

Ducks' team star

Freshman Angelina Wolvert stepped into play when Brienne Mebarry was injured and has since carried the team to victory

PAGE 11

DanceAbility

The annual DanceAbility workshop will begin this weekend with an evening of performances and talks

PAGE 7

TODAY

The UO will host a high school speech tournament, which will continue all weekend in the EMU.

WEATHER

Today
Rain
High 48. Low 31.
Saturday
Showers
High 58. Low 32.

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EUGENE CRIME



Photo illustration by MATT GARTON/Emerald

Under the Gun

The number of robberies has sharply increased over the past two years

By Tricia Duryee
Community Reporter

The robbery occurred just after 9 p.m. It was the third robbery that night in Eugene during a time span of just over three hours.

The robber entered the Glenwood Restaurant, located at 2588 Willamette St., through a rear door and pointed a pistol-grip shotgun at the three employees. The suspect threatened to shoot if they didn't hand over the money.

Glenwood manager Chris Bechler said he wasn't on duty at the time. But he said the first reaction of his employees after handing over the \$800 till was anger. Then they were pretty frightened, he said.

"One guy who had the gun held to his head was affected mentally," Bechler said.

"He was so nervous he almost quit."

Whether it is a gun to the head or a note demanding cash, Eugene's banks, convenience stores and small shops and restaurants have been hit increasingly hard by robberies in recent years.

ROBBERY



Eugene has seen a 14.7 percent increase in robberies in the past two years, according to public information Officer Jan Power. In 1997, 314 robberies occurred, compared to 272 robberies in 1996.

To assist local businesses, both Mason and Tod Schneider from the Eugene Police Department inform store owners and workers of the steps they can take to help

prevent robberies.

Despite local efforts, 14 businesses have been robbed in the past two months. Of those, seven have been cleared — meaning an arrest has been made in connection with the robbery.

By this time last year, there had already been 26 robberies.

Mason said she attributed the general increase over the last couple of years to societal problems. "People are stealing money to support their drug habit. It's rare to have a bank robber who doesn't have a habit," Mason said. "Eugene is up against a huge drug problem."

Bechler agreed after the Glenwood was robbed in mid-January. He thought the only real way to stop the robberies was to

Turn to **ROBBERIES**, Page 5

US West now offers faster online service

The digital subscriber line can reach speeds up to 250 times faster than standard modems

By Jesse Sowa
Community Reporter

US West Communications recently unveiled plans to speed up online services with an ultra-fast new Internet and data service for residential and business customers in 40 cities across the United States, including Eugene.

The new MegaBit Services Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line provided by US West offers multi-megabit speeds up to 250 times faster than standard modems. Also included in the new technology is a continuous, digital connection to the Internet over customer home or office phone lines, according to a news release.

The upgraded ADSL will offer easy installation to 226 wire centers serving more than 5.5 million customer lines.

To date, Phoenix, Ariz., is the first and only city to receive the new service. Phoenix received the service on Oct. 28, 1997.

The full deployment over US West's 14-state coverage is planned for June 1, 1998, and it will be the first region-wide distribution of ADSL in the U.S. This will offer the benefit of vastly improved performance that eliminates the delays and waiting associated with most current online services.

"At last, the benefits of the information age are coming home," said Solomon D. Trujillo, president and CEO of US West, in the press release. "Customers across our region will now be able to get the power and convenience of super-fast Internet and data access in their homes or at the office. No more World Wide Wait."

ADSL is expected to be cheaper than the two most prominently used high-speed data routes into residences: specialized telephone lines and cable modems. These locations typically use a heavy coaxial cable, which is usually found with TV-set connections.

The new technology meets industry-wide goals for speed and ease of deployment developed and proposed by the recently an-

Turn to **SERVICE**, Page 3

Cast to perform play covering Japanese-American history

The play will show the period of history from immigration and internment camps to official government apologies

By Michael Hines
Student Activities Reporter

On Feb. 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an executive order unlike any other in the history of the United States. He signed an order that placed 120,000 West Coast Japanese-Americans in internment camps.

To remember that time, a six-member cast will perform "Breaking the Silence," a free multimedia play demonstrating the Japanese-American experience at 2 p.m. on Sunday in 180 PLC. It will cover the span of Japanese-American history from immigration

and internment camps to the official U.S. government apologies in the 1980s.

"It's an educational kind of event," said Bob Kono, a member of the play's steering committee. "Its intent is to educate the public as to what is essentially a chapter in history."

The play, which is performed by second- and third-generation Japanese-Americans, is directed at all audiences, he said.

"Those who didn't know about the past will get a better view about how we need to be vigilant about justice," said play coordinator Bettie Sing Luke.

Kono's family was picked up by the FBI. They stayed in three internment camps, including those in Arizona and Wyoming, and one in Crystal City, Texas, where cultural leaders and fishermen were placed.

Some of the cast members experienced the camps as well, Kono said.

He said 120,000 people were put in camps "without any good reason at all."

This play will show that experience through music, poetry, anecdotes and slides.

"Essentially, it's an American story when you come right down to it,"

Kono said.

The play is an observation of the courage of the Japanese-American internees, Luke said.

"The survivors of the internment really have not been able to voice that experience for a long, long time," Luke said.

"Breaking the Silence" will include three Eugene public performances:

■ Sunday, March 1, 2 p.m., 180 PLC;

■ Monday, March 2, 6:30 p.m., Lane Community College in 309 Forum;

■ Wednesday, March 4, 3:30 p.m., 4J Education Center Auditorium.