

Oregon Daily Emerald

Rape Awareness Week
activities begin
See Page 4

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Kids' day out

Student volunteer Karyn Jensen pulls 6-year-old Denielle Allen around Room 167 of the EMU during Monday's Campus Kids' Day, an annual event sponsored by the Student University Relations Council.

Photo by Derrel Hewitt

Bill proposes to protect telephone service needs for low-income citizens

By Nick Reed
Of the Emerald

A bill designed to protect telephone services to elderly and single working mothers is nearing a vote, State Representative David Dix said Monday.

The Telephone Protection Act, HB 2596, was introduced by Dix earlier this month. If passed, the bill would provide uninterrupted emergency telephone services to financially strapped individuals.

"It is essential that we pass this bill," Dix said. "The health care of citizens cannot be compromised."

Dix said the bill ensures that low-income citizens and those who are on fixed incomes, such as the elderly and single working mothers, would not

have their phone services cut off. In order to qualify, needy individuals would have to prove to the phone company that termination of their basic telephone service would endanger their health.

In such cases, a written note from a physician, registered nurse or other qualified medical worker would constitute proof.

Dix is confident that both the governor and Pacific Northwestern Bell officials want the bill to pass.



Legislative
issues

Turn to Bill, Page 3

Reactions to 'Amerika' vary among viewers

By Scott Maben
Of the Emerald

Life in the U.S. under Soviet domination, fictionalized the past two nights in ABC's miniseries "Amerika," brought split views from nearly 90 minutes worth of viewer phone-ins on KPNW-AM radio Monday morning, station news editor Ryan Cambridge reported.

KPNW opened the phone lines at 7 a.m. Monday to field questions on Sunday night's premiere episode of the \$35 million, 14 and a half hour series.

The program opened in the year 1997, when a firm 10-year

Soviet occupation yields complete authority over American puppet officials, who in turn "direct" an unspirited, apathetic society.

"The feedback we were dealing with was quite positive," said Sally Knowlton, director of promotion and public relations for KEZI-TV. Knowlton co-hosted the radio phone-in with KEZI Program Director Dave Larson. Both the radio and television station are ABC affiliates.

Knowlton said the degree to which "Amerika" is fictionalized was more than apparent with callers. "It's pretty ludicrous to assume the Soviet Union would

take us over" without "one gun being fired," she said.

Sunday's two and a half hour episode revealed nothing to indicate there had been a military retaliation to the takeover.

"I think our listeners really felt, 'No way would that happen. We wouldn't let it happen. We would fight,'" Knowlton said.

A number of people calling in and voicing their opinions said the opening episode made them feel patriotic, Knowlton said, although the characters were not so patriotic, for the most part remaining silent and obedient in action.

"Americans in the movie had

not started feeling patriotic yet. I dare say they will over the course of the next six nights," Knowlton projected.

The radio co-hosts also received many calls commenting that "Amerika" is a true depiction of life under Soviet rule in iron-curtain countries like East Germany and Czechoslovakia, as well as in the USSR itself.

"We had many callers say, 'This is the way it is,'" Knowlton said, adding the last call of the morning was from a former East German woman who was "on the verge of tears."

The woman said she escaped

from East Germany when the Soviet Union assumed control over 35 years ago. "She was very emotional and expressed concern that it could happen — that it has before. She said she remembers the shooting, the screams, the agony and pain of the takeover. I think what she had to say really underlined that a lot of people believe it can happen," Cambridge said.

One scene in Sunday's episode which appeared profoundly unrealistic to University Political Science Professor Joseph Fiszman showed small-town farmers gathering in a cafe

Turn to Reactions, Page 3

Journalism professor Nelson to retire this spring

By Steve McCurdy
Of the Emerald

The journalism school hiring committee currently is interviewing applicants to replace retiring Professor Roy Paul Nelson.

Nelson, a University journalism professor since 1955, will be retiring after spring term, but will continue to teach classes each year. He has taught here longer than any other journalism professor.

The committee hopes to make a final decision on Nelson's replacement at the beginning of March, according to Dean Arnold Ismach.

"With Nelson teaching only two classes per year, we will be able to hire a replacement with the remaining salary," he said.

Nelson, 63, entered the University in 1941 as a freshman but was drafted into the service in 1943. For the next

three years, he spent time in the Marines at the University of Southern California, and then in the Navy during the war. He returned to the University in 1946 and graduated one year later with a bachelor of science degree in journalism.

Nelson said he had thought about teaching as a career when he was a graduate student. "I wasn't much of an undergraduate student, but I came back a serious graduate student because I had quit a job and had two kids," he said.

The inbreeding of instructors — the hiring of teachers who graduated from the same school — is usually not policy, but Nelson said his case was different.

"The faculty was small, and they needed someone," he said. "I had experience in many areas, and because I was a junk man, they figured I could

handle different subjects.

The first couple years were "dreadful," Nelson said, because he found it hard to conceive talking for an hour on a single subject, but the closeness of the faculty made up for it. "When I started, there were only six instructors, and we became a very close-knit group. Those days have long since disappeared, and I miss that," he said.

Nelson has involved himself in many extra-curricular activities throughout his 32-year teaching career. He has authored or co-authored 18 books on the subjects of cartooning, graphic design, the mass media and magazine article writing, and has sold editorial and gag cartoons to newspapers. In addition, he regularly writes columns for two trade graphic-design magazines.

"My idea of a good time is to sit in front of a typewriter or pull out a yellow pad and write," Nelson said.

According to Nelson, he's retiring because the administration made it look attractive. "There was no pressure to retire; however, the administration offered incentives, pensions and the like, and I took them," he said.

In addition to teaching his two classes, Nelson will continue to write new books, revise old editions, write columns in design magazines and do some consulting work. Nelson had thought about retiring before, but decided against it, he said.

Nelson admitted he is going to miss full-time teaching. "I like to go to work, and I really like the student-teacher contact, but I will not miss the faculty meetings," he said.

Turn to Nelson, Page 3