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News briefs

Search begins for new affirmative action director
After nine years as director of the Office of Affirmative Action, Kenneth Lehrman is leaving the University to take a position with Pennsylvania State University. University Provost John Moseley announced Thursday that the University would launch a national search to replace Lehrman, who will begin working as Penn State's director of affirmative action and Diversity Support Center on July 1. Lehrman said his position at Penn State would pose an "incredible challenge professionally," and while his time at the University has been rewarding, the opportunity to work at a larger school with more resources was one he could not ignore. "I think this institution does an

incredible job with limited resources," he said. "But I did my homework and recognized what an outstanding institution Penn State is and what an appealing opportunity this is."
— Leon Tovey

MFA to benefit from Badges of Hope

Studies show 15- to 24-year-olds are at a greater risk of getting meningococcal meningitis, especially students living in residence halls, according to the Meningitis Foundation of America. That's why Kappa Delta sorority, Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity and the Residence Hall Association set up tables outside the bookstore and the residence halls to sell silver and pink, ribbon-shaped pins for the Badges of Hope philanthropy. The money raised will go to the MFA, whose mission is meningitis

education, prevention and victim support. "We hope to promote awareness about the disease and educate the public," Kappa Delta member Nikki Navarro said. Sigma Phi Epsilon member Tyler Traudt said the issue hits particularly "close to home" because Kappa Delta member Jill Dieringer died of meningitis in February 2001. "It's a philanthropy that has a deeper meaning for us because it's affected us on a personal level," he said. Before Thursday, about 280 pins had already been sold to sororities and fraternities, Sigma Phi Epsilon member Glen Pak said. He said sales were going well Thursday. President Frohnmayer accepted a pin in support of the philanthropy Thursday morning from Kappa Delta sorority council officer Melissa Winkler.
— Diane Huber

EWEB

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Robertson said. "I hope people take advantage of the program." St. Vincent de Paul supervises the program for EWEB, and director of self sufficiency services Gaylene Glidewell said between 20 and 25 percent of the assistance is given to students. Parent income is not considered when a student applies for the program. Students merely need to present a copy of their financial award letters and most recent tax returns to show income eligibility for EnergyShare. "We have no problems with students," Glidewell said. "We love to help students." The program has relied on private donations in the past, but EWEB has added \$1.8 million in

funding this year to supplement the \$125,000 raised through donations. The program will hand out the \$1.9 million total by the end of the year, and has distributed \$20,000 a week since Jan. 1. "The money is there for people to take advantage of," Robertson said. Officials said the EnergyShare program is an important way to get people back on their feet. EWEB typically writes off \$300,000 a year in past-due bills, but the amount surpassed \$1 million in 2001 because of the economic downturn and rising energy costs. Glidewell said EWEB's approach to customer's inability to pay is unique. "There's no other utility in Lane County that does what EWEB does with this program," she said.

EWEB's EnergyShare program provides a one-time credit of up to \$300 on a customer's utility bill. To qualify, the customer must make less than \$1402 a month, or \$2695 for a family, and have received an urgent reminder, final notice or disconnect notice from EWEB and not have taken part in the program within the last year.
Source: EnergyShare Hotline

Elizabeth Bickford, University Director of Financial Aid, said she's glad EWEB is lending a hand. When calculating financial aid, "We have to take a standard budget and apply it to everyone," she said. For more information on the EnergyShare program, call 689-6747. E-mail reporter Brook Reinhard at brookreinhard@dailyemerald.com.

Dreier

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tions to the Communist Party. Again, we need only one voice to stand strong against communism. Q: If two student groups were at odds with each other, how would you resolve the conflict? A: Dueling pistols. This is a simple and elegant solution, don't you think? The group whose representative sur-

vives the duel is obviously the group who wins the conflict. Eventually there will be no conflicts because the groups will be too concerned about dying to whine about problems. Q: If there was one thing you can change about the University instantly, what would it be? A: I would instantly eliminate all subversives on campus. Subversives detract from the campus environment, and I would like to see them removed.

Q: How would you do things differently than the current ASUO executive? A: The ASUO would no longer be a place friendly to communism. Subversives would learn to fear the ASUO office. The current administration is communist-loving and far too left. I would be much, much different. E-mail student activities editor Kara Cogswell at karacogswell@dailyemerald.com.

Chancellor

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Jim Willis, search committee member and state board member until 2001, recorded each comment on a sheet of paper and asked respondents follow-up questions. Some attended to ask that the chancellor maintain and enhance collaborative efforts between universities and public schools because public schools stock future university classes. Jamon Kent, superintendent for the Springfield Public School District, said these collaborative efforts also enrich public-school operations because university researchers can share important information public school leaders are seeking. "For example, the Institute of Vio-

lence and Destructive Behavior has been working with us on various strategies to reduce violence in schools," he said. "When we can drive 20 minutes to find someone who can help us, that's quite a resource." Community member Bruce Miller said the search committee can't afford to rest on its laurels waiting for a qualified candidate to come forward. The committee must actively seek a candidate of this stature, he said. If Oregon head football coach Mike Bellotti "went to the NFL, the Athletic Department would pick the five best football coaches in the U.S." to replace him, Miller said. Willis responded that the system couldn't pay a salary of the caliber paid the chancellor of Maryland's higher education system — \$345,000 a year. Cox makes

\$149,004 a year, according to OUS human resources. Though low by industry standards, Cox's salary and benefits drew criticism from OPEU members. They printed 100 orange "Help Wanted" flyers and passed them out on campus. "The perks were just a point of reference for people to realize where their money is spent," said Cheri Smith, president for Service Employees International Union/OPEU Local 085. "The chancellor's office has not proven they can provide us with more personalized service or take care of us. They've actually gotten more distant from us." E-mail reporter Eric Martin at ericmartin@dailyemerald.com.

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