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NEA chairman speaks to law school graduates



Photo by Andre Kamer
John Froehmayer, chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Froehmayer says arts debate healthy, important to society

By Clea Badion
Emerald Contributor

Law and art were among the topics of John Froehmayer's commencement address to the University School of Law's graduating class Sunday.

Froehmayer, chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts and 1972 graduate of the University's law school, delivered the 105th law school address.

He was appointed chairman of the NEA in 1989 by President George Bush. Previously, he was a lawyer in Portland and had served on the Oregon Arts Commission.

As the NEA chairman, Froehmayer has been in the middle of controversial hearings in the U.S. Congress about NEA arts funding for works some groups consider obscene.

Froehmayer said that despite those who are opposed

to NEA funding and who are pushing for an "abolishment of the arts or my head on a platter, or both," he believes the debate on art funding is healthy.

"It's an opportunity for us to redefine what our society is about," Froehmayer said.

He said the debate about what defines art is not unique to our society or our time — the Italian sculptor and painter Michelangelo's works were not initially well-received. When Michelangelo's statue of David was unveiled, it was stoned by the crowd.

Froehmayer said that in the United States, the birth of jazz in the 1920's brought an anti-jazz movement and that many books, such as James Joyce's *Ulysses*, have been banned.

"Yet each of the works that have been criticized have endured," Froehmayer said.

He also said that art is protected by three principles in the U.S. Constitution. First, the function of art to ask questions, not provide answers.

"What is essential is the government be even-handed when it comes to funding," Froehmayer said.

He said the second principle is first amendment pro-

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ASUO completes budget allocations

By Carrie Dennett
Emerald Reporter

The ASUO made 1991-92 budget allocations last week for the Department of Athletics, the Oregon Marching Band and the Muslim Student Association/Islamic Society of North America, stepping in for the Incidental Fee Committee while hearings are suspended.

The ASUO Constitution Court ruled that the ASUO could make the remaining budget allocations.

The ASUO decreased the athletic department budget 5 percent, from \$1,148,900 to \$1,091,455.

"The cut in the athletic department this year was due to decreased enrollment," said Kirk Bailey, ASUO president. He also said he didn't expect the cut to cause any decrease in non-revenue generating athletic programs.

MSA ISNA, which had budget hearings held up by conflicts within the group, was allocated \$4,088, down from \$4,110 this year.

"The decrease was basically because of a decrease in phone costs," said Sam Nhem, ASUO finance coordinator.

The Marching Band 1991-92 budget remained the same as in 1990-91, \$78,924.

"We just couldn't afford to give them a decrease, but we couldn't afford to give them an increase, either," she said.

Nhem said the ASUO suggested that if the Marching Band wants an increase, it should present a ballot measure in next year's ASUO elections.

The only appeal the ASUO heard last week was from KRMA radio, which received \$25,000 for 1991-92 from the IFC. Nhem said after the appeal was filed the ASUO reconsidered and decided to allocate \$35,000 because the IFC allocation was not sufficient for KRMA to operate.

The ASUO also completed reallocations on four budgets, which is standard procedure.

Budgets allocated by the IFC for Asian Pacific American Student Union, Native American Student Union, Office of Student Advocacy.

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Dancin' away

The weekend's wet and foamy weather didn't stop everyone from attending this year's Willamette Valley Folk Festival. Despite the mud around Main Stage, people were dancing to Fiddlin' Sue, Uncle T and Johnny on Sunday afternoon.

Photo by Sean Poston

Inside

Disillusioned Oregon Democrats and environmentalists, who have grown tired of the standard two-party political system, have joined together to form the Pacific Party.

The party needs to collect about 38,000 signatures from registered voters in or-

der to be considered a minor political party and run candidates in the 1992 elections.

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In October of 1990, a University student traveled to Nepal to deliver scholarship money to an elementary school that is a four day walk from the nearest road.

See Reporter's Notebook.

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Sports

Oregon became the first team other than UCLA to win the women's Pacific-10 Conference track team title this weekend. The Ducks had 130½ points to 112½ for second place UCLA. The Bruins had won all four of the previous titles.



Stephanie Wessell

Stephanie Wessell won both the 5,000 and 10,000 meter runs for the Ducks, while teammate Paula Berry set a meet record in the javelin.

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The Oregon men's track team finished second at the Pac-10 track meet with 96 points, while Washington State won with 135½ points.

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