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Oregon Daily Emerald

Thursday, October 8, 1987

Eugene, Oregon

Volume 89, Number 26

Olum gives address, criticizes faculty pay

By Will Holbert
Emerald Associate Editor

In a speech Wednesday, University President Paul Olum called faculty salary the most serious issue facing the University.

Olum, who delivered his "State of the University" address to the University Assembly, said the mood on campus is "upbeat and

Olum said.

In a press conference earlier Wednesday, Olum expressed fear that the University may have difficulty in the future retaining quality researchers and professors. In a list of 109 public doctoral-granting institutions, the University ranks 97th for average faculty salary, and 101st for full professors, according to Olum.

"It's an unstable situation, that's why I say that the miracle

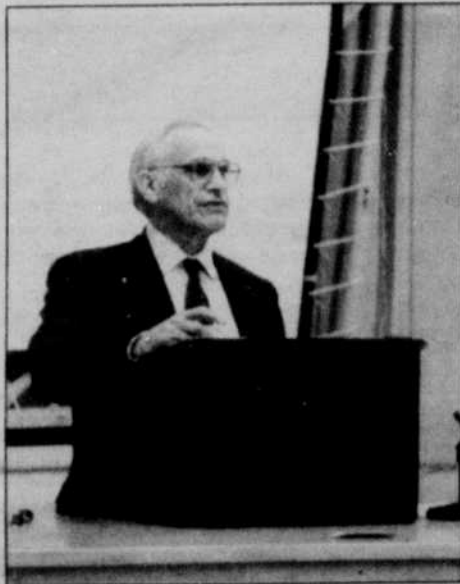
of what this University is and has become worries me, because I'm not sure that it's a sustainable miracle," Olum said at the press conference.

Olum attributed Eugene's livability and the University's "warm and collegial atmosphere" for attracting faculty who could get better paying jobs elsewhere.

Figures on faculty salary are not available for this year, but in 1985-86, the average salary for all ranks of professors was \$31,300, including full, associate, and assistant professors, along with instructors. This compared with the University of California at Berkeley, with a top average of \$50,100, Arizona State University at \$35,800, and Auburn University at \$33,700. The University of South Dakota was ranked at the bottom at 109th with an average faculty salary of \$28,400.

In July all faculty in the State System of Higher Education

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Paul Olum

positive." In his speech he discussed a variety of topics including enrollment, sexual harassment, and planned construction.

Olum ended his address with what he called "the most critical issue of all," faculty salaries.

"Our salaries are terribly, dangerously low and yet we are surely among the best 20 public universities in the nation...."

Local market strives to personally serve patrons

By Frale de Guzman
Emerald Reporter

Despite the rapid growth of supermarket chains and convenience stores, small, family-owned markets are still surviving and attempting to make a comeback.

Miller's Market, located at 1065 E. 20th, is one such market where customer care and friendly service has been a strong factor in the store's survival.

"Unlike 7-11, Miller's Market is not just a company store," claims Nancy Cunha, who, with her husband Phil, has owned and operated Miller's Market since June. "At Miller's Market, you're not just another cog in a

wheel," she said.

Instead, it's the kind of family-operated store where customer input is essential to the store's growth and survival, she added. Customer satisfaction plays an important role in the management of the store.

Customers are encouraged to air their grievances. If there's a product the customer would like the store to carry, it is asked they tell the Cunchas and they'll try to meet their request, Nancy Cunha said.

In an attempt to draw more customers and to dispel the store's former "gloomy" atmosphere, the Cunchas have remodeled the interior of Miller's Market. A new

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Ramblin' Red

The Red Clay Ramblers, a versatile band that plays a blend of folk and rock music, visited the EMU Ballroom Wednesday night. They have recorded eight albums and toured Africa, Asia and the Middle East during their 12 years of existence.

Photo by Bobbie Lo

Peers welcome new students

Program unites Singaporeans

By Kelvin Wee
Emerald Reporter

Foreign students often encounter problems from the moment they arrive in the country in which they plan to study. The language and cultural barriers these students may face are often so overwhelming that many end up living lives comparable to that of a hermit.

The University's Singapore Student Association has devised a program that aims to eliminate such problems among the population of Singaporean students in Eugene.

The program, called the "Student's Welcoming and Assistance Program," or SWAP, is the brainchild of Richard Ong, president of the Singapore Student Association.

"I basically felt this was needed because although many new students are paired with host families, it is not guaranteed that they will get along with them," Ong said.

Ong added that not all new students are fortunate enough to be paired with host families. These students often find themselves lost and alone here, Ong explained. He said it is up

to the Singapore Student Association to fill that void.

The goal of SWAP is to encourage returning Singaporean students to participate as big brothers and sisters to incoming Singaporean freshmen, Ong said. These "senior participants" will be paired up with younger students according to majors, and not by age or gender.

All senior participants of the program are required to complete forms that were sent to them last spring. Next week, the Singapore Student Association will obtain a list of new students from the Office of International Services. These new students will be assigned to senior participants, who will in turn contact them by phone, Tan explained.

"We hope that by pairing them up like this, they will at least have something in common to start building a relationship with," said Tan Khoo Hui, the SWAP coordinator for the Singapore Student Association.

"The older student will also be able to help the younger one with academic subjects since they both have the same majors."

The job of a senior participant is to connect with the junior participant, get to know them and help them with some of the problems they may have. They meet occasionally, and the senior participants will show the younger ones around town and help them adjust to life in Eugene, Tan explained.

The Singapore Student Association also will organize about three events each quarter that participants can attend to meet other students from Singapore. All participants are required to attend the upcoming association's general meeting and potluck dinner at the Gerlinger Hall Lounge on Oct. 16.

"This is basically when all participants will first be introduced to each other in person," Tan said. "This will also be a good chance for many of them to meet other Singaporeans who have been in Eugene for a while," he said.

The Singapore Student Association also organizes several sports events throughout the year, competing with other foreign student teams in sports such as soccer, tennis and basketball, Tan said.

SWAP is not an orientation

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