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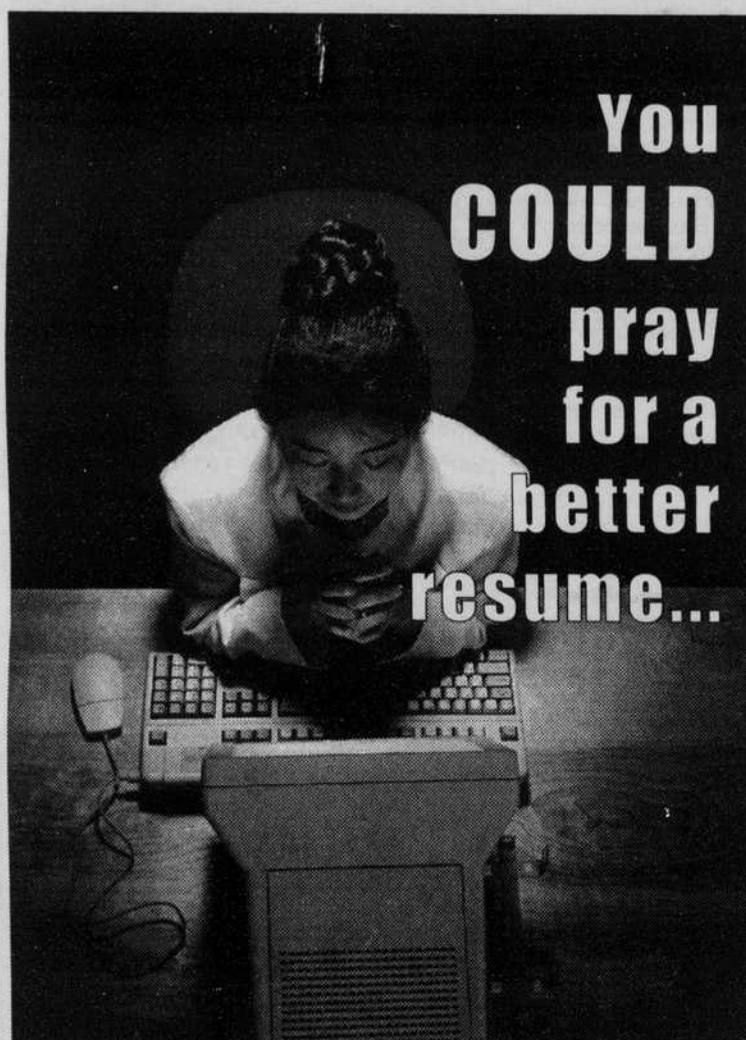
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Kids

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needs of their fellow students," said Dennis Reynolds, child care coordinator. "But most of the campus community doesn't see them. They're nearly invisible. Those kids do exist in the daily lives of their classmates."

People should be aware that more and more students are returning to school with children, but most programs aren't designed to meet their needs, Wheeler said.

Mary McAllister, an EMU preschool teacher, echoed Wheeler's sentiments and added that the group wanted other people to know how important children are.

Kocian, a pre-business major, said having child care services available was an important factor when she decided to return to school.

"You feel more at ease," Kocian said. "If something happens you're just a few minutes away."

Wheeler said 10 percent of the campus community has kids. Student parents face different obstacles than other students.

"Sometimes, a student may have a final scheduled at 5:30 p.m. when their class may actually be at 9 a.m. and no one realizes there's no child care at 5:30," Wheeler said.

Reynolds said there are seven different child care programs. Within the EMU program, two classes of kids from the brown house and the green house were represented in the parade. There were also children present from the Vivian Child Care Center.

Including the cooperative living residences, there can be as many as 300 children in child care on any given day, Reynolds said.



Children are pulled in a wagon in the parade honoring the 'Week of the Young Child' Friday morning.

EWEB

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on campus.

"The big problem with wind power is that it's very erratic," physics professor Greg Bothun said.

But Hamilton said customers will not be left without energy if not enough is generated through wind.

"If the wind dies down in Wyoming, we will get energy from other sources," she said.

Bothun said another concern is the high price of wind power. According to informational booklets distributed by EWEB, customers who want to receive 100 percent of their energy from wind will pay \$30.90 more per month.

"There's a lot of barriers to alternative energy," Bothun said. "There isn't as much an incentive in the Pacific Northwest to pursue them because we already have the lowest energy costs in the nation."

Hamilton agrees that the high prices will be a barrier to overcome, but she said the benefits of wind power outweigh its problems.

"The wind generation is the cleanest available," she said.

Billy Nachran, co-director of the solar information center, said he believes the prices for conven-

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Greg Bothun
Physics professor

tional forms of energy will go up as consumers will be required to shoulder more of the burdens associated with the retrieval and transportation of energy.

"Eventually the prices will even out and renewable forms of energy may be cheaper," he said.

If alternative forms of energy are the way of the future, EWEB says it will be ready for the change.

Hamilton said EWEB is also looking at alternative forms of energy such as solar power.

"We're keeping an eye on it," she said. "If something comes up and looks like an opportunity,

we'll take a look at it."

Nachran said he hopes alternative energy sources will be pursued in the future.

"If we start to take tiny steps, renewable energy sources such as solar and wind will eventually reach the mainstream," he said.

But Bothun said he is skeptical about how alternative energy sources, at least in the case of wind, can be translated into providing power for a large amount of people. In the case of Oregon, Bothun said it would take 20,000 wind turbines to provide enough power for the whole state.

"On a large scale, it's not sensible," he said.

Tom Pinit, a graduate student in environmental studies, said he agrees that alternative energy will be difficult to pursue because of the overhead costs involved.

"It will be difficult to switch everyone on the power grid over to wind," he said.

However, despite the problems with alternative energy, Nachran said he is optimistic about the success of EWEB's program.

"If the wind power program is going to work anywhere," he said, "it's going to work here because people have a strong focus about using alternative forms of energy."

Oregon Daily Emerald
Editor-in-Chief Summer 1999

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