

Comedy show attracts large crowd in EMU

Samantha Martin
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

The EMU Fir Room, complete with a spotlight, stage and round tables, resembled an urban comedy club Saturday night as an audience of nearly 100 gathered to see comedian Jeff Rothpan perform.

"I hate getting my hair cut. At some point, the stylist stops listening to me," said Rothpan, during one of his opening jokes. "When I say 'Don't make me look like a geek,' apparently all they hear is 'Make me look like a geek.'"

"The Laugh Shuk," sponsored by the University's Hillel, and supported by the Jewish Student Union, was intended to be a promotional event for the two organizations and was not expected to clear a profit.

Jenna Balsavage and Sarah Rosenberg, the cultural coordinators of Hillel said they had been planning the event since November.

Rothpan, who was raised in Montreal, Canada, started doing stand-up comedy at the age of 16. Describing himself as a "relatively normal kid," Rothpan was inspired to pursue comedy further after winning a storytelling contest.

"O.J. Simpson. I think that guy will get life in court," Rothpan said.

Rothpan has also made appearances on *Comic Strip Live* and *An Evening at the Improv*. Now calling Los Angeles his home, he will soon be appearing on *The Tonight Show*.

"LA doesn't need weather forecasts. It needs crime forecasts," said Rothpan, of his

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— JEFF ROTHPAN
comedian

hometown area.

Rothpan said his advice to aspiring comedians is to be patient and to realize a good routine may take years to polish.

Opening the show for Rothpan was Naked David Hasselhoff, a two-member band that performed amusing and entertaining covers of popular songs to a highly responsive audience.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

•Speed limits are being changed on eight streets in the city of Eugene and will take effect when the signs are installed during the week of March 6.

The changes include:

On Elmira Road from Highway 99 to Bertelsen Road and on Maple Street between Elmira Road and Roosevelt Boulevard, the speed limit has been lowered to 30 mph from 35 mph.

On West 11th Avenue from Bailey Hill Road to Obie Street, the speed limit has been cut to 35 mph from 45 mph due to increased development in the area.

On Oak Patch Road between West 11th and West 18th Avenues, the speed zone is

being raised to 30 mph from 25 mph to make it consistent with similar streets in Eugene.

Tyinn Street from Seventh Place to West 11th Avenue will be posted at 30 mph. It was not posted previously.

Fourth Avenue from High Street to the Ferry Street Bridge will be posted at 25 mph. It was not posted previously.

On Division Avenue between Beaver Street and Ross Lane the speed limit has been lowered to 40 mph from 45 mph because the north side of the street is a residential area, while the speed limit on Division Avenue from Ross Lane to River Road has been lowered to 30 mph from 35 mph due to traffic congestion from commercial development.

Dillard Road from East Amazon to Old Dillard Road will be posted at 25 mph due to the residential character of the area and the unimproved street, while a 40 mph speed limit will be posted on Dillard Road from Old Dillard Road to the city limits because the area is beginning to be developed.

The changes are the result of an annual review by the city's Public Works Department to make sure speed zones match traffic usage.

•Left turns from West 18th Avenue onto Polk Street will not be allowed for approximately one week while a Eugene Public Works crew makes pavement repairs near the intersection.

The work will begin at 8:30 a.m. Monday and will be finished Friday, weather permitting.

•The United Way needs volunteers for the following positions: donations coordinator, two hours per week to sort and clean donations such as clothing and toys; a counselor with master's degree and/or a doctorate degree for five hours per week at the Center Community Services; an intake worker in a food room, three hours a week for Catholic Community Services; a recreational worker for four hours a week for ARC of Lane County; a transportation volunteer, two hours a week for Options Counseling to provide transportation for school-aged children.

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