

Looking for family fun? 'Mooks' just say cheese

By Katy Moeller
Oregon Daily Emerald

TILLAMOOK — Cheese.
You can't say it without smiling. This summer, thousands of families will pack their belongings into the family truckster and head to Disneyland, the big cheese of fun parks. Or is it just the cheesiest?

This year, instead of heading south for the fantastic fabricated fun in crowded Anaheim, avoid the rush. Head north to Tillamook to the fourth-biggest tourist draw in Oregon: the Tillamook Cheese Factory.

Located in one of the classiest cow towns in northwestern Oregon, the factory, which is the biggest of its kind in Oregon, attracts more than 800,000 people a year. Visitors from as far away as New Brunswick, Canada, pass through this podunk town of about 4,000. More than half the visitors are high school age or younger.

Driving to Tillamook on Interstate 101 will take you past black and white spotted Holsteins and yellowish-brown Jerseys that meander around the lush green carpet, rarely looking up. Many of them sit or lie sprawled, happily chewing their cud.

Cows to the left of the car. Cows to the right of the car.

It's a veritable cow heaven. Just before reaching the Tillamook, you will pass a sign for the blimp museum. So what if it's the largest clear-span wood building in the world, you're on your way to the cheese factory. You can always stop on the way home.

As you enter Tillamook, you will see the word "cheesemakers" painted in large letters on the outside of a building. It is the back of the stadium in Tillamook High School's Doc Adams Field. Inside the stadium, the wall simply says "Home of the Mooks."

The Mooks seem to have a healthy sense of humor about their reputation. In the lobby of the high school there is a large map of Oregon that shows where seniors are going after graduation. Large letters above the map read, "Seniors on the Mooove."

High school senior Chrissy Hallberg said the school now has a mascot. One of the proud Mooks dresses up like a cow for sports events.

As you drive through the business district part of town, you will easily spot the cheesy punsters in town. If you need to, you can do your laundry at the Little Cheese Coin-Op or buy a CD at Cheddar

Records.

As you stroll down Main Street, you will see a few broken and boarded-up store windows and a grand old-fashioned theater that was built in 1923. Nearly every store has an excess of bovine-related objects. Cow hats. Cow potholders. Cow pies made of chocolate. You name it, they've got something with a cow on it.

The Tillamook Cheese factory is not far from the center of town, but then again nothing really is.

There's a boat sitting outside the factory, and the signs are hard to miss. The boat is the Morning Star, a full scale replica of the boat that initiated the delivery of cheese to Portland via the Columbia River in 1855.

Entrance into the factory is free, but unless you leave your wallet at home, it's almost a given you'll buy something. In addition to the cheese, the factory has a wealth of other dairy and Oregon-made products.

For chocolate lovers there is tasty chocolate "moo"se ice cream, and for the health conscious, "moo"se berry lite.

Because they serve ice cream in so many different ways, there is a chart listing the various cones and dishes that are available.

A phenomenal variety of cheeses, jellies, honeys, mustards, jerky and confections line the shelves.

The exhibits explain the history of the factory, which extends back to the mid 1890s.

A large fiberglass cow is set up with milking equipment strapped to it so that visitors can see how cows are milked these days.

The technology used in the factory might surprise more traditional dairy farmers, who remember the days when all you had was a cow, a bucket and a stool.

Large glass windows allow visitors to watch how the cheese is made and processed.

On one wall, there are pictures of Rabbi Aharon Simkin. The rabbi comes to factory two days per month to help make kosher cheese. The caption points out that Simkin always wears a white coat marked with the insignia "rabbi."

Though the Tillamook Cheese Factory employs an average of 330 people, which is the largest number of people employed by a single business in Tillamook, logging and lumber industries are also large sources of employment.

New billing system planned

By Jen Ellison
Oregon Daily Emerald

This week the business office is sending out legal forms for students to sign and return, informing them about the change in the University's billing policy.

In the past there have been a number of charges for all late payments such as \$50 for tuition, \$15 for dorm payments, and \$5 for student loan repayments.

Starting this fall, all late fees will be dropped and the new system will charge a single \$5 billing charge and 9 percent interest on the late balance every month. Interest will not be charged on parts of the balance that are not late, said Assistant Director of Business Affairs Larry Tergesen.

"The new system will consolidate all accounts receivable so they carry the same weight," Tergesen said. "There will no longer be separate late charges."

The billing system will automatically calculate each student's minimum monthly payment, dividing tuition into thirds in case the student wants to pay in deferments, Tergesen said.

The deferred tuition payments will

not accrue interest until they are a month late. There will be no penalty for paying bills early, Tergesen.

"This keeps people who are a day late paying tuition from getting charged \$50," Tergesen said. "They have a whole month before they have to pay the \$5 and 9 percent interest. We also dropped the \$6 charge to defer tuition. It's now free."

Only tuition is deferred, however. All other charges billed to students' accounts are due the month they show up on the bill except for student health center charges.

The student health center is extending its grace period for payments to 60 days without interest being charged to the balance, Tergesen said.

Students are optimistic about the change.

"It's about time they came up with an easier system," said Dylan Glockler, a business student. "It's good to see some changes that are advantageous to the students."

Other students said they believe the change will cut down on extra work.

Guest Muslim professor to speak

The Muslim Student Association is sponsoring a lecture by the president of the Islamic Committee of Palestine.

Sami Al-Arian, a professor at the University of South Florida, will speak on "The Insurgence of Islam and the Implications for the West" today from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Al-Arian is editor of the magazine *Inquiry*.

Abbas Seyedolali, MSA president, said

the lecture will provide students with a historical grasp of problems in Muslim countries. Al-Arian will also bring students up to speed on current issues.

"Unfortunately a lot of people don't understand the complexity of problems in Muslim countries," Seyedolali said.

The free lecture will in the EMU Ben Linder Room. Refreshments will be provided.

ET ALS

MEETINGS

Incidental Fee Committee will have its first meeting of the new term today from 4 to 6 p.m. in EMU Century Room D.

MISCELLANEOUS

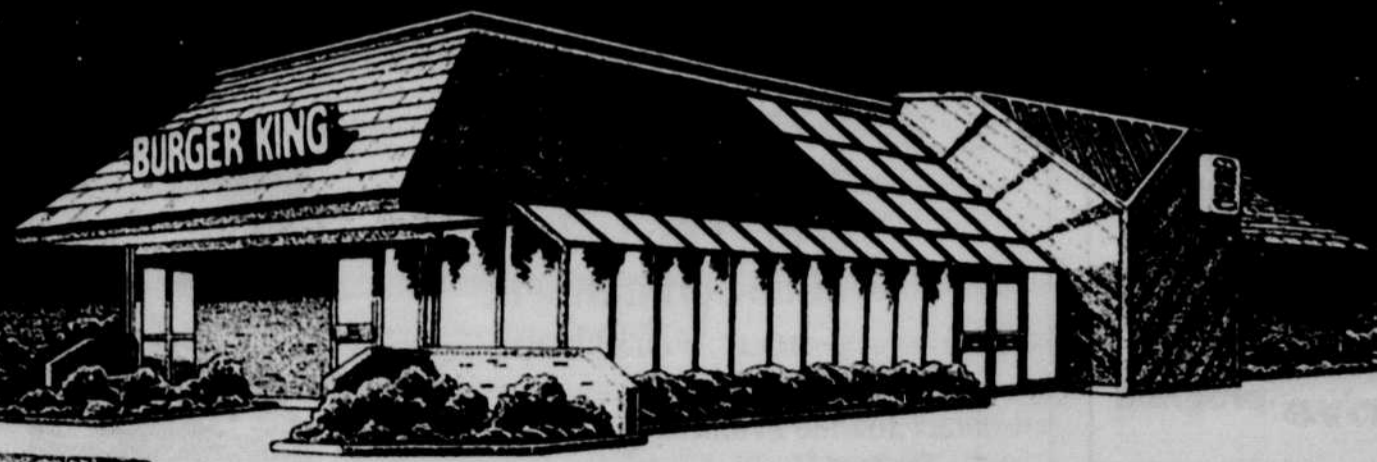
West African Dance Workshop will take place Sunday from 1 to 3 p.m. in Gerlinger Annex Room 354 and Monday from 5 to 7 p.m. in WOW Hall. For more information, call 344-3872.

Muslim Student Association will sponsor Professor Sami Al-Arian's presentation "The Insurgence of Islam and the Implications for the West" today from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in EMU Ben Linder Room. For more information, call 346-3798.

Ecology Colloquium will present Dr. Trudy MacKay's speech "Mutation and Quantitative Variation in *Drosophila*" today at 3:30 p.m. in Room 112 Willamette.

Deadline for submitting *Et Als* to the Emerald front desk, Suite 300 EMU, is noon the day before publication. The news editor does not have a time machine. *Et Als* run the day of the event unless the event takes place before noon.

Notices of events with a donation or admission charge will not be accepted. Campus events and those scheduled nearest the publication date will be given priority. The Emerald reserves the right to edit for grammar and style. *Et Als* run on a space-available basis.



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