

Peruvian spiritualist to discuss culture

A Peruvian spiritual medicine leader will present a lecture Friday on the relationship of man, nature and the cosmos.

Don Alejandro, a seventh generation spiritual leader from the Peruvian Amazon rain forest, will discuss the richness of the ancient Andean and Amazon culture, which remains intact even after 500 years of Western influence.

He will be accompanied by his translator, who is also his apprentice.

The first lecture will be on Friday night from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Westmoreland Community Center located at 1545 W. 22nd Ave. The cost is \$10. The workshop will be on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the WOW Hall. The cost for the workshop is \$75. For more information, call 484-1888.

Reconciliation day scheduled for Friday

The University will host the International Day of Reconciliation on Friday from noon to 5 p.m. in the EMU

TODAY'S NEWS

BRIEFLY

Fir Room. Speakers from the Chicano, African-American, East Timor, Japanese, Native American, Jewish, Palestinian, Romanian, Vietnamese and Vietnamese-American communities will all be contributing to the event. The event is free and open to the public and will give students and community members the chance to share cultural ordeals and experiences with each other, organizers said.

Sponsors of the event hope that the day will help participants begin to heal the cultural grief that one may carry by allowing those who have experienced genocide to speak with one another and learn new ways to work for peace.

Participants in the conference may pay a fee and earn one hour of University credit through the International Studies Program by registering through Duck Call.

Non-University students may register through the community education program by calling 346-5614.

Ball will benefit Women's center

A masquerade ball to benefit the ASUO Women's Center will be tonight at the Wild Duck Brewery at 9 p.m. Participants are asked to wear costumes and join in the fun for an evening of "dancing and enchantment." Costumes are not required and there is a recommended donation of \$5. All proceeds will go toward a fund to help students buy books, an attempt to ensure an equal education for all University students.

Robbie Kaye concert will be this evening


A benefit for the Take Back the Night March will feature the Robbie Kaye band on its "Two Separate Worlds" tour. The show is sponsored by Sexual Assault Support Services and will be at 7:30 p.m. at Roosevelt Middle School, 680 E. 24th Ave.

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UO business team places second

■ **AWARD:** The team beat such schools as Yale and Stanford with its idea for a plant control company

By Amy Palanuk
Higher Education Reporter

For Billy Nerenberg, hanging outside the Lundquist College of Business can elicit quite a bit of attention.

"Congratulations, Billy."

"Yeah, I just heard the news. Great job."

"So... how does it feel?"

Nerenberg accepts the congratulations with a smile, proud of the fact that he and his two other business partners just placed second in the largest business competition in the United States.

"The international Moot Corporation business planning competition is the world championship

in business competition," partner Steve Manning said.

As the first group to represent Oregon in the prestigious event, Manning, Nerenberg and partner Brian Schwartz, all masters of business administration degree candidates, placed second in a competition that included schools from Yale, Stanford and MIT.

"We blew them out of their rockers, beating 23 top-notch business schools," Nerenberg said. "It really put the University on the map for entrepreneurship because it's the most prestigious business competition in the world."

The first place award of \$15,000 went to the University of Texas at Austin, but for both Nerenberg and Manning, the opportunity to meet investors and market their service idea to fight invasion of non-native plants in both public and private sectors was more im-

portant than getting first place.

"When we were done, we had numerous people come up to us and try to invest right there," Nerenberg said.

The competition, held May 1-3 in Austin, Texas, catapulted interest in the new company Invasive Plant Control, LLC, which will begin its operation in June after the three partners graduate.

The company plans to work on a national level, keeping a database of 6,000 invasive plants that includes specialized removal methods.

For the trio, the chance to take their entrepreneurial ideas to large investors helped them gain confidence in their business idea.


"I was really intimidated at first," Nerenberg said, "But once I got down there I realized that the students there were just like us, even the ones from London."

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