

A new crew in place

New members of the Student Senate passed a number of requests, including line-item fund transfers for ASUO representatives

PAGE 7

Ducks are dead last

With one experienced player, the men's golf team shot a 15-over-par 303 in the first round of the NCAA Championships

PAGE 11

TODAY

Proposed special fee amendments will be discussed at 3 p.m. in the Gumwood Room

WEATHER

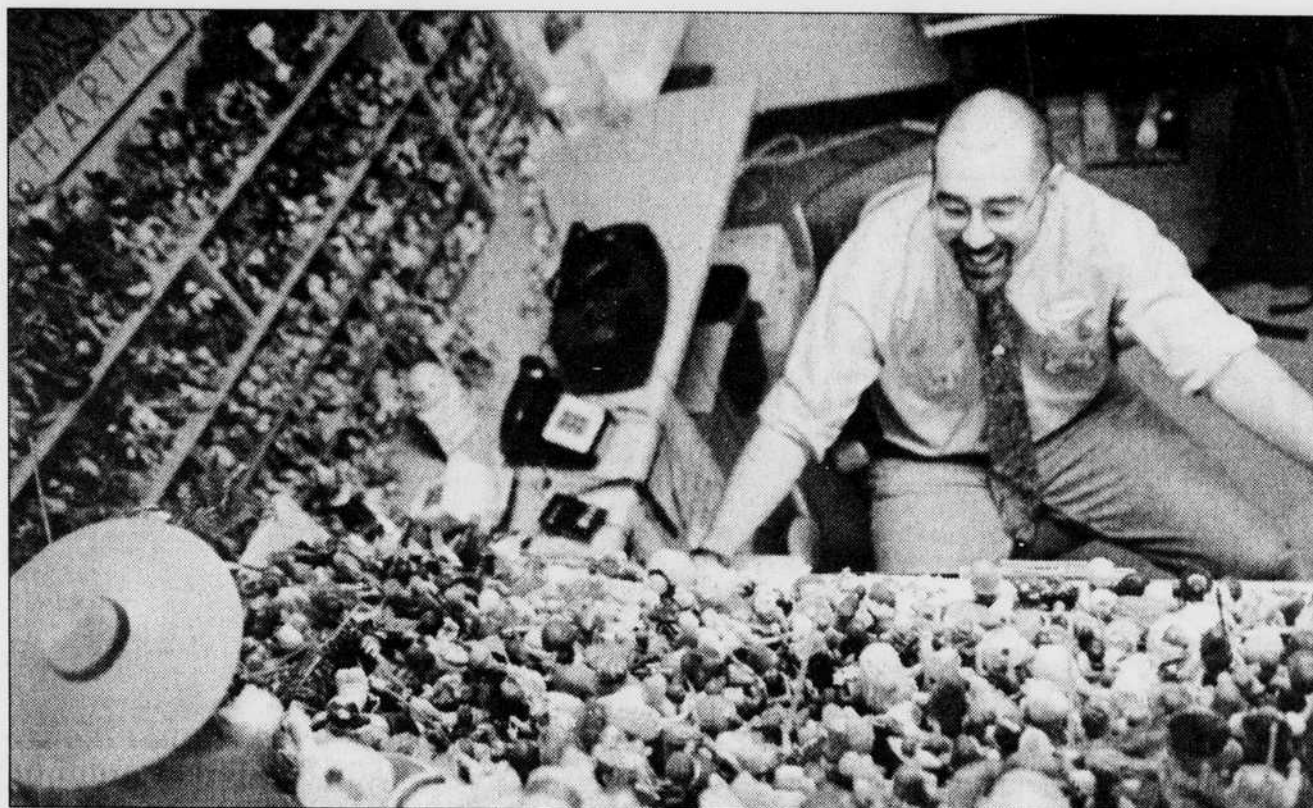
Today
Mostly cloudy
High 66. Low 44.
Friday
Rain
High 65. Low 45.

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COMFORT IN NUMBERS



Stephen Onaclea has hundreds of toys surrounding his desk in the copy center at Knight Library.

AMANDA COWAN/Emerald

A Toy Story

An extensive toy collection helps Stephen Onaclea feel comfortable in his copy center office

By Tricia Duryee
Community Reporter

It's a window, but it's anything but transparent.

The collection of hundreds of knick-knacks that line the cubicle walls of Stephen Onaclea's office in the Knight Library Copy Center are his only portal to the outside world.

"This is my window," said Onaclea, referring to a display of toys that are hidden behind the two partitions that set his area apart from the rest of the room.

The copy center sells copy cards and exchanges dollars for change.

"Copiers are very impersonal," he said. "The toys calm [customers] down and humanize the situation."

The only toys seen from the counter are the ones sitting on top of the cubicle walls and the ledge of the bulletin boards. However, behind the scenes, Onaclea has a much more extensive range of toys that stand side by side on the top of numerous CD shelves.

Onaclea started his collection after the library renovation process a few years ago. Before his office had been what he considered a closet, where his walls were covered

Turn to TOYS, Page 6

"It's
turned into
a sort of
obsession."

Stephen Onaclea
Copy center
coordinator

UO learning how to cope with tragedy

Students, faculty and staff are finding different ways to deal with the Thurston High School shooting

By Nicole Krueger
Managing Editor

The day students were shot at Thurston High School, University freshman Laura Saffer was taking a walk, trying to collect her thoughts on the matter.

"My first reaction to the shooting was shock and then disbelief," she said. "It brought into question why, and how, and whose fault is it? I knew something needed to be done. People needed to come together, students especially, and deal with this," she said.

Saffer, who is involved with the Newman Center, the campus' Catholic ministry, decided to organize an interfaith prayer meeting on campus to give students and community members a chance to do exactly that.

"God told me to do it," she said. As a result, Saffer briefly addressed a handful of students and community members Wednesday in the EMU Fir Room about what the community can take away from the Thurston tragedy.

"A change needs to be made, and it has to come from within," she said. "It starts with individuals, and then it moves up into the community." Saffer then introduced Christian Science practitioner Kay Olson, who spoke about dealing with bereavement and finding strength in God's love.

Saffer's prayer meeting was one of the many ways University students, faculty and staff have dealt with the tragedy that has thrust Springfield into the national spotlight.

"I think all of us as individuals have been affected by it one way or another," said Wes Morel, dean of student life.

Drop-in visits at the Counseling Center have been unusually high since the shooting, he said, as students affected by the incident in a multitude of ways have come in to talk about their reactions. Some have found that the shooting has caused previous losses to

Turn to REACTION, Page 4

Measure 53's supporters may mount another attack on '50/50' rule

Opponents of the double-majority rule say they may challenge it in the state's next legislative session

By Michael Burnham
Community Editor

Proponents of Oregon's double-majority rule are hoping their opposition got the message loud and clear in the May 19 primary:

"Oregon voters want the double-majority rule here to stay."

That might be easier said than done, however, as some supporters of failed Ballot Measure 53 say there may be yet another challenge to the rule in future elections.

When the 1997 state Legislature created Ballot Measure 53 to repeal the current "double-majority" rule in passing property-tax measures, Measure 53's proponents believed the double-majority rule would be struck down in its third time before voters.

The double-majority rule — also dubbed

the "50/50 rule" — was twice given the thumbs up when voters passed Measure 47 in 1996 and Measure 50 in 1997. The measures amended the Oregon Constitution to require a 50 percent or greater margin of voter participation to pass certain property-tax measures. The requirement was then coupled with the standard of a majority vote requirement.

Going into the May 19 primary, Measure 53 had the bipartisan backing of many of Oregon's top politicians.

But Oregonians voted, 51 percent to 49 percent, to strike down Measure 53.

One of the chief individuals in the campaign against Measure 53 was Republican gubernatorial candidate Bill Sizemore of Oregon Taxpayers United.

According to Sizemore's executive assistant, Becky Miller, opponents of the measure were not surprised that it failed, de-

spite early election results showing greater support for the measure.

Miller said she expected a larger number of voters to oppose the measure and that she was confident it would fail even as soon as election night.

"We knew the absentees would swing the vote our way the first night," she said.

Miller said she hopes Measure 53's supporters will not challenge the double-majority standard for a fourth time in future elections.

But according to Eric Endicott, campaign coordinator for Measure 53, he and other opponents of the double-majority standard may attempt to mount yet another challenge in the next legislative session.

"Until the Legislature starts up again, it's sort of a dead issue," he said. However, he

Turn to VOTERS, Page 3

"We knew the absentees would swing the vote our way the first night."

Becky Miller
Bill Sizemore's
executive assistant