

## Holiday wishes

Thanks to Santa and his reindeer (and a lack of classes), the Emerald will cease publication until Tuesday, Jan. 4. Happy holidays — may all your Christmas wishes come true.

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## Ducks surviving; efforts continue

By David Brown  
Of the Emerald

A "miracle" may have saved the majority of the water fowl caught in Friday's diesel fuel spill, which inundated the Millrace and the duck pond.

According to Kathy Flood, director of the Lane County Animal Regulation Authority, only 10 percent of the ducks and geese were expected to survive. So far 16 ducks and none of the geese — of the 338 fowl treated by the agency — have died as a result of the spill, she says.

"It's a miracle," she says.

Flood attributes that "miracle" to the immediate response of nearly 100 students, bystanders and city residents who answered the pleas for volunteers and materials from the Survival Center, the EMU public address system and a local radio station.

Although the diesel spill was "just one mistake," it was "a very costly mistake," says Bob Harrison, manager of the Eugene maintenance office for the Oregon Highway Department.

It all began around midnight Thursday, Harrison says. As Michael Curry, a highway department employee, was starting his shift, he inadvertently drove a sand truck over the nozzle of a diesel pump left lying under a truck, Harrison says. The nozzle broke and spewed diesel fuel into a nearby flood-water drain that empties into the Millrace, he says.

According to Harrison, the accident resulted from a violation of fueling procedures. Employees are required to take pump meter readings after returning the hose to the pump, he says.

Curry has been suspended with pay pending possible disciplinary action by the highway department.

Three hours later, a second employee discovered the hose but failed to report the incident, he says. By the time the pump had run dry it had emptied 2,100 gallons of diesel fuel into the Millrace, Harrison says. If the accident had been reported immediately, the spill may have been contained before it reached the duck pond, he says.



Photo by Bob Baker

This volunteer — one of almost 100 — wraps a diesel-oil soaked duck in a towel to keep it warm prior to washing it in a soapy solution. Of 338 ducks and geese, only 16 had died as of Sunday night.

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## Pawn texts for extra cash

By Sandy Johnstone  
Of the Emerald

With the arrival of finals week, the end of the month, and Christmas, students may be feeling a financial pinch. One way to obtain some extra funds is to sell textbooks.

Where can students get the best deal?

Three easy options are available.

First, the University bookstore buys back textbooks during finals week. Rates range from one-half of the original price if the book will be used next term to about 25 percent of the original cost.

The bookstore invites used book dealers in to buy back the textbooks not being used in the next year, and it uses a standard buy-back guide to determine the prices it will pay students.

Otto Henrickson, textbook manager, says most books probably won't be eligible for the half-price buy back. He says it depends on the subject area and whether the course is taught by the same professor each term.

At Smith Family Bookstore, a buy-back guide is always used because they have no information on what textbooks will be used next term, says Misa Smith, owner.

"We make an evaluation according to whether or not we feel something can be resold," says Smith. "It is a judgment on our part."

Another option open to students is the booksale sponsored by the American Advertising Federation.

The AAF allows students to set the price for their textbooks and charges a 10 percent commission for providing the service. The federation is taking books from Dec. 13-15 and will sell them during the first week of winter term.

AAF Pres. Linnea Greenlund says the AAF began this service last year to give students a chance to get more money when they sell their

textbooks and also to provide next term's consumers a reasonable alternative.

She says similar student cooperatives operate successfully on many campuses throughout the United States.

Smith estimates about 75 percent of the Smith Family Bookstore is geared to college-related books, and they buy about \$80,000 worth of books per year. Henrickson says the Bookstore buys back about \$75,000 in textbooks per term.

Greenlund says the AAF probably sells about \$1,000 worth of books each term — "not a high turnover of books." She adds next term the club will have a table in the EMU lobby as well as a room in the cafeteria to gain visibility with students.

For the purpose of comparison, the Emerald selected six books at random to see if there were any differences in the buyback prices — Readings in Ancient History (originally \$8.86), Rethinking the Presidency (\$8.86), Business Statistics (\$18.69), College Mathematics (\$20.43), The First Amendment and the Fourth Estate (\$15.80) and the Fabric of Existentialism (\$17.32).

Keep in mind students set their own prices at the AAF sale.

Three of the books, Business Statistics, College Mathematics and The First Amendment, will be used again next term, so the bookstore offers half of the original price.

Business Statistics will get \$10.80 from the bookstore while Smith Family will pay \$5. College Mathematics will get \$11.70 from the bookstore and \$7.50 from Smith Family. The First Amendment will get \$8 from the bookstore and \$5 from Smith Family.

Existentialism will get \$5 from both places, and Ancient History, originally \$8.86, is worth \$2.50 to each bookstore. Presidency will get \$2.50 from the bookstore and \$3 from Smith Family.

## Simic may leave for Berkeley job

By Debbie Howlett  
Of the Emerald

Curt Simic, vice president for University relations, is leaving the University for a similar position at the University of California at Berkeley, according to reliable reports.

Simic, contacted at home Sunday afternoon, would neither confirm nor deny the reports. However, it has been learned from a source close to Simic, that he is in the final stages of negotiations with Berkeley for the position of vice chancellor for development and president of the the UC-Berkeley Foundation. The position reportedly pays substantially more than Simic is now being paid at the University.

Simic, 40, came to the University in 1978 as vice president for public services, a newly created position. Last year the title of Simic's position was changed to vice president for University relations.

Simic's present job was created by former University Pres. William Boyd to coor-

dinate University activities in fund raising, media, community service and alumni and governmental relations.

"I think he realized that the University needs to make a better case for itself before the public," Simic said of Boyd's decision in 1978.

"The University spent nearly \$40,000 to get me, but they know I'll make money for them," he said in the same interview.

"He has an outstanding record in the field of external relations, and I am confident he will provide the leadership needed to make the University more effective in serving Oregon and gaining support needed to keep the University at a high level of quality," said Boyd, upon hiring Simic.

Simic came to the University after leaving his job as assistant vice president for resource development at the University of Alabama. He has held similar positions at the Yale University of Medicine, Yale New Haven Medical Center, Southern Illinois University, the University of Tennessee and Indiana University.