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THE SURVIVAL CENTER wishes you a happy Earth Day!

GET INVOLVED!

If you care about the Earth, or what's left of it, come to the Survival Center and get active! Learn about how you can minimize your impact on the Earth, connect with others who care, change campus policies regarding environmental issues, or just learn about them. Earn internship credit!

----NOW HIRING!----

Food for Thought:

"The earth is not dying, it is being killed;
and those people have names and addresses."

Edward Abbey



Black & white and READ

all over campus

Oregon Daily Emerald

Conference organizers offer high H.O.P.E.S.

Guest Commentary Sarab Lehman

n 1994, dissatisfied with the extent to which ecological issues were integrated within their design education at the University of Oregon, a group of graduate students from the Department of Architecture set out to prove that the design arts can influence our perception of community and environment. The original organization of seven has now grown to a core group of 20 students who volunteer their time and energy throughout the year to envision and actualize the H.O.P.E.S. (Holistic Options for Planet Earth Sustainability) conference. Each year the conference spurs discussion on the interconnection of ecology and design and how their integration forms catalysts for creating responsible and sustainable places. For four days participants engage in this dialogue through a series of keynote lectures, panel discussions, exhibitions, workshops and charrette (a timed exercise in designing a proposal). This year we will also sponsor a lecture by actor Woody Harrelson in the EMU amphitheater that is free and open to the public. The 2001 conference, running

April 19 to 22, will address how the design arts help shape our communities and cultural understanding of place. Through the theme "Fostering Environmental Literacy," we will examine how fellow citizens, designers and visionaries develop their environmental awareness and translate it into design solutions. Danny Strening, one of the conference organizers, feels the conference 'gives students and attendees a global picture of how their decisions affect the environment; more specifically, how the design arts can be a medium of expression as well as

positive influence on the community and environment."

The conference has a range of activities and events to satisfy a variety of interests. The conference kicks off Thursday evening with a design charrette focused on the redesign of the courtyard in the School of Architecture and Allied Arts to provoke ecological awareness through all facets of the design arts. This intensive exercise provides a problem for participants to solve in a limited time span. Teams are formed to envision a conceptual solution to the problem.

Friday evening, Pliny Fisk III from the Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems will give the first of our five keynote lectures followed by professor Lori Ryker, Steven A. Moore, John Perlin and Buster Simpson throughout the weekend.

In addition to keynote lectures, a series of panels, showcases and workshops will be happening throughout Saturday and Sunday. The workshops range in scale from intimate sessions on fibers, natural dyes and renewable energies to larger endeavors that result in the further understanding of alternative building techniques and technologies. Past building projects include a vaulted straw-bale garden shed, a rammed earth bike shelter and most recently, a bamboo pavilion and cob bench on campus.

Please join us April 19-22 at Lawrence Hall for the H.O.P.E.S. Conference. For more information contact the H.O.P.E.S. office at 346-0719, e-mail us at hopes@laz.uoregon.edu or visit gladstone.uoregon.edu/~hopes for information on the Web. Participants of all ages and backgrounds are invited to participate in this multi-disciplinary event.

Sarah Lehman is an architecture major and the communication co-chair for the H.O.P.E.S. Conference.

Bears

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tract more bears than would normally be in an area, putting a strain on the social relations of the bears gathering there. The bears at these sites not only become habituated, they grow healthier and thus produce more offspring, increasing the density of bears. Eventually a few aggressive males dominate the food supply and the rest of the bears resume eating trees, only now there are more bears.

Cafferata admits there are problems with feeding bears. "There are all kinds of questions that surround (pellet feeding), we just don't know the answers. There isn't any good data." Weyerhaeuser cooperatively sponsors research attempting to discern methods to keep bears from damaging trees, but as of yet, no viable plan has come from the studies.

"The real problem," says Brooks Fahy of the Predator Defense Institute, "is not the bears, but the way forests are managed for maximum yield and maximum profit without regard for the needs of wildlife." A monoculture of young trees would encourage bears to eat as much as they could. Instead, selectively cut forests would force bears to search for the young, delectable trees. "It may turn out that the effort is worth more than the payoff for the bears," Fahy said. "Tree cribbing wouldn't be such a big deal if we had diverse forests," he said. Even if some trees were cribbed, there would be others that remained untouched. The economic returns for timber companies may not be as high in the short term, but the forest would provide healthier habitat for a variety of wildlife.

