

Q: What JOB OPPORTUNITY at the university gives you valuable leadership experience, allows you to meet many interesting people and pays your living expenses?

A: Resident Assistant

University Housing is now accepting applications for Resident Assistants for the 1994-95 academic year. To apply:

1- Pick up an application packet at the University Housing Office, Walton Complex.

2- Attend one of the three mandatory informational sessions

Jan. 19	7pm	Riley Hall Lounge
Jan. 20	7pm	Hamilton Ramey Room
Jan. 25	7pm	Carson Gold Room

3- Hand in application to Housing Office before the deadline: **Tuesday, February 1st at 5pm**

Qualifications: Must be a full time student at the U of O with above a 2.5 GPA and junior standing by fall term 1994.

Compensation: Room and board in a single room, and \$600

An AAEO institution committed to cultural diversity and in compliance with the ADA

HOMELESS

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clear to me what I'm supposed to want to do."

Although drugs helped him survive on the streets when he was younger and later gave him a sense of identity, Keefer no longer relies on them. Except for occasional marijuana, Keefer said he's been clean for three years. It wasn't an easy sacrifice for him to make.

"See, from the time I was an adolescent until I was about 35, I knew who I was and what I was doing," Keefer said. "I was a drug addict, selling drugs. It didn't matter where I was — Los Angeles, San Francisco, Sacramento, Seattle, Portland — it took no time to fall into it."

Not long after he decided to stop using drugs, Keefer met a street preacher he could relate to, and he dedicated his life to Christ.

At first Keefer thought Christianity was just filling in the vacuum that drugs left behind, but after the preacher taught him how to pray, he discovered that, in a sense, prayer does work.

"I don't know that you can wish for brand-new Chryslers and girlfriends and money and stuff like that, but there's spiritual gifts that are available to anyone that'll ask for them for absolutely nothing. ... As far as I'm concerned, prayer works," Keefer said. "That's why I stayed a Christian. I became a Christian because I was looking for something, and it worked right off. I felt better right away."

Since becoming a Christian, Keefer said that although he's still on the streets, his life has changed a great deal.

"I think I used to steal, I think I used to lie, I think I used to covet, I think I used to do a lot of things," he said. "(Now) my direction is correct, but I think I need to do more in terms of service. I could devote my time to serving humanity and prayer, and I can't imagine anything that makes more sense, that would do more good than that. Unfortunately, it doesn't pay very well."

Keefer told me he would like to get a job that would allow him to help others, but that for homeless people, getting jobs is nearly impossible without help.

"Who's going to hire me? It's

not based on who you are or what you know," Keefer said. "It's what you look like and how you smell, and I look like shit and smell like it, too."

Recently, hoping he could find someone to help him find a job, Keefer talked to a woman at the food stamp office who, he said, was less than encouraging and not at all helpful.

When she realized Keefer was homeless, she refused to sign him up for a job search program. She told him that, by law, since he had no home address, he didn't have to be looking for a job in order to receive food stamps.

Despite his best efforts to convince her that he really wanted a job, that he wanted to "get a life," she would not help him. Finally, the woman gave him the address for the Oregon State Employment Office. There, he says he got the same kind of response.

"I go in to talk to the guy and he takes one look at me and goes, 'You're homeless, how are you going to hold a job? And I'm like, 'Well, I can get a wind-up alarm clock, I'll make it there, whatever, let me worry about that. Just help me out, give me a lead.' ... Well, actually this guy talked me out of it. He convinced me that I could never hold any of these jobs that I was looking for, like dishwasher, baker ... and I just got up and said, 'You're right, you're absolutely right, I couldn't hold a job like this.'"

In retrospect, Keefer knows the man at the state employment office was not right. "He wouldn't call these places. He kept looking at the clock, thinking, hey maybe the next one actually has a haircut. He was all the way wrong."

Keefer hasn't given up looking for a job. He has been filling out job applications for the past couple of weeks but hasn't had any luck.

"Even at 38 I'd still like to involve myself, immerse myself, totally sink into a career, have a family, things like that," Keefer said. "It just seems like there ought to be something in this big world that I can do, that I can master, that wouldn't necessarily pay me any money, but that would provide me with some sort of sense of accomplishment and enough resources to support a family. Hopefully this is just a small part of my life. This is just the first half."

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SONY

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Sony plans to build on an 80-acre site near Deadmond Ferry Road, which is east of I-5 and north of Springfield's Gateway Mall.

Of the 80-acre parcel, Springfield currently owns 21 acres, worth about \$600,000.

Moskovitz said the city may give the land to Sony, confident it would recoup the \$600,000 in taxes from Sony during the next few years. He said the city council was behind the plan, but public hearings would be conducted before the decision was made final.

The city plans to buy the remaining acreage and sell it to Sony in one parcel.

In addition to the jobs created at the plant, Susan Daluddung, Springfield's Development Services Director, said even more jobs would be created because construction contractors would be needed to build the Sony facility.

Daluddung said construction is scheduled to begin Apr. 1, and the center should be completed by July.

Furthermore, she said the 300 jobs provided by Sony are part of its Phase I plan. The company's Phase II plan, which may be implemented within the plant's second year of operation, would result in more jobs, possibly as many as 900. The jobs would span from entry-level all the way up to managerial jobs.

Other benefits to the area include the relocation of "spin-off" industries, which supply Sony with raw materials. Daluddung said it was not yet definite which industries might relocate.

Daluddung said, as of yet, there had been no real opposition to Sony's plans.

"They have up-to-date environmental standards," she said, "and they can build a state-of-the-art building."