

Music and lights

The Lane ESD Planetarium now offers three free laser shows on weekends

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Oregon vs. Utah

The Ducks will face the Utes at 1 p.m. tomorrow at Autzen Stadium



SECTION B

TODAY

Today is the last day to drop classes or reduce credits and receive a 50 percent refund.

WEATHER

Today
Partly cloudy
High 65. Low 41.
Saturday
Cloudy
High 66. Low 41.

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TRADITION

LEAVING HOME

Homecoming traditions have disappeared in the wake of student activism and social change, but some students want them back

By Ashley Bach
In-depth Reporter

It was not long ago, Homecoming Weekend 1962, that jazz legend Duke Ellington played to 3,500 students on the University campus, that football coach Len Casanova confidently predicted a win amid the light of a raging bonfire and that sophomore-led "Kangaroo Court" weeded out those who failed to display proper school spirit.

Now, as thousands of alumni come to campus this weekend to celebrate Homecoming 1997, these events are a distant memory. The bonfire has bowed to city ordinances, the big names in entertainment have disappeared and, perhaps most importantly, student involvement has shrunk to a minimum.

The lack of pomp and circumstance has many members of the University community yearning for the more carefree events of the 1950s and '60s. At the same time, some wonder whether the more focused and serious University of the '90s could sustain such levity.

"This isn't really a big go-getter school," sophomore Saori Clark said, "but it would be really fun to have a parade on 13th [Avenue] or something."

Daniel Rodriguez, director of the University Alumni Association, said he understands the concerns. The UOAA organizes the weekend's alumni program, which includes a street race, tailgate party and several reunions.

Campus-based programming, which would include a bonfire or parade, is designated to the UOAA student wing, the Student Alumni Association. Rodriguez said the

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Huge structures were built and burned by students for the annual Homecoming bonfire behind McArthur Court. This piece of work burned for three nights and two days in 1916.



Drug survey shows gap in numbers

A University survey revealed some misconceptions students have about their peers' drinking and drug use habits

By Michael Hines
Student Activities Reporter

Alcohol and drugs can cause riots, assaults and rapes. Given this fact, the University is fighting perceptions while student groups attack the source — a lack of education.

The perception is that 99 percent of students drink each month, while only 72 percent actually do, according to a recent survey conducted by the University Office of Student Life.

"By knowing that it's the exception rather than the rule, the pressure will dissipate," Student Health Center educator Annie Dochnahl said of the survey, which is conducted every two years. This year, 477 students responded out of 1,000 questioned.

The statistics have not changed much over the years, said Linda Devine, assistant director of Student Life Retention programs. This indicates the accuracy of the survey, she said.

The survey also showed that students believe almost 91 percent of their peers use marijuana each month, when only 29 percent who responded do.

For tobacco use, the numbers show an even greater gap. Students believed that 96 percent of the student body used tobacco in a month, while only 38 percent who responded do.

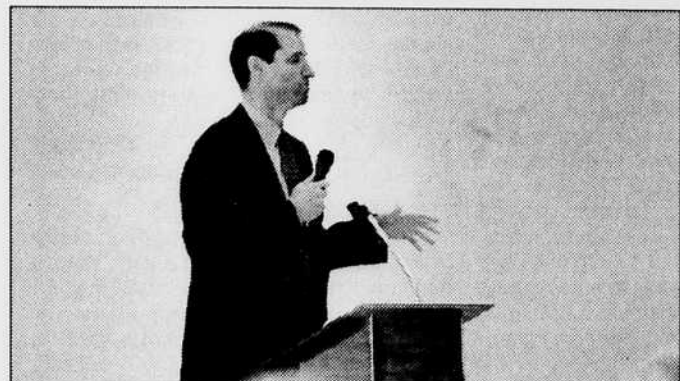
The survey showed alcohol is the most often used intoxicant among University students.

"Even though [drinking] is somewhat culturally acceptable, there can be some dire consequences," Dochnahl said.

Students tend to drink to meet expectations, Dochnahl said. Research has shown that drinking decreases when misconcep-

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Wyden discusses need for bipartisan campaign finance reform



Senator Ron Wyden, speaking at Black Angus Restaurant, discusses NAFTA and other issues with a crowd of Eugene citizens Thursday afternoon.

U.S. Senator Ron Wyden talked about a three-part plan for reform

By Jesse Sowa
Community Reporter

Citizens must fight to get the U.S. government to put substantial time into the campaign finance reform issue, U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden said Thursday afternoon.

At a gathering sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Lane County, Wyden told approximately 100 people that the problem of campaign finance reform is too severe not to be addressed.

"I think the campaign system that we have today is a disgrace," Wyden said. "I think this is chipping away at the under-

pinnings of democracy."

Even though campaign finance reform has only recently come into the spotlight, Wyden said the issue has been dealt with by democrats and republicans for quite some time.

"These problems have gone on for years, and they're on both sides of the aisle," he said. "We need to make those phones light up on Capitol Hill."

Wyden, who has voted for all four bills supporting campaign finance reform, said there are three "central, gut-level issues" on the recent McCain-Feingold bill that need to be looked at.

The first issue is a need to restrict soft

"There is much more that we need to do to ... make sure that elected officials know that public business is done in public."

Ron Wyden
U.S. Senator

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