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TODAY

The Portland Trailblazers will take on the Grizzlies tonight at 7 at Mac Court



INSIDE

Excelsior Cafe expands service to include European-style inn

Atlanta Braves move one game closer to World Series title

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WEATHER

Rain likely today with highs 60-65.

University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

Oregon Daily Emerald

An independent newspaper
Volume 97, Issue 41

BREAKING BOUNDARIES

Overcoming obstacles in a wheelchair has been Mike Krostag's biggest challenge at the University

By Doug Irving
Student Activities Reporter

It's 9:15 in the morning. The air is crisp, the sun is out as Mike Krostag rolls gently down a ramp on his way to class.

His sandy hair is neatly combed, his sweatshirt proudly proclaims the Ducks' trip to the Rose Bowl as his blue eyes carefully scan the world.

And the squeak of his wheelchair across the path marks his progress.

"People who walk around probably will not think about what it's like to live in a wheelchair," said Krostag said, graduate student in business finance. "I never really could have imagined that I could [end up] in a chair."

After all, Krostag was a vibrant teen 12 years ago who enjoyed basketball and cross-country running. He rode motorcycles, hung out with friends and went to the movies.

When he was 16, Krostag broke his neck diving into a swimming pool.

The injury paralyzed his legs, fingers, and part of his arms. It also affected his voice. After two years in the hospital, doctors gave him back a voice with a Teflon tube, but they could not give him back full movement ability.

"I tried to escape very much from the accident," he said. "I totally wanted to take myself out of the world."

After 12 years of using a wheelchair, Krostag is skilled at maneuvering through the obstacles of everyday life. He rolls effortlessly over the bricks in the EMU Courtyard, climbs the small incline toward East 13th Avenue, pauses at the juncture where brick meets concrete, and continues on.

Turn to ADAPTABILITY, Page 8



Mike Krostag, a graduate student in business finance, manages to get around campus in his wheelchair. After he was in a diving accident 12 years ago, he had to do a lot of soul searching. Because of this he now has a unique view of the world.

Legislation threatens student aid programs

■ **CUTS:** Bills pending in the House and Senate would drastically reduce federal loan programs

By Regina Brown
Higher Education Reporter

Budget reconciliation bills are on the floor of both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives this week, and they include proposals that would cut more than \$10 billion from the federal student loan program.

The cuts would affect around half of the University's students, said former ASUO president Bobby Lee.

The goal of the bills is to balance the federal budget within seven years, but those connected to financial aid say the cuts are too harsh. The House and the Senate bills propose different cuts, but both bills will affect a number of programs that University students depend on, said Kevin Easton, ASUO federal affairs coordinator.

The bills would either reduce or eliminate programs such as direct lending, Pell Grants and interest-free grace periods for student loans.

The Senate bill would cap direct lending at 20 percent, while the House bill would do away with it altogether, said Edmond Vignoul, the University's director of financial aid. Direct lending allows students to get federal loans directly from the government instead of going through banks, Vignoul said. Most financial aid comes in the form of loans.

Turn to CUTS, Page 6

University adds faster modems to accelerate internet connection

■ **COMPUTERS:** Students with slower modems can use new dial-in number for better hook-up results

By Joshua Olson
Online Editor

Students trying to log on from home to check their e-mail or cruise the 'Net' have been up against some obstacles this term, including busy modems and crashing computers.

"It's kind of frustrating when I've got other things to do and it takes so long," said Steven Dutt,

a senior environmental studies major.

Fortunately, the process of improving internet access quality is speeding up. University Computing recently purchased 196 high-speed modems and a new phone line to accommodate dial-in users. The new phone number is 346-6520, and can accommodate modems with speeds up to 28,800 bps (v.34).

Users dialing in with slower modems are not restricted to the slower modem pools, said Joe St. Sauver, assistant director of Academic User Services at the

University Computing Center. Users are encouraged to call the lines supporting faster speeds than their modems can match if the slower-speed lines are busy.

Another way users can improve their chances of getting quickly connected is to change the times they call. Modem activity on the University dial-up pools peaks in the early evening when people come home from work and classes. The modems remain fairly busy until after midnight. By doing their online tasks in the morning or during the day, users can expect to

GETTING ONLINE

4 modem lines for accessing the University computer system:

Phone #	Max Speed	Modems
346-6520	v.34 (28800 bps)	196
346-3565	v.34 (28800 bps)	32
346-5975	v.32 bis (14400 bps)	64
346-2150	v.32 (9600 bps)	12



DENNIS BOLT/Emerald

substantially reduce time spent waiting for a free modem.

Some initial connection problems are inherent in modem-to-modem connections. Others are caused by recent problems with the terminal servers that

control modem connections, St. Sauver said.

University Computing is working to fix these and other problems, including the recent system crashes on Gladstone, he said.