

# Speech team gains national recognition

By Melissa Martin  
Of the Emerald

A competing University team — the forensics group — is jumping into another successful season after recently being ranked in the top 2 percent of all intercollegiate programs in the United States.

When forensics was the most popular campus activity, it actually subsidized the athletic department, says director David Frank.

During that time the University program gained a nation-wide reputation for utilizing a cross-examination method much like the fictional attorney Perry Mason.

Today it's called the "Oregon Plan."

"The University of Oregon has a rich tradition of debate," Frank says.

Frank, who oversees the 20 tournaments his team of 30 to 50 students attend each year calls forensics an "educational activity dedicated to improving the thinking, writing and speaking skills of college students."

Debater Karin Keutzer, a rhetorics and communications major, says forensics highlights her academic life and teaches her library research skills.

Keutzer says researching for a tournament policy debate makes a competitor "as knowledgeable as a senator. Some people are sending research to our senators and they like it."

"Forensics made me a more disciplined student," says senior Tom Birkland, a political science major and pre-law student. The research and public speaking aspects of forensics also will transfer into Birkland's future as an attorney, he says.

Dave Sterns is director of the tournament's eight to 10 individual events, which include persuasive speaking, informative, extemporaneous, impromptu, and oral interpretation.

One effect of forensics is to make students more relaxed in participation classes, because, "It forces you into the study routine," Stern says.

Participating in class is easy compared to tournament competition, where the "rapid fire" policy debate forces a speaker to "see how many words he can cram in eight minutes," Birkland says.

This term's value debate topic is the quality of higher education, and this year's policy debate topic deals with toxic waste. Frank says the University team has been preparing for three months.

## Incest workshop to discuss referral programs, treatment

Oregon therapists will discuss treatments for incest victims and offenders at a workshop to be held in November at the Eugene Hilton, 66 E. 6th.

Sponsored by the University Continuation Center and College of Human Development and Performance, the Justice Series workshop is open to professionals, students and the public. Participants will meet in Composers Hall from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 5.

Dramatically increased reporting of incest during the past five years has spawned a variety of treatment and referral programs in U.S. communities, according to Melodye Dabney, workshop coordinator.

"There is an urgent need to share and develop therapeutic theories and techniques to assist and treat members of the incestuous family as well as offenders," Dabney says. "The workshop is designed to do just that."

Sessions will focus on treatment for the pre-adolescent treatment and teen victim, the incest offender, and the mother-daughter relationship.

Panelists discussing treatment for juveniles include Jonetta Finley, co-coordinator of Promise Club, a pre-adolescent treatment group in Lane County, and Nancy Evergreen, therapist at Family Counseling Services of Eugene.

Rex Newton, private practitioner at New Dimensions in Eugene, and Annette Selmer, therapist at Lutheran Family Services in Portland, will talk about programs for treating offenders.

Mary Hennman and Margi Malsch, both of the Lane County Incest Treatment Program, will focus on incest programs for the mother-daughter relationship.

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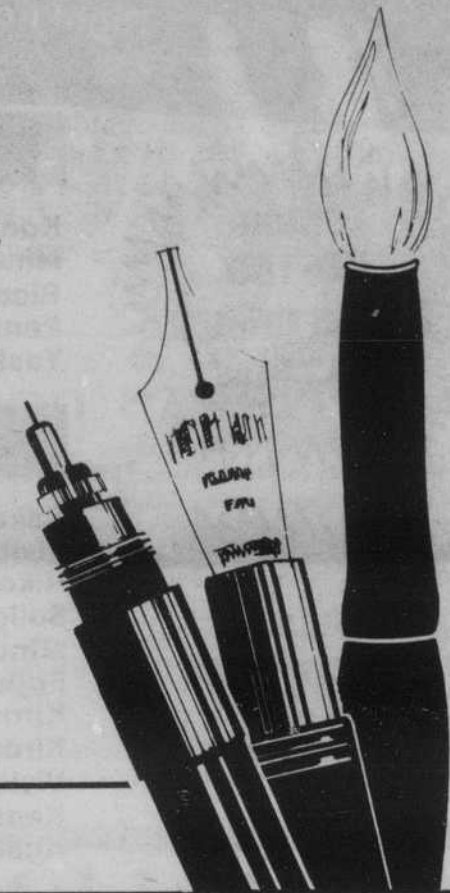
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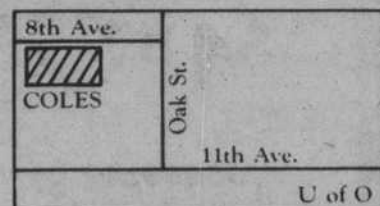
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