

Students to sponsor blanket drive

■ **BLANKET DRIVE:** Today and Tuesday, blankets can be donated to help the homeless

By Laura Baker
Student Activities Reporter

Although the days are getting warmer, and shorts and T-shirts are becoming more common around campus, the nights are still cold enough to question whether spring is really descending upon Eugene. The Jewish Student Union, Hillel and OSPIRG are sponsoring a blanket drive for the homeless today and Tuesday and will hand out the blankets Wednesday in the Midnight Run in order to help the homeless keep warm at night.

"It's starting to warm up now, but it's still very cold at night," OSPIRG coordinator Monique Dail said. "A lot of people don't think about what a significant portion of our community is homeless and that these people don't have the same things that we have provided for us."

The project is called Midnight

Run because in larger cities, groups actually go out at midnight to give out the blankets. However, in smaller towns it is not feasible to find many homeless people out at midnight, said JSU coordinator Jaimie Simon. Many go and hide due to the fact that they don't feel safe wandering late at night, so the groups are going out earlier.

Before going to hand out the blankets, Terry, a former homeless man who now works at First Place Family Center, will speak about his experiences as a homeless person, Simon said.

Simon said the blanket drive and Midnight Run are not only important because of the help they give to the homeless, but they also give the students and community a chance to come in contact with the homeless.

"People often do homeless action by going and serving in a soup kitchen, or not even as face-to-face as that," she said. "People give money or do food drives, but they never come face-to-face with

what it's really like to live on the streets. I think this enables us to have more real contact."

Simon said there are approximately 4,000 homeless people in the Eugene/Springfield area. Groups participating in the Midnight Run will be going out to churches and soup kitchens in both Eugene and Springfield that provide food for the homeless to give out the blankets and coffee. The groups will also go to parks and other areas where there are homeless people.

"We're hoping for at least 30 blankets to be donated, but we would like as many as possible," Dail said. "Also, people offering their time to go give out blankets is help that goes a long ways."

Blankets can be donated at a table set up in the EMU Courtyard from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. today and Tuesday. Coffee and the blankets collected will be handed out to homeless people Wednesday during the Midnight Run, which will begin in the EMU Ben Linder room at 5 p.m.

Preparation for the big night



WENDY FULLER/Emerald

Takeru Yoshida and Ben Foo paint backdrops Sunday for International Night on April 12 in the EMU Ballroom. Tickets are on sale for \$12 outside the University Bookstore.

EXCLUSIVELY for FACULTY and STAFF

PAIN.

PAIN KILLER.

For fast relief from the nagging ache of taxes, we recommend TIAA-CREF SRAs. SRAs are tax-deferred annuities designed to help build additional assets—money that can help make the difference between living and living well after your working years are over.

Contributions to your SRAs are deducted from your salary on a pretax basis, so you pay less in taxes now. And since earnings on your SRAs are also tax deferred until you receive them

as retirement income, the money you don't send to Washington can work even harder for you.

What else do SRAs offer? A full range of investment choices and the financial expertise of TIAA-CREF—America's largest retirement organization.*

To find out more, stop by your benefits office or give us a call at 1 800 842-2888. We'll show you how SRAs can lower your taxes.

Do it today—it couldn't hurt.

Visit us on the Internet at www.tiaa-cref.org



Ensuring the future for those who shape it.™

*Based on assets under management.

CREF certificates are distributed by TIAA-CREF Individual and Institutional Services, Inc. For more complete information, including charges and expenses, call 1 800 842-2733, ext. 3509, for a current CREF prospectus. Read the prospectus carefully before you invest or send money. Date of first use: 2/97.

© 1997 Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association/College Retirement Equities Fund, 730 Third Avenue, New York, NY

Eugene to Hong Kong \$695.00

Tax not included. Other rules and restrictions apply.

Discounted fares for Europe and Asia now in!!

Stop by and visit your Student travel experts at 1200 High St.

visit our web page at: www.allwaystravel.com or E-mail us at: uo@allwaystravel.com

All Ways Travel 338-4199

Oregon Travel Sellers Registration # 300

Café Paradiso

A COFFEE HOUSE IN THE EUROPEAN TRADITION

Relax And Study in Our Living Room Atmosphere

The Old Paradiso Is Back!

No More Music During The Week To Better Suit Your Studying Needs!

- PREMIUM WINES
- MICROBREWS ON TAP
- BOARD GAMES

THE NIGHT SCENE

~ Friday & Saturday Nights ~

live bands

OPEN TILL MIDNIGHT
CORNER OF OLIVE & BROADWAY
• 484-9933 •

CUT OUT FOR 50¢ OFF CUP OF REGULAR COFFEE

Check out the ODE CLASSIFIEDS for all your needs