

INDEX

Opinion	2A
News Digest	4A
Rhythm & Reviews	7A
Sports	11A
Classifieds	14A
Crossword	15A

TODAY

A Homecoming pep rally hosted by the Alumni Association will take place at 1:30 p.m. in the EMU courtyard.



INSIDE

The Oregon football team will try to recapture its winning ways against Arizona on Saturday

Polystyrene ban becomes a topic of hot debate with potential EMU vendors

1B

4A



WEATHER

Partly cloudy.
High 60. Low 45.

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IN FOCUS: DIVERSITY

A HARD TASK TO FACE

The Race Task Force fights groups which it believes are spreading a biased mentality

By Kristin Bailey
Student Activities Editor

"... with liberty and justice for all."

The words of the Pledge of Allegiance are meant to apply to all Americans.

But the words "ignorance," "intolerance" and "hate crimes" aren't included in the mantra every American school child learns.

"It's something that people of color are used to dealing with, unfortunately," ASUO Women's Center Director Sho Shikeoka said. "When you see things like this all the time — that people of color are bad — you start doubting yourself. You start saying 'maybe it's me.'"

Lane County has one of the highest rates of hate crime in Oregon, according to Communities Against Hate, a Eugene group designed to confront racism.

The University is not exempt from the problem. Gwen Tistadt, office manager of the University Counseling Center and member of the Race Task Force, said Lane County and the University have been targeted by the Aryan Nation and their movement.

Tistadt and other University faculty, staff and students founded the Race Task Force in 1992. The unofficial campus group deals with problems of racial prejudice, intimidation, discrimination and harassment. Currently the group is focused on combatting white-supremacist sentiments in the community and on campus.

Tistadt said the severity of the problem is

Turn to **DISCRIMINATION**, Page 6A



INSIDE

■ A personal look at diversity on campus/6A



Ethnic diversity at the University

Fall 1995 enrollment figures with a break down of the different recognized ethnic groups.

SOURCE: Office of the Registrar



Tax limit passing narrowly

■ **MEASURE 47:** While more than 40 percent of ballots have yet to be counted, some officials fear deep cuts

By Doug Irving
Community Reporter

Measure 47 and the University's financial future are both on the line.

The measure, which could limit the state's funding for the University, was passing by about 8,000 votes Thursday at 5 p.m.

"This [measure] is really a meat axe," said University President Dave Frohnmayer. "This causes a billion dollar shortfall."

About 1/6 of the University's funding comes from the state's general fund, Frohnmayer said. Measure 47 would not immediately impact this fund.

"It has no direct effect on the University of Oregon," he said. "We don't [receive] any property tax revenue."

However, the measure would dramatically reduce higher education and local government budgets. These organizations might then turn to the general fund for money, leaving less for the University, Frohnmayer said.

"We're going to fight for improved resources," he said. "We have been taking cuts for six years and it's our turn to go to the front of the line."

Gov. John Kitzhaber has pledged not to

THE FACTS

■ Measure 47 would cut property taxes for the 1997-98 fiscal year.

■ The tax cut would average about 20 percent statewide.

■ After that, tax bills could not increase more than 3 percent a year.

■ It would reduce tax revenue for local governments by about \$1 billion over the next two years.

Turn to **MEASURE 47**, Page 16A

Renovation project improves wheelchair access to Robinson Theatre

"[We were] aware of the fact that the access to the theater was [poor] and we put pressure on the administration for [improvements]."

— Joseph Gilg
University Theatre development director

■ **DISABILITIES:** After complaints from patrons, the theater underwent changes to comply with federal law

By Tamyra Howser
Higher Education Reporter

Robinson Theatre is celebrating its first show of the season with improved accessibility for patrons with wheelchairs.

The renovations, completed early this fall, gave wheelchair users access to the theater's lobby from a front door ramp. Previously, patrons had to use a backside ramp that connected to a side door. Once inside, there was no access to the lobby.

"It was always a real challenge in a wheelchair," said Janet Wentworth, a University ombud officer. "I'm in a wheelchair and [I remember] feeling out of it and separated

from the audience."

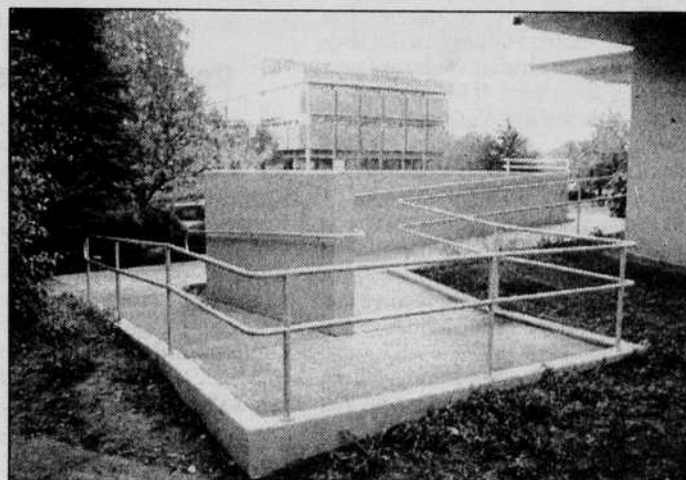
A redesigned lobby area, including a rest room accessible to people with disabilities and a new seating section gives four more wheelchair spaces. The increased area allows up to six wheelchairs at any performance.

Joseph Gilg, University Theatre development director, said this renovation has been a long time coming.

"It started three-and-a-half years ago," he said. "[We were] aware of the fact that the access to the theater was [poor] and we put pressure on the administration for [improvements]. The administration acknowledged the problem but didn't do anything about it," he said.

It wasn't until patron Skip Collett called the administration himself and demanded

Turn to **DISABILITIES**, Page 16A



A ramp at Robinson Theatre provides easier wheelchair access.

MATHEW STIFFLER/Emerald