

Forensics team anticipates a big year

By Jolayne Houtz
Of the Emerald

The University Forensics team placed first among 19 teams at its initial tournament of the year, says Greg Miller, captain of the team.

They also beat the team who won the district competition last year; the University came in second last year.

"We weren't near as ready as we could have been, but the people who took it up really worked hard — I think we'll take district this year," says Miller, who is in his fourth year as team captain.

Most of the team's competition is with private schools in the Northwest, Miller adds.

He estimates, however, that the University team is in the top 2 percent nationally.

"When I got here four years ago, the team was good, but now I think we're one of the top teams in the nation," Miller says.

"It's a good bunch of people — everyone is willing to give in for the sake of the team. All of our good people are returning," Miller says. Only one person from the team graduated last year, he adds.

This does create some problems concerning size, Miller says.

The team has about 65 members, 40-45 of whom are active, Miller says, which makes the University team one of the biggest in the nation.

"It costs a lot to travel people, and it takes a lot of work to get all those people organized and make that commitment to winning," Miller says.

The team generally competes in 15 to 17 tournaments a year, which occasionally have teams from more than 60 schools participating.

The team's next tournament is Oct. 25-27 in Boise, Idaho. On Oct. 23, two debaters from Oxford University will challenge interested team members.

Each term, debate teams of two people are given one specific topic to discuss at each tournament. This term's topic is "The Method of Conducting Presidential Elections is Detrimental to Democracy."

"After about four tournaments, the arguments (for the topic) are all the same, but the people who win are the people who put more time and effort into their argument," Miller says.

Winning individuals and teams contribute to the total number of wins and

losses accumulated by the team, and the teams with the most wins go on to the preliminaries and finally the elimination rounds.

At the first debate of the year, team members Mark Nallia placed first in varsity extemporaneous speaking; Rich Gray placed second in varsity oral interpretation and varsity informative; Bruce Stensland placed third in junior varsity persuasive; Greg Miller placed second in varsity communication analysis, and Molly Maudlin placed third in varsity informative.

Among the debating teams, Alec Boyd and Mike Sstrom placed fifth in junior varsity debate; Dave Long and Rick Peacor placed second in varsity debate, and Greg Miller and Mark Nallia placed third in varsity debate.

et al.

BALLOT MEASURE 52 DEBATE (Eugene historic tree protection) between John Silvermoon (pro) and Lane County Commission candidate John Ball (con) will be held at 3:30 p.m. today in Room 167 EMU.

CRAB FEED CANCELLED for People and the Oregon coast (scheduled for today).

However, you can meet with the Director of the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology today at 11 a.m. in Suite 1 EMU.

STUDENT CAMPAIGN FOR DISARMAMENT will meet today in Room 111 EMU at 5:30 p.m. New members are welcome.

OSMO LAPPO, FINNISH ARCHITECT, will give a slide illustration lecture today at

8 p.m. in Room 177 Lawrence Hall.

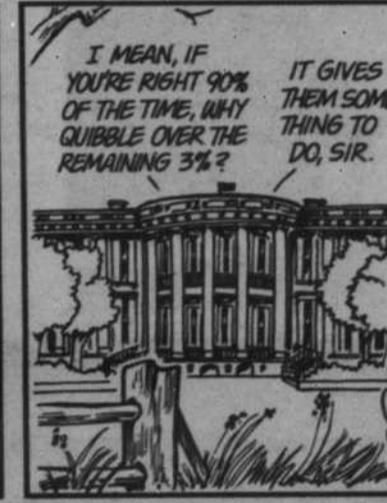
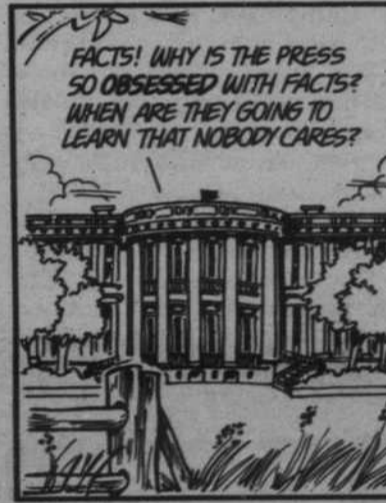
SEMINAR ON INTEGRATING TAX SHELTER BENEFITS with retirement benefits today at 5 p.m. in Room 101 EMU.

CANDIDATES FORUM, sponsored by the University Arms Control Group, today at 8 p.m. in Room 167 EMU. Bruce Long,

Republican candidate for Congress from the 4th District, will field questions on arms control.

JOURNALISM PEER ADVISERS WORKSHOP, today at 3:30 p.m. in Room 301A Allen Hall. The topic of the workshop is "Emerald Experience — A Golden Opportunity."

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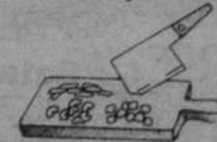
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