

Oregon Daily Emerald



Weather forecast

Today Rain High 53, Low 40
 Saturday Rain High 53, Low 46

Oscar picks

Find out who would win the '99 awards if the Emerald were in charge / PAGE 5A



March Madness

The Oregon women's basketball team opens NCAA Tournament play today at 4 p.m. against Cincinnati / SECTION B

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A moment in the sun



While getting ready for finals, junior Rob Byars, among many others, spent the beautiful afternoon basking in the sun on the Knight Library lawn.

Auction benefits homeless

The University president and several coaches are on the event's honorary committee

By Felicity Ayles

Oregon Daily Emerald

Joe DiMaggio's spirit lives on at Lane Shelter Care's Benefit Celebrity Auction on March 14 at Lane County Fairgrounds. The auction features an encased baseball autographed by the sports legend, as well as more than 200 items from celebrities in television, film and the arts.

Lane Shelter Care sent out more than 1,200 letters to various celebrities this year and, as usual, ended up with a favorable response, said Mary Bunch, auction database manager.

"We have lots and lots of celebrity memorabilia," she said.

These items include an autographed photo of Susan Sarandon, a Jackie Chan poster and a book by Dr. Laura Schlesinger.

In addition to celebrity items, the auction also features household goods, sporting goods and children's items, Bunch said.

"We have over 1,000 items donated by local businesses," she said. "You name it, we have an incredible variety of things."

Of the celebrity memorabilia, 30 items will be sold by oral auction at the fairgrounds from 2 to 5 p.m., whereas the rest of the items will be part of the silent auction at the same location. Bunch said she hopes these items will raise more than \$500 each.

Bunch said Lane Shelter Care has already received a major bid for the Joe DiMaggio baseball, but can only accept bids during the auction.

This year, as in each of the auction's three previous years, honorary committee members, who are local celebrities, are lending their names to the auction.

"The honorary committee is known by name and that helps to get the attention of celebrities," she said.

University President Dave Frohnmayer,

Forum aims to help middle school girls

This weekend's "Success in the Middle" conference discusses 'evaded curriculum issues'

By Sarah Kickler
 for the Emerald

A keynote speech tonight by an organizer of Take Our Daughters to Work Day kicks off the "Success in the Middle" conference, which aims to offer support for middle school girls and the adults who care for them.

"The goal is to address what the AAUW [American Association of University Women] study calls the 'evaded curriculum' issues: substance abuse, early sexual

activity, violence, sexual harassment, body image, sticking with math and science in school and other issues that, if not addressed, lead to poor self-esteem, school performance and a limited future," said Jayne Mickles, one of the conference's organizers.

The conference begins tonight at 7 p.m. with "Girls' Night Out" and continues Saturday with conference workshops and performances.

Tonight's "Girls' Night Out" events, sponsored by PeaceHealth Medical Group, include performances by Encore Theater, a group of retired community women, and Young Women's Theater Collective, a group of local high school girls.

The keynote speaker is Lisa Sjostrom, an expert on eating disorders. She will talk about healthy development and offer suggestions for preventing eating disorders and developing "bullyproof" girls, according to a news release.

Saturday workshops for girls and adults will be held concurrently in the EMU. Both groups will watch a performance by Ophelia Rising, a high school girls' theater group from Jackson County.

Adults will attend a panel discussion about ways to support girls during their middle school years. After lunch, adults can attend "At the Movies," a mother-daughter

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Turn to AUCTION, Page 4A

Most personal computers will not be affected by Y2K

Home users with concerns can go to any of the numerous Web sites that have information on the Y2K bug

By G. Jaros
 Oregon Daily Emerald

Home, home on the computer — where the nerd and the Webmaster play — and where seldom is heard a discouraging word — about the bug they call Y2K.

Y2K is the bug that computer date systems are going to run into at the turn of the century. Four-digit dates such as 1985 were often saved as 85 to conserve memory space.

"Mostly, there's no cause for concern," said Chad Giusti, a microcomputer consultant at the University Computing Center. "It's a nonissue for newer home computers, say for 1995 on."

For computers made before about 1995, there might be a possibility of a problem, al-

though 99 percent of home applications won't be affected in the least, Giusti said. Older computers may experience minor difficulties because the industry was slow to upgrade the standards.

"The worst thing that will happen to home users is you pop on your computer and it will say Tuesday instead of Friday and your tax program might say you are a hundred years late on your payment," Giusti said.

The primary Y2K issue surrounding PCs is older hardware, but most of these issues are well known to hardware makers, so if people have concerns the best thing to do is contact the hardware maker, Giusti said.

Students were not too concerned about having problems with their PCs.

"I've been pondering the worldwide banking concerns more than my home computer," said Chris Geib, a junior political science major. He just bought a new Dell laptop and the manufacturer didn't say anything about any problems, he said.

Dell-developed computers and software that were shipped after Jan. 1, 1997, are Year 2000 compliant, according to Dell's online Y2K information Web site. With older software, the company recommends contacting the software maker.

One student was confident that her computer would have no problems.

"I have a Macintosh, so Y2K doesn't affect me," said Cedar Rossini, a senior humanities major.



This series will delve into the questions and concerns surrounding the new millennium.

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