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TODAY

The Career Center is sponsoring the Career and Internship Fair in the EMU today and Wednesday.



INSIDE

The Emerald previews the Career Center's sixth annual Career and Internship Fair

The Club Sports hockey team sweeps Washington to end its regular season

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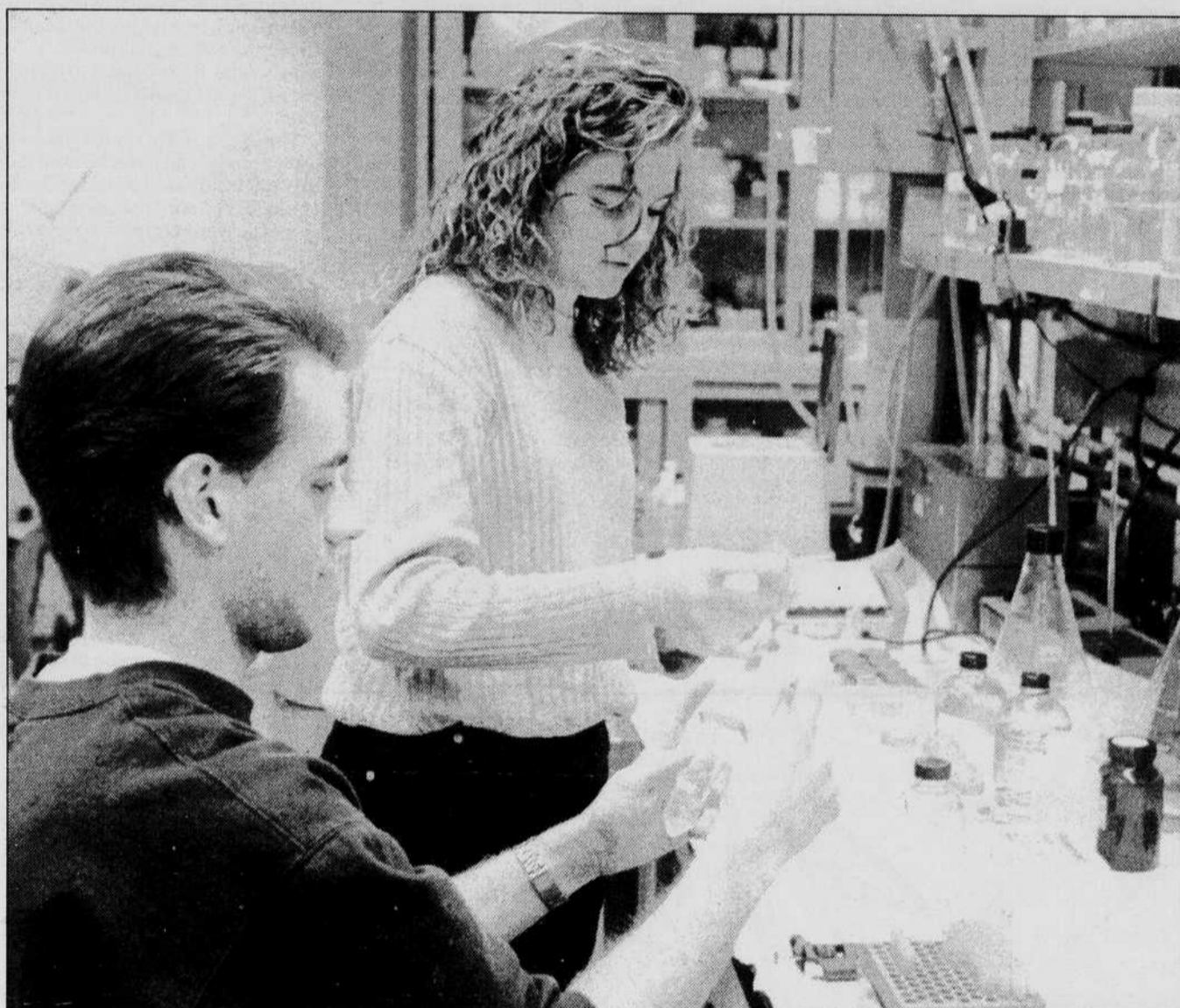
WEATHER

Still more rain. High 50. Low 30.

Oregon Daily Emerald

University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

An independent newspaper
Volume 98, Issue 83



University students Jeffy Stevens, a senior majoring in biochemistry, and Michelle Orr, a junior majoring in biology, separate strands of DNA taken from the zebrafish in test tubes at one of Streisinger Hall's science labs. MATT GARTON/Emerald

Zebrafish studies net \$1 million grant

■ BIOLOGY:

Scientists use the simple fish in place of 'higher' life forms to study DNA and mutations

By Laura Cadiz
Higher Education Editor

In the basement of Huestis Hall sit rows of fish tanks, each occupied by about 50 one-inch long zebrafish. These fish have helped University scientists discover genetic mutations and DNA patterns similar to those in humans, and they are the reason the Institute of Neuroscience received a \$1 million dollar grant.

Awarded last month by the W.M. Keck Foundation, \$650,000 of the grant will be used to renovate the zebrafish facility, and \$350,000 of the grant will be used for the expansion of an on-line interactive database, which will contain scientific knowledge about zebrafish.

"It's a very significant award and will make a big difference in the group's ability to continue their world-class research," said Steadman Upham, vice provost for research.

The zebrafish research team is headed by biology profes-

sors Chuck Kimmel, John Postlethwait, Monte Westerfield, Jim Weston and associate biology professor Judith Eisen.

"This group of researchers is probably the best at what they do in the world," said Upham.

Because zebrafish have a similar genetic make-up to humans, University scientists study them to understand the nature of the human nervous system and genetic abnormalities, said Postlethwait.

"We're vertebrates too," said Sarah Douglas, professor of computer and information science. "A lot of our genetic material is shared with other vertebrates, such as zebrafish."

The research was developed by the late geneticist George Streisinger. He began using zebrafish in 1981 and introduced zebrafish as a model of studying the human

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MATT GARTON/Emerald
Kristy Mann, a freshman majoring in journalism, works at the University's Zebrafish Facility in Streisinger Hall as part of her work study job.

Councilors seek input from public

■ **MEETING:** The Council has scheduled town-hall meetings for mid-February to get citizen input

By Eric Collins
Community Reporter

While developing a plan to reduce city services, city councilors are calling for other agencies to step in and help maintain current services.

In a Monday night work session designed to highlight plans for defining essential city services, City Councilor Bobby Lee continually stressed this idea of working with other agencies to alternatively fund some of the non-essential services, instead of just eliminating them.

"I just hope [alternative funding] doesn't slip through the cracks," Lee said. "I want to know where we will see alternatives in the plan."

City Councilor Scott Meisner agreed, adding that ideas on alternative funding could be found more easily from citizen input. This citizen participation was a main focus of the cities proposed plan to identify important city services.

Councilors are discussing ways of involving the public through special town-hall meetings beginning in mid-February. The purpose is for citizens to voice their opinions on services that must be maintained and services that they could live without.

"We need to find out what people believe the bottom line mission is and what alternatives they'd like to see," said Councilor Tim Laue. "We must find out what makes this community livable."

The council must complete a plan to reduce city services by April 28 in order for the plan to be included in next year's budget. The final plan for services reduction is set for June or July.

Earlier in the session, councilors unanimously voted to approve all the short-term

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Torrey to answer questions at City Hall

Students and citizens are invited to express their concerns to Mayor Jim Torrey from 4 to 5 p.m. Tuesday in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Torrey is now scheduled to hold one-on-one meetings with the public on the fourth Tuesday of each month. For more information, call 687-5010.



TORREY