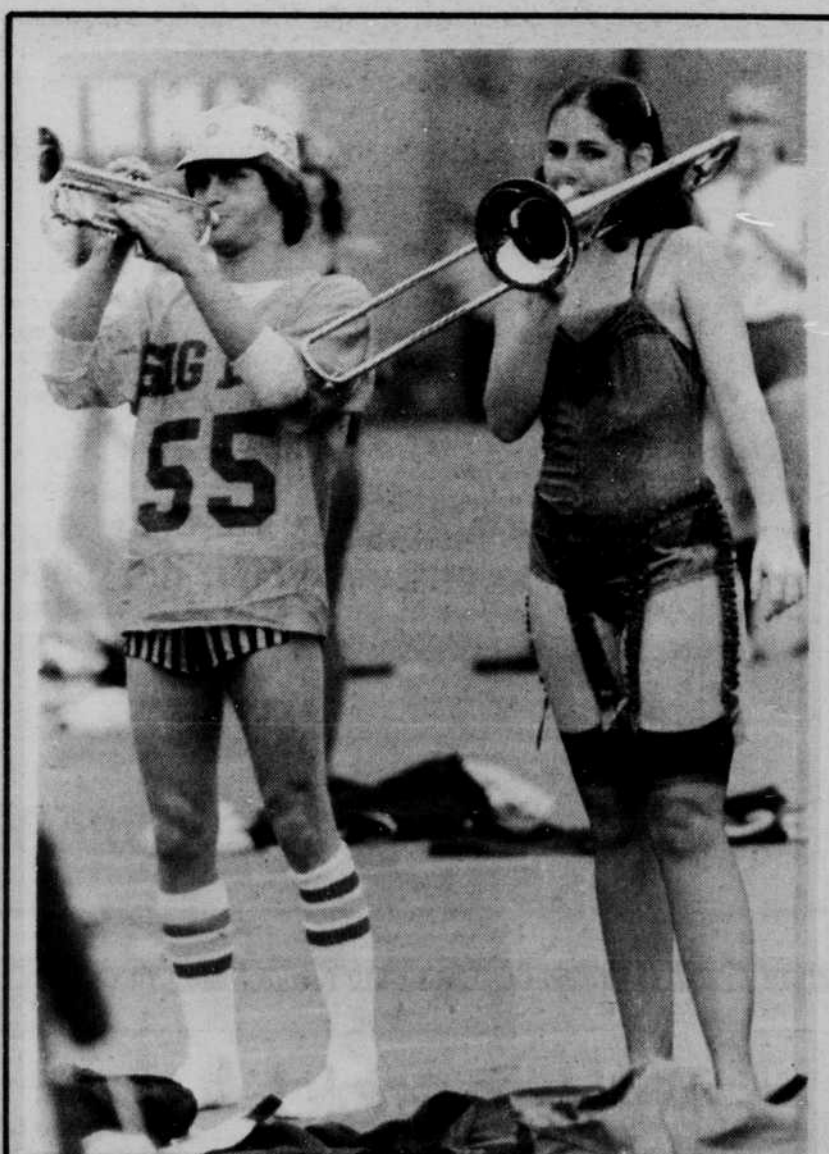
The lap sit was a promotion for the New Games Workshop. The workshop is a three-day symposium in December that teaches group games.

Class members felt the event was worthwhile. "If we had 20 people, it would have been a success," says Fairchild. "We'll do it again next year and then we'll only have to go for 500 to break a record."

A number of reasons could have kept people from coming out to participate, says Shellie King, a New Games Workshop member.

"It could have been the weather or maybe people didn't want to come this early to the game," she says.

But some people just had other things on their minds. By 10:45 people were already rushing inside the stadium to find seats. And the tailgate parties were just starting.



Get down and boogie!

These band members did and so did the Ducks, as they whipped the Beavers 47-17 at Autzen Saturday. For photos of this year's Civil War, see page 4.

Due to computer problems, the Emerald has a slightly different look today.

In brief, this breakdown has forced the Emerald to return to pre-computer age typesetting methods. This switch to "hard copy" accounts for the different headline type, the deletion of the editorial page and wire page and --maybe-- a few mistakes.

Please bear with us.