

Jack Roberts (left) and Ted Abram (right) are in the midst of a debate regarding education issues.

Debate

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tem," Abram rebutted.

The federal government's control of schools is the No. 1 problem, and competition for students would force schools to improve, according to Abram. "I'm arguing for excellence," Abram said. Roberts responded by admitting that Abram's plan might work if the school system didn't have 150 years of tradition behind it or if schools were really failing.

Hoop Mania

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"We really think that in the long-term it's going to be up and running as another major event for our community," Josephson said. "The important thing is that we were able to resurrect Hoop Mania and give it a permanent site and a permanent date."

The event is a fund-raiser for Young Life, said Papendieck, who became involved with the group through his kids. Net proceeds hit \$10,000 in 1997, he said, but the charitable aspect is just part of the event's appeal.

"I love that first day, when at 9 a.m. all of these games start at once and everybody's playing," Papendieck said. "It's just a lot of fun."

Besides the indoor courts, other changes are in store for Hoop Mania participants. Referees will be provided for every game, and each team is guaranteed five games, spanning the two days.

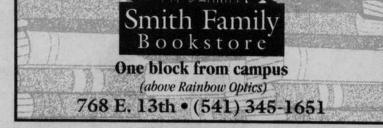
The teams are separated into divisions, based on age and size,

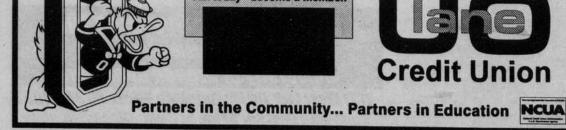
with round-robin play on the first day, then elimination contests Sunday. Games are played to 20 points or 20 minutes, whichever comes first.

"The nice thing about threeon-three basketball is that it's less structured," said Josephson, who has been involved with Hoop Mania in the past as a volunteer.

Ex-Ducks have prowled the courts during past years, said Papendieck, and teams with University connections make up a sizable portion of the entrants.







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