

# Campus Life

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## Week of Welcome

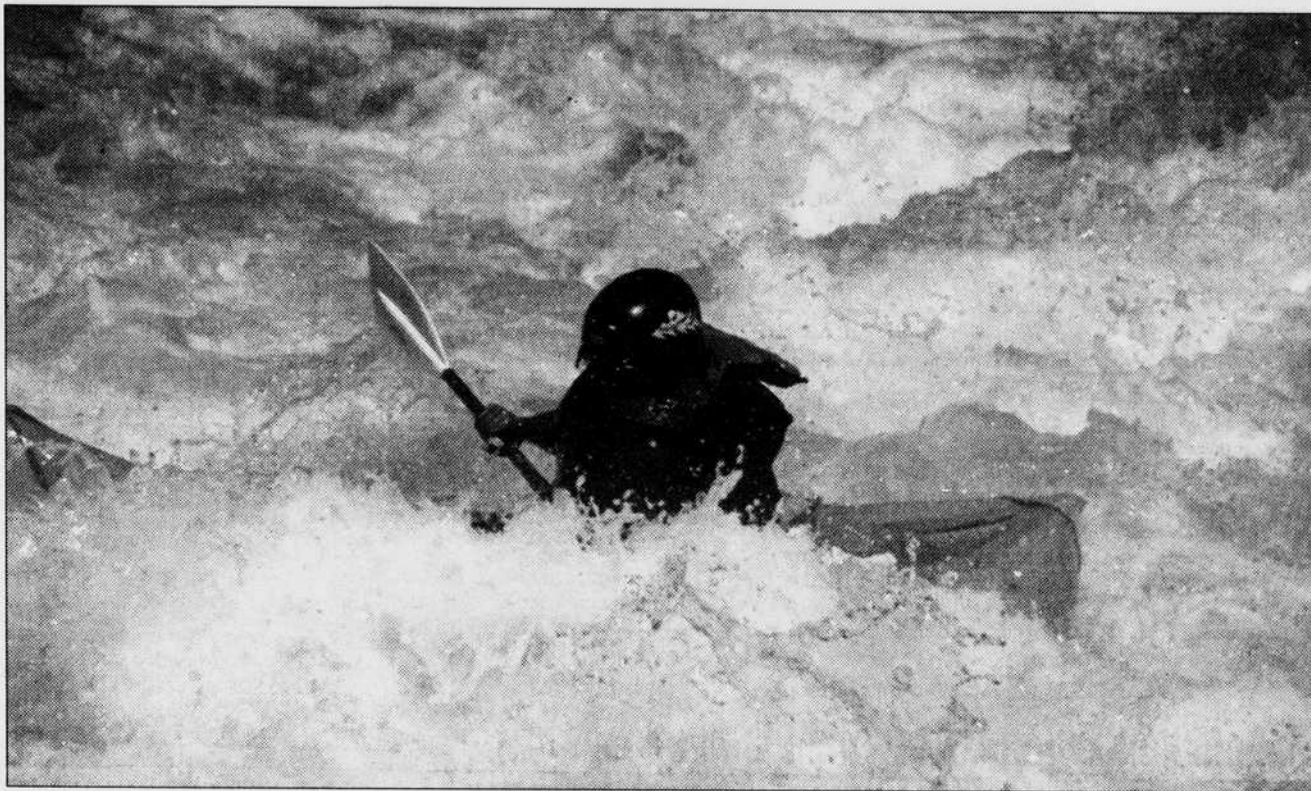
The University offers a variety of programs to incoming students, orienting them with campus/18B

## Child care

University Family Housing runs a co-op child care to help student-parents/7B



## RAPID ADRENALINE



COURTESY/Outdoor Program

From local mountain climbs to exotic kayak trips, students can plan it all at the Outdoor Program.

## Tripping with the Outdoor Program

The program facilitates more than 300 outings each year, from hiking to rafting to mountain climbing

By Stefanie Knowlton  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Metolius River in Eastern Oregon is so cold that even in the middle of summer it's only 38 degrees. This is where 12 Outdoor Program adventurers were looking for excitement, and they found it.

Coming around a bend, rafters spotted a huge tree that lay across the length of the river and directly in their path. Despite the rafters' efforts to divert the boats, the river was too fast and the banks were too high to pull the boats out of danger.

Pinned to the fallen tree, one boat almost didn't make it.

"I had some very scary moments trying to count heads," said Dan Geiger, associate coordinator of the Outdoor Program.

However, everyone made it through to plan future adventures with the Outdoor Program.

Geiger said he believes that in outdoor sports you have to take the good with the bad.

"Certainly outdoor sports have certain risks associated with them. I think that you'll find that when you get together with a group of people and many of them are strangers and you go through an experience like that, it's amazing how it draws people together," Geiger said.

Established in 1967, the University's Outdoor Program is one of the oldest of its kind.

And according to Sports Afield magazine, it is the best university outdoor program nationwide.

Geiger believes this is due to the freedom students are given at the University's Outdoor Program. "What is great about our program is that it has such an open philosophy. Anyone can come in and plan a trip," Geiger said.

Students should not be intimidated by the program because most of the trips cater to a beginner's level.

"At OP, it is not make the summit or die. It's more like make the summit or sit down and have lunch," Geiger explained.

The OP is designed on a cooperative model, and any student is allowed to initiate a trip or participate. For every trip, however,

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## Groups try to fill void in activism

Environmental organizations are feeling the loss of OSPIRG as a statewide voice for change

By Peter Breaden  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Eugene's activist reputation welcomes many newcomers.

In this town, people don't just hug trees, they climb all over them. Still, many students confess ignorance when it comes to the specifics of environmental organizations. Is it because the activist spirit is willing and the ambition is weak? Or is the college town's touted environmental awareness just that — an unsubstantiated reputation?

When OSPIRG was denied funding last spring, campus was left with a lack of visible options for environmental campaigns.

"Getting information out on a statewide level, that's a void that we're really feeling," said Merriah Fairchild, OSPIRG state board chair.

"We need to have a statewide program," she said, adding that the Oregon University System is also missing "a student voice statewide."

Fairchild is currently working with Oregon Student Association on the Northwest Leadership Conference, a gathering of around 400 students. Throughout OSA, Fairchild said, voter registration is a priority project.

"That was something that OSPIRG was really keen on doing. It's difficult to continue that without the same capacity," she said. "We have other environmental groups on campus but the truth is that, right in our backyard, the Willamette River is one of the dirtiest in the country. Tests showed chloroform, arsenic, lead, and benzene [polluting the river]."

The absence of OSPIRG may lead students to notice environmentally based political campaigns, including third parties such as the Campus Greens, which is an offshoot of the statewide Pacific Party.

The Campus Greens do not expect to place candidates in office, said Michael Olson, a

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## EMU renovation culminates 10-year planning effort

A few 'dream designs' were sacrificed in order to keep the project on budget

By Amy Goldhammer  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The new EMU renovation, which is finally finished blocking off chunks of the building and producing a large amount of noise, now welcomes the campus community after its many years of planning and preparation.

The EMU renovation has been planned since 1988, said Susan Racette, EMU business manager and associate director.

In 1995, the user group, consisting of EMU staff, students from the EMU Board of Directors and faculty members, was granted \$4.2 million from student union funding by the Oregon University System, which was called the Oregon State System of Higher Education at the time.

"We had a professional market survey team come out and tell us what should be added and what should be taken away," Racette said.

The survey was a statistically correct random sampling of all users on campus.

The results of the survey revealed the Fishbowl should become a more modern food court with a wide variety of food choices, Racette said. The survey found a high desire among the campus community for a coffee house.

"In terms of the recreation areas, we found that students were not too enthusiastic about bowling anymore," Racette said.

The user group began to dream and design, EMU director Dusty Miller said.

"We came up with grand dreams," Miller said. "We started matching dreams to reality."

The group used the results to expand the arcade and billiards area as well as excavating and putting in The Buzz, Racette said. The Fishbowl now includes Subway, Holy Cow, The Greatful Bread and the Market-

place, which will feature a different local vendor each day of the week. The Marketplace luncheonettes include Bento Brothers, Samurai Duck, Noodles etc., India House and Ritta's Burritos.

"Many of these vendors are from the Saturday market, which should draw people in," Racette said.

EMU officials say the changes will leave a lasting mark on the building.

"We took the results and turned them into concepts," Racette said.

The group hired the architectural firm of McBride/Seder Associated Architects and the interior design team of Czopek & Erdenberger to help conceive what the facility should look like, Miller said.

Research was done in regards to what the students wanted the environment to look

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Dusty Miller  
EMU director