

Oregon Daily Emerald

Weather forecast

Today Mostly Cloudy
High 74, Low 54

Wednesday Showers/sun
High 75, Low 53

Fun in the outdoor sun

The Outdoor Program allows students to plan their own trips and rent equipment at discount rates/PAGE 5A

Out with the old ... almost

A new affiliation, manager and team has not changed the Emeralds' losing ways so far/PAGE 5A

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ONE STEP at a TIME

In search of self-discovery, a Eugene woman sets off to walk with crutches across the country

By Sara Lieberth
Oregon Daily Emerald

Karen Daly believes the lessons life teaches are best understood when one's whole being gets involved in the learning. Meshing the physical with the emotional, Daly's work in art, dance and as a nurse during the last few decades has been a testament to that belief.

After losing her leg to bone cancer at age 11, Daly spent the next 20 years with the lower half of her body encased in a cumbersome prosthetic device. In the early 1980s, she discovered a group of amputees in Boston that encouraged activity without prosthetics, and after an eight-month trial without it, she left the artificial leg behind for good.

"I don't think of myself as missing anything," she said.

With the aid of crutches, Daly has been actively dancing, teaching and performing since "freeing" herself from the past and its limitations.

"I felt like I got my body back," she said.

Daly, 47, moved to Eugene in 1994 after participating in a week-long Dance-Ability workshop held here. She has since become involved in teaching and performing movement and traveling to Cypress and Switzerland with Alito Alessi, the group's director.

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Catharine Kendall/Emerald
Karen Daly, a Eugene resident, stands on her deck Monday before beginning her cross-country trek.

New bill focuses on college funds

Gov. Kitzhaber is expected to sign a bill that could help ease the burden of funding a college education

By Sara Jarrett
Oregon Daily Emerald

Struggling to pay for school? Wish you had some help?

Imagine if your parents set up a college fund for you when your idea of the future was nothing more than deciding on what toy to play with next.

Not too out of the ordinary.

What if the fund was tax-free?

Under Senate Bill 756, Oregonians now have the option of setting up a tax-deferred, higher-education savings plan for their children or other relatives.

Gov. John Kitzhaber has not yet signed the bill, but "his staff is really supportive of it," said legislative assistant Shannon McSwain. "We hope to get a public bill signing, though it's not scheduled yet."

Other efforts are being made to relieve the burden of college expenses for students right now. On Thursday, the U.S. Department of Education announced three new discounts for student fees on direct loans. Under the Direct Loan Program, students borrow money for college and other post-secondary education directly from the federal government through their schools.

"Currently, the average in-state student attending a public university in Oregon will graduate with a debt between \$15,000 and

Senate Bill 756

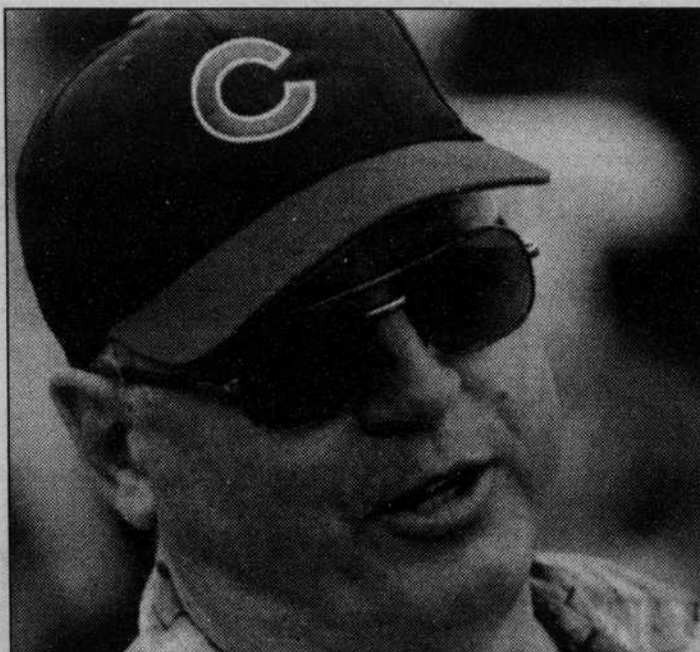
The bill, pending the signature of Gov. Kitzhaber, will help parents save for their children's higher education by setting up a tax-deferred savings plan.

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Locals embrace 'lovable' Cubs' new connection to Eugene

"Everybody loves the Cubs because it's been so many years since [they] won anything."

Tom Clark
Ems/Cubs fan



Tom Clark sports a Chicago Cubs cap at Civic Stadium on Sunday afternoon.

Catharine Kendall/Emerald

The Chicago Cubs are the new parent club to Eugene's Class-A baseball team, the Emeralds

By Jack Clifford
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Eugene Emeralds wasted no time paying tribute to their new major league affiliate club, the Chicago Cubs. Yet, despite getting swept during a season-opening homestand, players and fans alike are pumped about the connection to baseball's longtime losers.

"Everybody loves the Cubs because it's been so many years since the Cubs won anything," said Tom Clark at Sunday's 6-5 Ems' loss, as he and some buddies prowled an area renowned at Wrigley Field for its Bleacher Bums. "This is our version of the left-field bleachers. We have everything you need — a beer stand right over there — and it's the best seat in the house, except you just have to stand up."

Clark has lived in Eugene for 16 years and is a regular at Civic Stadium to watch the

Emeralds. Even though he's never lived in Chicago, Clark said it seemed appropriate that he buy a Cubs' cap during a recent business trip to the Windy City, considering his hometown team's recent switch in parent clubs from Atlanta.

Jim Dunn and his wife Joanna did live in Chicago, for 10 years, and have been Eugene residents since 1993. They point out some parallels between games at Wrigley Field and Civic Stadium, such as the family atmosphere. But Joanna believes there is a lot more to the experience in Chicago.

"There's kind of like a spiritual energy at Wrigley Field because it's really old and it has the spirit of age," she said, while watching the Ems drop to 0-3. "When you go there, you feel that energy of ancient, old players and an ancient, old stadium."

The new players on the Ems' squad probably don't know much about ancient, spiritual energy. Most of them are just glad to be playing at any pro ballpark.

"This is professional baseball, so I don't

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