

Internet magazine ranks UO as 'most wired' public university

■ **COMPUTERS:** Students have easy access to online class resources and the Web

By Sarah Keech
Higher Education Reporter

In the May issue of *YAHOO! Internet Life* magazine, the University was the highest ranking public institution in a nationwide survey of America's "100 most wired colleges" and was ranked sixth overall in the nation.

"The University probably received the high ranking because of the CAUSE Award we received re-

cently, the fact that all dorm rooms are wired to the Internet and that so many classes use online resources," said Lucy Lynch, academic user support specialist at the Computing Center.

Lynch said that the CAUSE Award, announced in March, was given to the University by *CAUSE-EFFECT* magazine for having the best campus network in the nation.

According to the *YAHOO! Internet Life* magazine survey, the University has web pages available for 80 percent of courses of-

fered, 11 percent of students have personal web pages and there are many social services available to students including newsgroups, popular online hangouts and chat rooms.

In recent years, the number of students logging on has increased. This increase can be directly linked to the educational technology fee that began about two years ago, Lynch explained.

Because of the educational technology fee, students have unlimited access to the Internet and free classes are available through

the library to show students how to use the Internet, she said.

"In the future we plan to continue with our on-going project, like our library curriculum and using the Internet for research," Lynch said. "Our goal is to continue to encourage students to use the Internet."

YAHOO!, one of the World Wide Web's largest and most popular search engines, compiled the rankings using 35 factors to compare Internet activity at 300 colleges and universities across the nation.

The factors used to rank each institution included common Internet activities such as e-mail accounts and access to the World Wide Web, but *YAHOO!* also looked for how many students had their own web pages, how many classes assigned homework over the Internet and if students could access transcripts and syllabi online.

In the *YAHOO!* survey, the University followed only five schools: Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northwestern, Emerson, Rensselaer and Dartmouth.

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ESCAPE plans to update image with new name

■ **PROGRAM:** A name change could increase ESCAPE's credibility

By Autumn De Poe
Student Activities Reporter

Beginning this fall, ESCAPE's name will no longer be found in any campus directories. The organization that has had the acronym ESCAPE, which stands for Every Student Caring About Personalized Education, since 1969 will go through a makeover and emerge next year as the Community Internship Program.

According to ESCAPE's director Alia Jackson, "ESCAPE implies getting away from school when we really want to be seen as a supplement to traditional education."

ESCAPE's board decided the name was dated and "was not very indicative of what we do," Jackson said. "We were known as an outdoor program. People thought that we dealt with drug rehabilitation. We'd just hear the funniest things about what people thought that we were."

The staff believed that the name ESCAPE had a negative connotation with implications of getting away from school. This portrayal has differed from how the staff wanted the program to be recognized, and although the name will change next fall, ESCAPE's services will remain the same.

ESCAPE offers students the opportunity to gain experience in a variety of fields while gaining upper-division credits. Each term the program has approximately 800 openings for students in

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I have been on this campus for four years, and I cannot imagine coming here and learning about things for four years and not having hands-on education and experiences.

— Alia Jackson
ESCAPE director

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many areas of the community. Internships include students shadowing community leaders, working in the public school system or human-service agencies, mentoring disadvantaged youth and working as outdoor school counselors.

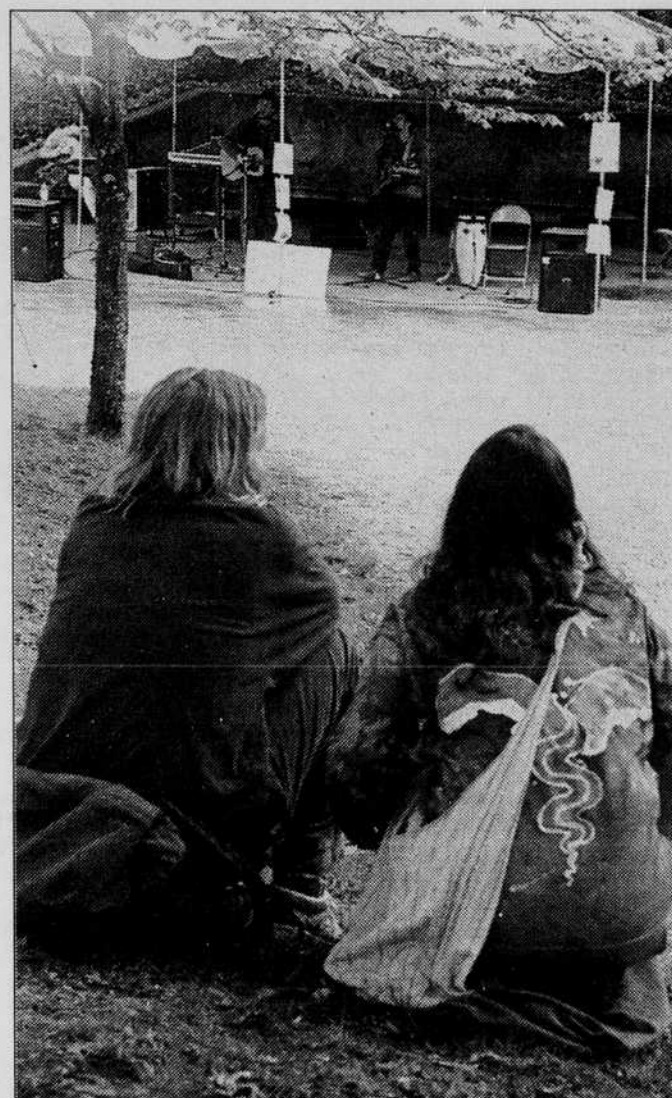
Because of declining student and community involvement with ESCAPE, the staff chose to change the name to "Community Internship Program" to add more credibility to the organization and to have a name directly relating to participation, said Donovan Pacholl, the ESCAPE public relations coordinator.

Jackson said ESCAPE helps students gain job experience during college so they will be prepared to gain additional experience in the future.

"Any student on this campus can come and volunteer," Jackson said. "I have been on this campus for four years, and I cannot imagine coming here and learning about things for four years and not having hands-on education and experiences."

ESCAPE is located in EMU room 111.

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