

Homelessness focus of week

■ **HUNGER:** OSPIRG will host several campus events, including a banquet and a sleep out, to raise awareness

By Tom Potter
Student Activities Reporter

Educating students and the community about the suffering of the homeless is the focus of Hunger and Homelessness Week, which begins today.

OSPIRG will be hosting events like the Oxfam Banquet, a clothing and blanket drive and the "Grate American Sleep Out."

Volunteers have already staffed tables where people can make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to be delivered to local poor families.

"This is to create general awareness and to get [students] motivated enough by this to take action," said Gabrielle Kaufman, Hunger and Homelessness Week project leader. "I'd like to see people open their eyes to the problem. The problem has just been growing more and more."

The event is put on right before Thanksgiving because it helps people to realize that not everyone in the world has the luxury of splurging on food, said Mau-

HUNGER WEEK EVENTS

■ **OXFAM BANQUET:** This will be taking place in Gerlinger Lounge at 7 p.m. on Tuesday. Tickets are \$3 and can be purchased in EMU Suite 1.

■ **BLANKET DRIVE:** Clothes and blankets can be dropped off at boxes in the residence halls today through Thursday.

■ **SLEEP OUT:** Volunteers will sleep on the EMU Courtyard lawn on Wednesday night from 7 p.m. until 7 a.m.

reen Kirk, executive director of OSPIRG.

The Oxfam Banquet will take place in Gerlinger Lounge at 7 p.m. on Tuesday. Speakers will talk about the problem of hunger and homelessness in both Lane County and throughout the world. Tickets for the banquet are \$3 and are available at OSPIRG offices in Suite 1 of the EMU.

Organizers of the banquet will try to educate participants about the high quality of meals people in the United States consume in comparison to those eaten in second and third-world countries. One activity will demonstrate the unequal distribution of food

throughout the world.

"I think there is this myth that there isn't enough food, and that's not true," said Kalpana Krishnamurthy, state board chairwoman of OSPIRG.

Other events during the week will include a clothing and blanket drive where donation drop-off boxes will be placed in the residence halls. The boxes will be in place on Monday and picked up on Thursday; the contents will be donated to the Eugene Mission, a shelter for local homeless.

On Wednesday, the "Grate American Sleep Out" will take place nationwide. The University has about 45 volunteers signed up to sleep on the EMU Courtyard lawn. It will begin at 7 p.m. with speakers and a band to entertain participants.

Krishnamurthy said a lot of people don't know what it's like to have to sleep outside during winter without the comfort of an expensive sleeping bag to keep them warm.

"We as students are in a place where we can make a difference," she said. "We as college students have a lot of skills. This problem is solvable."

Ever Feel Excluded In Class?

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The Teaching Effectiveness Program presents "Welcoming, Valuing and Respecting Students: Creating an Inclusive Classroom" from 1:00-4:00 p.m. in the EMU Fir Room.

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<http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~emusched/tickets.html>



UPCOMING EVENTS

11/22 Calobo.....(21 & over) \$7.00

11/29 Sky Cries Mary.....\$10.00

12/17 Kenny G. & Toni Braxton..\$54.50/44.50/34.50 (Portland)

HULT CENTER EVENTS

11/21 Symphonic III.....\$34/26.50/21.50/16/10

12/8 Holiday Show.....\$24/19/12

12/31 Disco New Year's Eve.....\$15.00

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Sunday November 24 Upper Field 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

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