

Let the sunshine in



Photo by Dylan Coulter

Rachel DiNoto, a senior chemistry major, and Andrew Lee, a second-year Reality Science major at LCC, try to keep up with their shadows as they head to the chemistry lab in Willamette Hall where Rachel works.

Neighborhood launches campaign to curb noise

Amazon neighbors send letters concerning parties and underage drinking

By Daralyn Trappe
Emerald Associate Editor

University students living in or planning to move to Eugene's Amazon area may get a greeting from their neighbors that includes information about keeping party noise to a dull roar.

Amazon Neighbors, a new group formed out of the frustration of many of the area's non-student residents, is designed to welcome people to the area and get neighborhood relations started on a positive note, said Robbie Wright, co-chairwoman of Amazon Neighbors.

The Amazon area, located south of the University, has a high concentration of students, which results in an ongoing problem of loud parties and underage drinking.

Wright, who has had her own problems with loud neighbors, said the Amazon neighborhood is "very diverse, but the livability can also be very, very difficult."

At a meeting of the Amazon Neighborhood Association last year, Wright said, some of this frustration was expressed, and a suggestion came up that "Project Eugene: A Century Coalition" may be interested in sponsoring a program to help cut down on underage drinking. The Century Coalition is a group dedicated to reducing alcohol abuse across the United States.

Amazon Neighbors formed after the ANA meeting and, with cooperation from a University group and the Eugene police department, developed a packet that includes information about noise ordinances in the city, the laws on underage drinking and drunken driving, and the potential legal consequences of violating these laws.

The University's Campus and Community Relations Task Force included a handout titled, "How To Throw A Great

'It's non-threatening, and it's not a put-down. It's just to say, "Here are the rules and the laws."'

— Robbie Wright,
committee co-chairwoman

Party."

Wright said the packet, which also includes a welcoming letter, is not meant to set up an adversarial relationship between non-students and students.

"It's non-threatening, and it's not a put-down," Wright said. "It's just to say, 'Here are the rules and the laws.'"

Judy Eggers, Project Eugene Coalition member, said Amazon Neighbors will allow responsible area residents to unite in an effort to eliminate "problem areas."

"Project Eugene is committed to seeing this program through by imposing greater responsibility on the residents to make sure they act responsibly and keep their end of the bargain," Eggers said.

Wright said she hopes students will respond with open minds if they receive a packet.

"My feeling is that probably 80 percent of students are basically open to suggestions," Wright said. "If you talk to them and say, 'Look, I have a high-stress job, I need a little peace and quiet,' most of them will say, 'OK.' Some are not even aware that what they're doing is causing a problem for other residents."

"Maybe 20 percent of them are asses who are just there to antagonize you anyway," she said. "The hard thing about that is it ends up affecting the people in the block above and the block below that house; and sometimes it ends up involving the police."

Wright said at least two non-student

Turn to **AMAZON**, Page 4

EMU student groups face high phone installation bills

Groups pay for upgrading EMU electrical codes, not just phone lines

By Matt Bender
Emerald Reporter

Oregon Voice publisher Brad Kolen figured getting his magazine's phone line moved into a different EMU office would be relatively cheap.

So Kolen was more than a little bit surprised when he received an estimate from the University's Office of

Telecommunication Services for \$500.

The Voice is just one of the EMU groups that was unpleasantly surprised by a large bill from telecommunication services. Last fall, Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship, KWVA Campus Radio, Students For Choice and the EMU administration all received similar bills.

Dave Barta, telecommunication services manager, said the bills were high because the EMU phone wiring needed to be upgraded to meet electrical codes, a task made difficult by the design of the EMU.

"The electrical code changed," Barta said. "It no longer allows phone wires to be exposed in rooms and

says we have to use more expensive metal molding instead of plastic for phone lines."

Barta said phone-line molding covers lines that run along walls in and out of phone boxes and jacks. The task of rewiring the EMU was complicated because the building has different sections and thick concrete walls.

"The EMU is a funny building. It was built in two or three sections at different times," Barta said, "and if the job requires any drilling, you have to drill through 1-foot thick concrete walls."

Turn to **PHONES**, Page 4

WEATHER

Morning fog will break down later in the day to reveal sunny skies and highs in the upper 50s. Lows should only reach into the 40s.

Today in History

In 1845, Edgar Allan Poe's poem "The Raven" was published under a pseudonym in the *New York Evening Mirror*.

OREGANO-HEADS BEWARE

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — Cooking Italian could endanger your freedom in Arkansas. A bill introduced in the legislature could make possession of oregano illegal and punishable by up to 10 years in prison.

Dried, crumbled oregano leaves look much like marijuana, and the flavorful herb has occasionally been passed off as the costlier marijuana. Supporters of the bill contend that an arrest would occur only if someone were trying to sell oregano as marijuana.

Conviction could bring a sentence of three to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

SPORTS

PORTLAND (AP) — Team captain Clyde Drexler wants Salt Lake City police to make it clear what players were not involved in alleged sexual activity between members of the Portland Trail Blazers and two 16-year-old girls.

The police report of the incident listed the first names of seven people, six of which match the first names of the members of the Blazer basketball team.

"The guys that were involved, we're going to support them wholeheartedly because we're a whole team, but the guys who had no involvement whatsoever, there needs to be some kind of statement made to that effect," Drexler said Thursday.