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Web of term papers offers chance to cheat

By Elizabeth Weise
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Question: Why go to the trouble of reading "The Merchant of Venice" and then writing about it when you can download a whole term paper free from the Web?

Answer (choose one): A — Because it would be wrong. B — Because Shakespeare's themes touch on broad issues of morality and conflict still important in a modern context, or C — Because your professor already knows about the Web site and will be checking it to make sure you aren't committing plagiarism.

Optional essay question background: The Web site under discussion, "School Sucks," is the invention of Kenneth Sahr, a journalism student at Miami's Inter-

national University. According to Sahr, the carefully indexed library of donated papers on everything from Steinbeck's "The Pearl" to a business analysis of the soft-drink industry is not meant to encourage cheating.

"I really believe that students can use this to see how students in other parts of the world attack a given issue," the 24-year-old said.

Rather, he sees himself as providing a system of checks and balances, undercutting the pay-per-use term paper mills of the sort advertised in the back of Rolling Stone magazine and forcing professors to focus their assignments rather than assigning generic topics that too easily lend themselves to plagiarism.

The motto of the Web site is "Download Your Workload." And college students are also invited to submit their own term papers for others' use.

The notion of give-away term papers has been discussed with much vehemence on several Internet mailing lists used by English professors, and a "Plagiarism Webservice Alert" was widely circulated.

But for those students who imagine a leisurely fall uninterrupted by anything so dull as a critical reading of the poetry of A.E. Housman, beware. The quality of writing available on Sahr's site is not the highest, to put it charitably.

"That's the beauty of it," Fields said. "You get what you pay for."

Herman family continues UO involvement

■ **FOUNDATION:** The new UO Board of Trustees President John Herman comes from a long line of University graduates and volunteers

By Andrea De Young
Associate Editor

The Pioneer Mother must be smiling these days. Her great grandson is now the University of Oregon Foundation Board of Trustees president.

John Herman is an Oregon graduate who has stayed active in the University. His family has a long tradition here, including the Pioneer Mother statue between Johnson Hall and Gerlinger, which was given to the University by Herman's grandfather back in 1932.

At age 57, Herman is the co-founder, president and owner of Duffel Sportswear in Beaverton. His company manufactures and distributes sportswear for catalogs

and stores across the country.

Herman got his degree in business in 1960 and has served on the board since 1991. He has also been involved in the Oregon Club of Portland and the Oregon athletic advisory board.

As president, Herman will oversee the Foundation's 46-member board, which was established to help support University fundraising and administer private gifts and grants.

Currently, the board is working on the Oregon Campaign, which has set a goal of raising \$150 million by 1998 for the University. The Campaign has already seen great success, reaching \$142 million to help with scholarships, professorships, equipment and facilities.

Herman's family is no stranger to fundraising. The same grandfather who donated the Pioneer Mother statue was a volunteer fundraiser for the University in Portland during the 1930s and 1940s. Burt Brown Barker was also the University's first vice-

president for public relations. Being involved in the University seems to be a tradition passed down the family lines.

Already Herman has met with the board to discuss what they want to accomplish.

"We sat down and created goals and objectives for next year," he said. "We want to do a better job of making campus more aware of what the Foundation does and what it provides."

The Campaign will also receive high priority.

"It has done so well in the first three years," Herman said. "We want to keep the momentum going and keep it fresh. We want to continue to make the University a better place to be."

Foundation Executive Director Jon Jaqua said Herman brings great qualities to the presidency.

"He is an enthusiastic president who's really committed to this," Jaqua said. "He's going to be a dynamic president because he is so involved."

Be the Celebration S.L.U.G. Queen!

Ever dream of being in the slime-light? Once a year aspiring royalty are invited to compete for the glory of the crown and reign supreme over the Eugene Celebration festivities. The 1996 Society for the Legitimation of the Ubiquitous Gastropod (S.L.U.G.) Queen Coronation will take place on Friday, August 23. The merriment begins at 6 p.m. and will take place in the courtyard in front of the Eugene Hilton Hotel and Conference Center.

S.L.U.G. Queen contenders must be 21 and enter in the spirit of fun. The attire is tastefully tacky. Judging is made in three categories — costume, question and talent act — strictly limited to 3 minutes.

The 1996 S.L.U.G. Queen must be available to make guest appearances at social events of royal merit. These include, but are not limited to: The Gala Reception for the Arts for the Mayor's Art Show, Riding in the Eugene Celebration Parade, the Parade Awards Ceremony, the Volunteer kick-off and celebrity interviews.

Join a tradition and leave your own trail of slime in the annals of Celebration history. Applications are available at the Eugene Celebration Office at One East Broadway. Deadline for applying is Monday, August 19. For more information, call 687-5215.

NEWS

Briefly

LTD offers service to Vietnam Memorial

A 240-foot replica of the Vietnam Memorial will be on display August 2, 3, and 4, at Sunset Hills Memorial Gardens at 48th and Willamette. With severely limited parking, visitors to the memorial are encouraged to take an LTD shuttle from South Eugene High School at 19th and Patterson streets. Shuttles and regular LTD service will be available all three days of the exhibit.

Shuttles depart between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. on August 2 and 3, and from 12 to 7 p.m. on August 4. Buses will run four times per hour on Friday and five times per hour on Saturday and Sunday. The price for adults is 50 cents.

Volunteers needed for Amazon Creek project

Construction is scheduled to begin on a \$3.3 million project to enhance Amazon Creek between Bailey Hill Road and the railroad west of Spectra-Physics. The project includes extending the Fern Ridge Path more than two miles to the west and widening the stream bed and replanting native wetland plants to improve habitat and water quality.

In addition to work being done by the contractor, there will be opportunities for volunteers to do some planting, install interpretive signage, and provide other amenities. People interested in special projects are encouraged to call the City's volunteer coordinator at 465-2814.

Artists' work wanted for public show

The Oregon Arts Commission is conducting a "Call for Artists" to submit proposals for inclusion of public art for Oregon State University's CH2M HILL Alumni Center in Corvallis.

Visual artists, artist teams and crafts people are eligible and encouraged to apply. Proposals will be selected by an independent selection committee composed of the project architect, visual arts professionals and agency and community representatives. The deadline is August 23.

Artists who wish to be considered for this opportunity must fill out a complete application, which may be obtained from the Commission or downloaded from the Oregon Art Commission's homepage on the World Wide Web <http://www.das.state.or.us/OAC/percent.htm>. Specific questions may be directed to Ellen Flacker, at the Oregon Arts Commission at (503)986-0085 or e-mailed to Ellen.Flacker@state.or.us.

— compiled by Andrea DeYoung

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