

PERSPECTIVES

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Freshman experience goes beyond classes

A quick guide for new students on what they can expect at and around the University during their time here

Finally. The last parent has shuffled back home with several rolls of film and a T-shirt that reads "My money and my kid go to the University of Oregon." By now you've probably recovered from your bookstore bill and discovered the agony (for some, the ecstasy) of communal showers. Now you just need to figure out the finer points of University life.

Or maybe you've just returned to campus after a frenzied spring departure, only to discover that you don't remember what classes you're taking, your old roommate and stereo are in New Guinea, and your bike is not where you left it. Memories of last year's construction and campus controversies are probably a bit fuzzy.

Opinion



Kameron Cole

Whether you are a freshman or grizzled UO veteran, odds are you could benefit from a quick campus primer. So allow me to take your hand and gently guide you through this tree-lined labyrinth we call the University of Oregon. We should probably walk because we'll never find a place to park. All set? Let's go.

We'll start with the newly renovated and ever-confusing Erb Memorial Union.

You probably have some questions, like "Does this staircase go any-

where?" The EMU, depending on your perspective, is either the hub of campus life or a vortex of despair. The building is home to most of the high-profile student groups on campus. Getting involved in one of those groups offers not only a chance to make an impact on campus, but also to witness the occasional power struggle. The snazzy new coffeehouse and long-awaited food upgrades promise to draw even more students into the web of intrigue.

The EMU Amphitheater, completed last year, is sure to attract a wide range of diverse and controversial viewpoints: things that have never been scarce at the University. For example, it's likely that some time this fall you will be regaled by the vocal stylings of "Bible Jim." For the uninitiated, it's simply something that has to be experienced firsthand, so I won't ruin it for you. But be watching — and listening.

Forget everything you've read in those college guidebooks. The fact is that there's no particular trick to muddling through your time at the University. Sometimes you'll be stressed, and sometimes you'll be content. Sometimes you will be overwhelmed, and sometimes you will be amazed. And you won't necessarily have control over when and where. Just use your best judgment and try to relax. After all, it's just life.

Kameron Cole is an editorial editor for the Emerald. Her views do not necessarily represent those of the newspaper.

From coffee to tie-dye to rainy days, some things just can't be escaped in Eugene

It's the first day of classes. It's the first day of fall term. It's the first day without vacation. But it's not the University's fault.

Almost as certain as death and taxes, school must start in September. Yet it's Oregon's most tie-dyed town, not the University, that will offer the most practical lessons of your college career.

Eugene's first instruction is basic knowledge: coffee is king. A walk down 13th Avenue will prove just

that. Aside from the obligatory Starbucks and Coffee People, the street is home to several local percolators for an emergency java jolt. This lesson will be repeated throughout the year. After all, coffee can stunt your growth and tan your teeth, but how many people will drink just one?

With caffeine in hand, students are ready to tackle the next lesson. Sports Afield magazine recently named the University the best all-around campus for outdoor adventure and wilderness excursions. This distinction is well-deserved; Eugene has one of the nation's best biking systems, and its local hiking and rafting opportunities are second to none.

Of course, the magazine fails to mention that Eugene is water-logged for most of the year.

Opinion



Jonas Allen

The outdoors are tempting, but even seasoned adventurers pack an umbrella or raincoat. It's not really a Eugene thing; rain is more of an Oregon trait. But if the city teaches students one thing before graduation, it's "have coat, will travel."

Eugene will leave no stone unturned for its next lesson: construction is inevitable; plan ahead. Traffic delays provide a cru-

cial demonstration in time management and patience. To ensure that we master these skills, Eugene crews are scheduled to work for at least two more years — but please learn quickly.

The city's final words of wisdom come directly from its amphibious expert, "Frog." His joke books are simple, but so is his message: humor is key for survival. College is an adventure, and so is Eugene. If students can't learn to laugh at both, it could be a long year.

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Emerald breaks out new look for its 100th anniversary

With the start of a new year, we have a new Oregon Daily Emerald. One that is now 100 years old.

Unless you are sleepwalking your way to an 8 a.m. class, you noticed our biggest change right away — our new look.

This being a monumental year for the Emerald, we wanted to do something special. We wanted a new nameplate that reflected our independent status and conveyed a sense of history.

The new design is a near-replica of the Emerald's nameplate from the late 1920s and mid-30s. The only real change is the seal. The University's seal was previously located where the new one now is. Because the Emerald became independent from

the University in the 1971, we felt a change was needed.

Inside the Emerald



Ryan Frank

several companies before establishing his current one-man operation called LogoMotives in Portland.

Jeff Fisher, an Emerald alumnus, created the new nameplate design and seal.

Fisher, 42, graduated from the University in 1980 and spent his last two years working at the Emerald as a graphic designer in the advertising department. After leaving the University, he worked for several

companies, including the Seattle Seahawks and a number of international corporations.

The Emerald's seal is designed to reflect our status as an independent campus newspaper in the state of Oregon. In one of the eagle's claws is a scroll, representing academia, and in the other is a quill, representing newsgathering and writing. Behind the eagle is an outline of Mount Hood, Oregon's most popular recreational mountain, which is an hour east of Portland.

To complement Fisher's design, our graphics staff spent last week designing the new look. News art editor Matt Garton headed up our redesign.

However, the Emerald's appearance is not the only change this year.

You will also find changes, not all of them in this issue, in our content and coverage. We have added a second editorial illustrator and two in-depth reporters and improved our postgame packaging of Oregon football coverage on Mondays.

A redesign of the Emerald Web site (darkwing.uoregon.edu/~ode) by online editor Jake Ortman and webmaster Broc Nelson is one of our long-term goals. The redesign is set to launch sometime during winter term.

Welcome to the new Emerald. We hope you like what you see and read.

Ryan Frank is the Emerald's editor in chief.



Giovanni Salimena/Emerald

Thumbs



TO NO MORE DISTURBING CALLS AT DINNER: A Midwestern telephone company has developed a caller ID system requiring "unavailable" calls to identify themselves. Recent tests show most business callers hang up before getting through to households.

TO JULIANA KEISER: The Junction City woman was not forced to pay a \$45 fine for feeding stray cats in the city's downtown area.



TO PENTAGON SECURITY: A malfunctioning barrier in the Pentagon driveway slammed into the limousine of several Japanese diplomats, injuring defense minister Fukushiro Nukaga and five others.

TO JUNCTION CITY POLICE AND CITY COUNCIL: Feeding a hungry cat is not worth a legal battle in the first place.

LETTERS POLICY

The Oregon Daily Emerald will attempt to print all letters containing comments on topics of interest to the University community. Letters must be limited to 250 words. The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length, clarity, grammar, style and libel. Letters may be dropped off at EMU Suite 300.