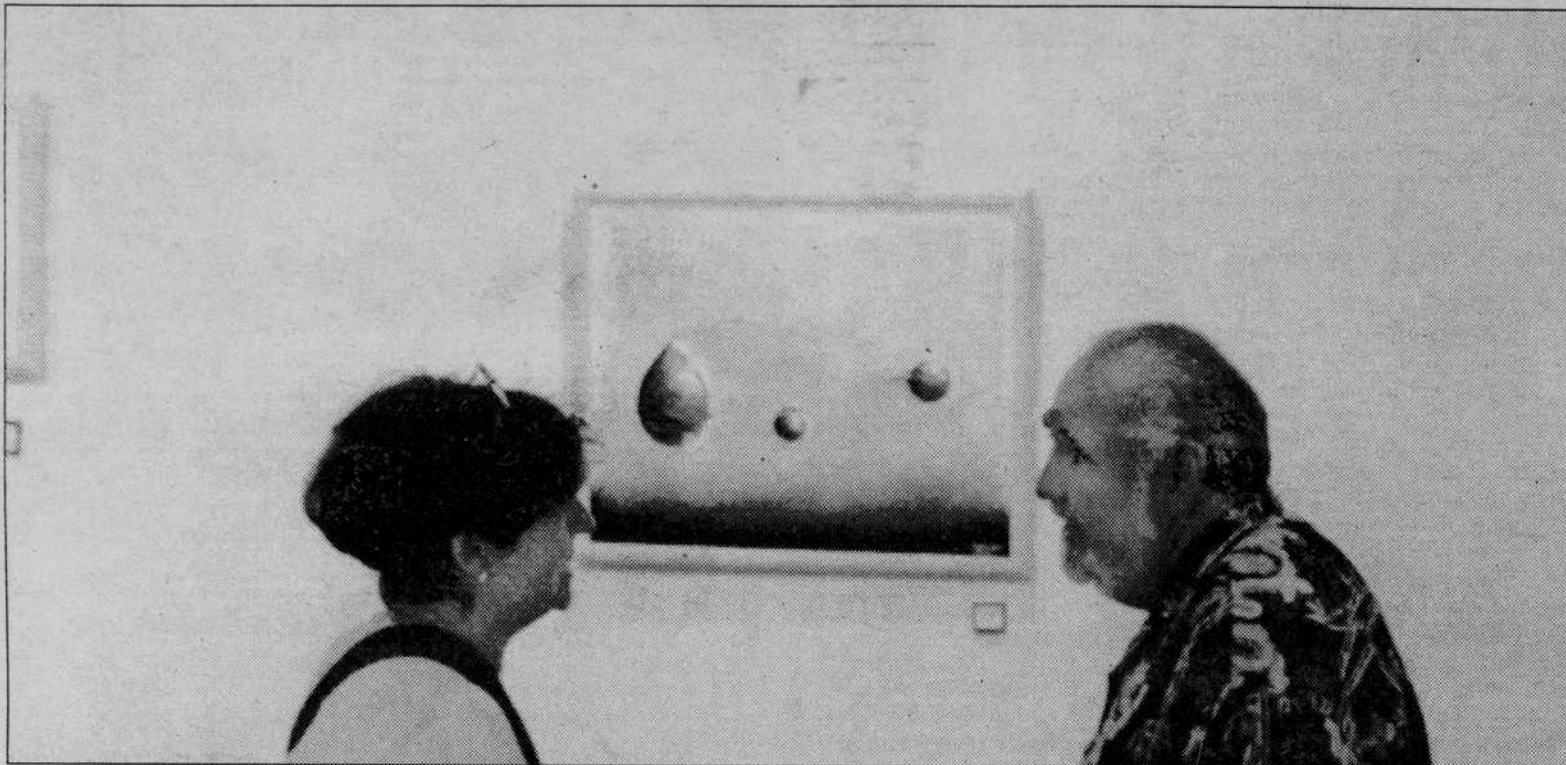


EMU recognizes work of local minority artists



Adam Jones Emerald

Richard Chavez (right) discusses his art with Gwen Janson during the opening of "Three Sculptors: Diversity in an Indifferent Art World" at the Adell McMillan Art Gallery.

■ The Adell McMillan Gallery's new exhibit brings together the sculptures of artists from diverse ethnic backgrounds

By Lisa Toth
Oregon Daily Emerald

It's the perfect place to squeeze in a catnap, review notes before class or scarf down a sandwich.

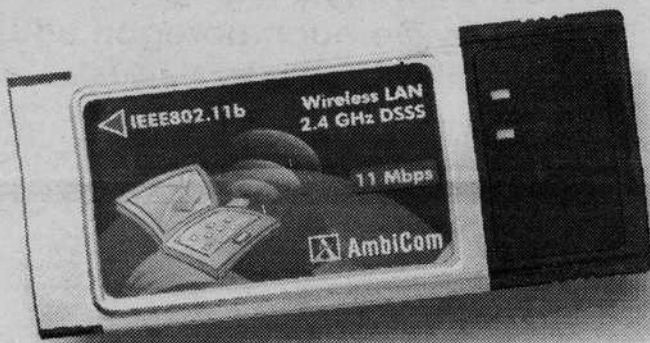
But from Sept. 20 to Oct. 11, the Adell McMillan Gallery, adjacent to the EMU Ballroom, is featuring more than just a quiet and comfortable atmosphere. The gallery's latest exhibit, which opened with a reception Sept. 20, will display the work of three local sculptors.

"There are three different people from three different backgrounds," said Mary Rasmussen, visual arts coordinator with the University's Cultural Forum.

The Cultural Forum, ASUO Multicultural Center and Black Student Union came together to host the event. Rasmussen said the intent of the show is to do more than just

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EWEB

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Robertson said the average residential customer uses 1,250 kilowatt-hours and will see a nearly \$20 dollar increase in his or her electric bill. This means most customers will be paying less than a 36 percent increase. Those who use more than 2,000 kwh will be paying more than 36 percent.

The average water customer uses 9,000 gallons of water and will see a \$2 increase in water charges.

Community members spoke out at the Friday meeting in favor of the tiered rates, because many believe the system will promote energy conservation.

"I strongly support tiered rates," Eugene citizen Bruce Newhouse said. "[The system] targets over-consumers and teaches that we reduce the energy demand by making [conservation] choices."

Several citizens said a flat rate would mean one customer's rates would rise because of another customer's lack of conservation.

"People waste energy without consideration and drive up my rates," Eugene citizen Tim Bowerman said. "A tiered rate system would prevent that."

But there are still those who are worried that the tiered rate structure is not the best way to handle the price increase, including EWEB Commissioners Sandra Bishop and Patrick Lanning.

Both commissioners voted against the tiered structure because they are concerned that customers do not understand the system.

"A good 80 percent of people aren't understanding the tiered system," Lanning said. "We need to educate people or they aren't going to see the benefit."

But Commissioner Susie Smith said public education began last April when EWEB first began increasing prices.

"A flat rate is unfair; the tiered structure is necessary because of such a large increase," Smith said. "We have done tons of public discussion on this. It's imperative to move forward with the tiered system."

EWEB is expecting a large number of calls from customers who will attribute the increase to the tiered system and not to the unavoidable increase, Robertson said.

Bishop also voted against tiered rates for the increase in water prices.

Lindsay Buchele is the community editor for the Oregon Daily Emerald. She can be reached at lindsaybucheledailyemerald.com.

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