

ET ALS

MEETINGS

African Students Association will meet today at 4:30 p.m. in EMU Cedar Room B. For more information, call 346-4379.

Asklepiads Pre-Med Honor Society will meet tonight at 6 in EMU Cedar Room D.

EMU Board of Directors will meet today from 5 to 7 p.m. in the EMU Board Room. For more information, call 346-3720.

Japanese Student Organization will meet today from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in EMU Cedar Room C. For more information, call 686-6253.

Leshian, Gay & Bisexual Alliance drop-in men's group will meet tonight at 6 at the Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid St. For more information, call 346-3360.

Public Schools Personnel Co-op will

meet today from 4 to 5 p.m. in EMU Cedar Rooms A and B. For more information, call 346-3235.

RELIGION

Newman Center will offer Wednesday Night Student Mass tonight at 9 at the Newman Center. A social will follow. For more information, call 346-4468.

MISCELLANEOUS

Career Center will offer an internship-options workshop today from 2 to 3 p.m. in Room 221 Hendricks. Sign up will be available in Room 244 Hendricks. For more information, call 346-3235.

Educational Opportunities Program will offer a workshop titled "Overcoming Obstacles" today from 2 to 2:50 in Room 47 Columbia. For more information, call 346-3232.

CORRECTION

The caption for the front page photo in the May 16 *Oregon Daily Emerald* incorrectly stated that the martial arts demonstration of that same

day was organized by the Asian Student Union.

It was organized by the Asian/Pacific-American Student Union.

Be a Mentor

Volunteer and make a difference in a young person's life!

Many Eugene/Springfield High School students need support and encouragement to stay in school, graduate, make plans for college or meaningful employment. They need role models for positive behavior and productive schoolwork.

Learn leadership skills, develop new friendships and give back to our community through the sharing of your strengths and abilities. Many U of O students already have!

Mentors are asked to volunteer a minimum of 6 hours a month with a one school year commitment. Register in the ESCAPE Field Studies office, room M-111, in the EMU, or call 346-4351 for more information. Upper division credit is available.

Stop by ESCAPE and sign-up during fall registration!

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May 17 • 10AM to 3PM

Microsoft Corporation

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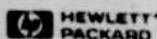
Microsoft



Thursday, May 18 • 10AM to 3PM

Hewlett-Packard Company

Account Executive Vicky Brennan



Friday, May 19 • 10AM to 3PM

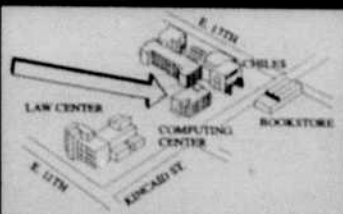
Apple Computer, Inc.

Apple Higher Education Account Executives Kurt Bedell and Enrique Zamora and Systems Engineer Mark Johnston



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Rangers want safer hot springs

Ben Moebius

Oregon Daily Emerald

Officials from the Blue River Ranger District said they hope to create a more wholesome environment at the Cougar Hot Springs with new regulations designed to curb partying in the area.

"We have had some real problems associated with large parties at the hot springs," said Rick Ley, a resource operations officer for the district.

"We have minors being furnished with alcohol and even problems with broken glass in

the pools," Ley said.

Park rangers enacted an ordinance to prohibit alcohol in the area, which is located near Cougar Reservoir, off Highway 126. They also have enacted a new ordinance that will allow park officials to hand out citations for minor amounts of marijuana.

"We used to just confiscate illegal drugs, now we can also issue citations," Ley said. "We are trying to promote the hot springs as a substance free area."

Many of the problems that occur at the hot springs arise

from the sheer number of people who visit the popular recreation spot, he said.

He said that park officials have also decreased the size of the parking lot, from a 60-vehicle capacity to a 20-vehicle limit, to try to deal with the crowds.

"We are trying to limit the number of people so there will not be a negative impact on the environment," Ley said.

The new ordinances went into effect May 1. The hot springs are open from sunup to sundown, all year long.

Bill would deregulate cable rates

WASHINGTON (AP) — Betting that more competition would protect cable television customers from rate gouging, House Republicans are moving forward on a plan to do away with regulations that have held down monthly rates.

A provision to deregulate cable rates is part of a large bill that would reform the nation's 61-year-old telecommunications laws, freeing local, long-distance and cable companies to get into each other's businesses.

Supporters of the bill say the added competition for cable is more likely to benefit cable customers by restraining prices and by expanding services.

Opponents say the measure would lead to higher cable rates.

The House Commerce telecommunications subcommittee — the same panel that wrote cable rate regulations less than three years ago — is expected today to approve the bill, including cable deregulation, despite strenuous efforts by key Democrats to salvage rate controls.

Two forces are behind the change: Republicans, who were reluctant to regulate rates in the first place in 1992, are now in charge of Congress; and potential cable competitors — notably high-powered satellites and telephone companies — are looming larger than ever.

Under the GOP bill, rates for "small" cable companies — defined as having less than 1 percent of all cable customers nationwide — would be deregulated immediately. Rates for the remainder of the systems would be deregulated once a competitor moves into a local market or within 15 months after the bill becomes law.

Since rate regulation took effect in September 1993, cable customers have saved \$3.5 billion, or \$4 a month per customer on average, according to the Federal Communications Commission. The regulations apply to most of the country's 11,000 cable systems.

Opponents of deregulation assert that the telecommunications bill would leave cable customers vulnerable to big rate increases because rates would be deregulated within 15 months even

if there is not another local competitor.

"In those communities, there will be a dramatic hike in the rates that cable consumers pay," predicted Rep. Edward Markey, D-Mass.

It could take years for every cable community in the country to have more than one cable company, deregulation opponents say. Right now only a handful of communities have competing cable companies.

Supporters of deregulation say cable companies, facing new competitors, would be especially sensitive to pricing and consumers would gain access to new products and services.

Because the bill makes it easier for a phone company to offer cable television service, "if a local cable company does something outrageous ... people will just walk," said Rep. Thomas Bliley, R-Va. "The business will just go, pure and simple."

Bliley, chairman of the House Commerce Committee, co-wrote the bill with Rep. Jack Fields, R-Texas.

Decker Anstrom, president of the National Cable Television Association, agreed. "Consumers will have something they didn't have in 1992 — a choice of companies to buy cable television from."

Backed by the White House, Markey and the committee's ranking Democrat, John Dingell of Michigan, co-authors of the 1992 law, plan to fight in the subcommittee to temper the cable provisions in Bliley's bill.

But, Markey conceded, "It's an uphill battle."

To avoid other subcommittee battles with Democrats, Republicans are expected to hold off on amendments that would deregulate the TV and radio industries and lift restrictions on media cross-ownership. Instead, they will wait until the bill is considered by the full committee.

On local phone company entry into the long-distance business — the heart of the reform bill — Fields plans to toughen one of the entry conditions. Local phone companies would have to face competition in both the residential and business markets before they could provide long-distance service.

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