

Outdoor Program offers piles of winter fun

■ From skiing, to snow camping, to telemarking — the OP has it all

By Lindsay Buchele
Oregon Daily Emerald

As soon as the snow starts to fall over Oregon's mountains, the University's Outdoor Program will help penny-pinching college students get to the slopes.

Whether a student is a die-hard skier or a beginning snow camper, the OP will provide trips for as little as

\$6, OP co-director Dan Geiger said. "We provide a pretty inexpensive way to get to the mountains," he said. "Our vans are safe, good snow rigs. It's just a safer way to go."

The trips to the mountains will take place every weekend, including Friday day trips, as soon as the ski areas open, Geiger said. Skiing, snowboarding, telemarking, snowshoeing and snow camping are among the activities the OP supports during the winter season. Geiger said the OP also provides information about ski conditions and cabin rentals.

"Our traditional trips are usually to Mount Bachelor," he said. "But we also take trips to back-country cabins in Bend and Tilly Jane."

Back-country trips are better for cross-country skiing and telemarking, OP trips facility manager Ed Fredette said, but have also attracted students wanting to try snowshoeing.

"Last year, snowshoeing was really popular," Fredette said. "There are groups who will go to Diamond Peak and climb with their snowshoes and then snowboard down."

Another popular back-country excursion is snow camping. This entails digging snow caves and spending the night, Geiger said.

OP associate coordinator Suzanne Hanlon said student-initiated trips usually occur during the holiday season.

"The trips can include skiers of all ability and skill levels," Hanlon said.

The OP also offers several clinics, including one on snow camping and another on avalanche awareness.

For students who want to ski for college credit, the University offers a physical education class each winter that takes students to Mount Bachelor for recreational and instructional skiing and snowboarding.

"The main focus of the class is skill development that will allow students to enjoy outdoor activity," OP co-director Michael Strong said.

The OP rents out vans and equipment, excluding skis, for students going on OP-sponsored trips and their own adventures.

Safety equipment is free to any student through the OP Safety Library, Fredette said. There are several Eugene businesses that rent ski and snowboarding equipment, and the OP will be hosting an equipment swap meet Friday at 7:30 p.m.

Snow Report Phone Numbers

- Hoodoo: 800-949-5438
- Mt. Bachelor: (541) 382-7888
- Timberline Lodge: (541) 222-2211
- Willamette Pass: (541) 345-7669
- Mt. Ashland: (541) 482-2754
- Mt. Hood Meadows: (541) 337-2222 ext. 201
- Weather Forecast: (541) 484-1200
- Berg's Ski Ship: (541) 683-1300

source: University Outdoor Program

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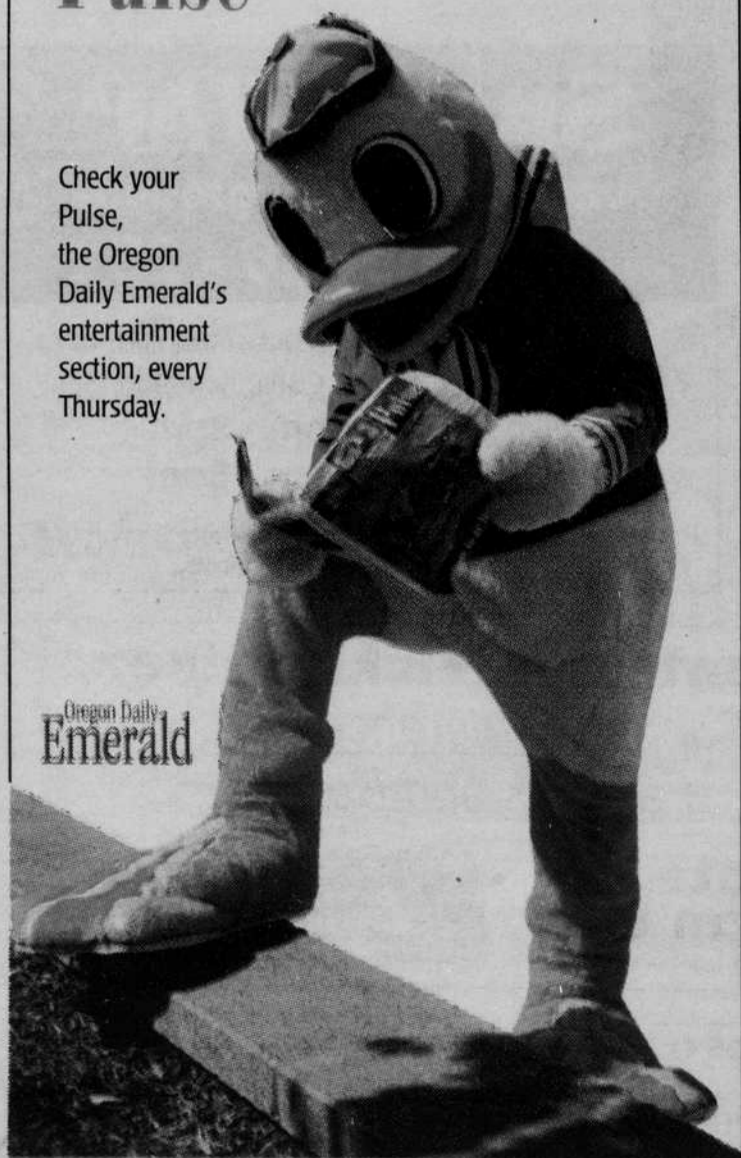
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Oregon Daily Emerald



Dan Brunell Emerald

As a part of the Weaving New Beginnings 2000 reception Tuesday, Chava Florendo dances with the Native American dance group, Dancing Spirit.

Long-serving faculty honored

■ The 2000 Weaving New Beginnings reception offers a special chance for students, staff and faculty to mingle

By Lisa Toth
Oregon Daily Emerald

For the fifth annual reception of Weaving New Beginnings, which took place Tuesday evening in the EMU Ballroom, special recognition was given to those faculty and staff of color who have worked at the University for at least seven years.

The event included entertainment by invited guests and food. The reception, coordinated by ASUO Multicultural advocate Nilda Brooklyn, facilitated introductions and created conversation between various groups.

In the spring of 1996, representatives from the ASUO, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, Counseling Center, Student Life, Housing, Academic Progress and the Race Task Force met to plan what later evolved into Weaving New Beginnings.

Every year the sponsors for the reception have grown in number to include student service departments, students unions, academic departments, student government and the general community.

"The purpose of the event is to welcome students, faculty and staff of color to our campus. This year we have chosen a number of people as faculty and staff who have been here seven years or longer," said Gwen Jansen, an administrator in the Counseling Center.

Jansen has been on the Weaving New Beginnings Planning Committee for five years and has seen the reception grow in attendance every year.

"It is just a place for people to put faces with allies," Jansen said.

ASUO Multicultural Center Director Erica Fuller, Assistant Dean for Diversity Programs Mark Tracy, Director of the Black Student Union Dominique Beaumonte and MCC

Programs Advocate Darlene Dadras served as the masters of ceremony for the reception. They honored the faculty and staff of color with carnations during the ceremony.

"We want to especially recognize faculty and staff who have been here for more than seven years and have really put their heart and souls into this institution," Tracy said during his opening address.

Lawrence Carter was one of the faculty members honored at the reception. Carter has worked in the sociology department at the University since 1973. Carter explained the struggle of students, faculty and staff of color have faced over the years, without many gains.

"Students are seen less as exotic tokens but as serious thinking individuals who have to develop their futures," Carter said.

Dr. Vivian Barnette, a senior staff psychologist at the Counseling Center attended the reception to support Dr. Robin Holmes, who will assume the position of director of the Counseling Center starting January. Barnette said she also came to the reception to meet people.

"I think it is important that students be at events like this because it helps you grow to learn to appreciate other cultures," said Juston Kearby, a junior business major.

Brandy Alexander, a junior journalism major and the public relations coordinator for the MCC came to Weaving New Beginnings along with Barnette to represent her sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha, which was established at Howard University in 1908. The sorority is the first African American sorority in America.

"I came tonight to support the students, faculty and staff of color here on campus and to mix and mingle and start the year off right by being here," Alexander said.

Academic Advisor Hilda Young was honored as the longest tenure faculty member on campus. Young enjoyed seeing so many women and people of color at the reception.

"When I first came here, we didn't even talk about people of color," Young said during her brief speech.

University President Dave Frohnmayer extended his thanks to the faculty and staff at the University who have at times endured lonely and hostile conditions. He congratulated those individuals for making a difference on campus through their efforts.

