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Breakfast

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man majoring in mathematics and computer science. Dean came from La Cañada, Calif., where she attended a catholic school with only 400 students.

Salz said she was worried about her daughter's transition into the University. Last week, she attended class with Dean, went to the Homecoming football game and visited the recreation center during her visit here. Salz said she enjoyed seeing how students and teachers interact with each other in classes.

Jim Bailey, father of freshman Eric Bailey, who is from Tualatin, Ore., said he likes the location of

the University, where his son can live independently but still close to home. He also said he is happy that his son made the choice to get involved in a campus organization. Eric is now the vice president of the Residence Hall Association.

Faculty members also attended the meeting to answer parents' questions.

Laura Blake Jones, associate dean of student life, said parents of freshmen usually are concerned more about University issues than parents of older students.

Moseley talked about the changes in the University over the years and mentioned that the University has been labeled as a "best-buy" university in the na-

tion. He also mentioned the University's high international student enrollment.

Moseley also relieved some parents' concerns about the University's ranking. He said although U.S. News & World Report ranked the University in the second tier, the academic quality of the University is among the top 30 universities in the nation.

"It's wonderful to see parents and students together on the parents' weekend," he said. "I enjoy meeting a lot of them."

He said the University wants to continue to give parents an opportunity to come to campus and visit their children, while learning more about the University at the same time.

Millennium

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ment where the wrong date could result in the loss of money."

Individual computer users

The computing center is not responsible for the Y2k preparedness of personal desktop computers or the computer systems in most of the individual departments, said Hervey Allen, microcomputer support specialist.

It would be "beyond overwhelming" to check each of the estimated 8,000 desktop computers on campus, he said.

"It's the user's responsibility to be prepared," Allen said.

Most departments have their own computer specialists who have been preparing the computers for any potential Y2K problem.

The University's Microcomputer Support Center offers free advice for students and faculty with questions about any computing problems they may face because of Y2K.

"The general feeling is that if a machine is two-years-old or older, it's worth checking [for Y2K compliance]," Allen said. "It's not going to hurt you to test it."

"Everybody should read the material on the Duckware CD-ROM or on the Web to get general ideas about what to check," he said.

The University has a Y2K readiness Web site that can be ac-

cessed from the University Home Page. The Duckware CD-ROM contains information and everything needed to run Y2K compliance tests.

Student information system

Other critical computer systems, including payroll and financial aid, have been reviewed and are reported ready for Y2K.

The student information systems that contain transcripts and other vital information are without problems, said Herbert Chereck, University registrar.

"The database is not restricted by date. We could put in 2010 now and the program would read 2010, not 1910," Chereck said.

As the year continues, more internal auditing is being done to check for any date specific components that may be affected by the Y2K bug, he said.

The Office of the Registrar plans to back up the entire student information system in late December. All information will be maintained in case there is any problem, he said.

Chereck recommends that students print a hard copy of their transcripts. This can be done via DuckWeb.

"It's a good habit to get into regardless of the Y2K situation," he said.

Facilities

Physical systems on campus such as electricity and steam generators, door locks and elevators have also been tested and updated for Y2K compliance, said Alan Smith, business manager for Facilities Services.

These systems contain microchips that, depending on their age, may experience problems similar to those of older computer systems.

Controls for the University's boilers, which create steam heat for the campus, have been replaced. Elevators have been inspected and are believed to be safe, Smith said.

Any possible interruption to electricity service will be monitored by extra staff at the University's Central Power Station.

"There are some things that can be done to mitigate in the short term if there is a bump [in electricity service]," Smith said.

The University is acquiring extra diesel generators to maintain power to essential areas in the event of an interruption of electricity service, he said.

The swipe card and code lock systems on some doors in the science complex and residence halls have been certified Y2K compliant by their manufacturers, said Tom Hicks, associate director of the University Office of Public Safety.

Several extra OPS officers will be on duty on New Year's Eve to secure any doors that fail and deal with other problems that may occur, he said.

Administrators in many departments plan to be in contact with universities on the East Coast, which will enter the year 2000 three hours before the University. This will allow them to anticipate problems by learning from the experiences of other universities.

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