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Both men's and women's track and field teams leap over the Huskies at Hayward.
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SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON

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Friends, family commemorate professor's life



Thomas Patterson Emerald

Marjory Smith, a longtime friend of the late Professor Walter Martin, views photographs and mementos documenting Martin's life.

Those who gather to remember sociology professor Walter Martin mention his hard work, character, modesty and storytelling ability

By Serena Markstrom
 Oregon Daily Emerald

Walter Martin's longtime friend and sociology colleague Ben Johnson stepped to the podium as ambient harp music and muted conversations wound into silence.

"Today we are here to remember the life of Walter Tilford Martin," Johnson said to the group of family and friends who gathered Sunday in Gerlinger Lounge to celebrate Martin's life. He died March 13 at age 84.

In 1939, he married Rena Elizabeth Buckley in Seattle. Martin's family was not

particularly interested in higher education, but his wife encouraged him to pursue it.

At the time, Martin was interested in social work, but when he enrolled as a graduate student at the University of Washington in March 1945, he found the social work program didn't begin until fall. He approached a sociology professor, who offered him a job as a research assistant.

"He got hooked," Johnson said. "That's how he became a sociologist."

Martin moved to Oregon and began teaching at the University in 1947 for an annual salary of \$3,000. He served as a visiting professor throughout the United States and in Australia and Kenya, and he retired from the University in 1979. He was chairman of the sociology department from 1957 to 1968. His interests were in human ecology, demog-

raphy and criminology.

"He had a distinguished career," Johnson said. "But he wasn't a one-track man."

Wood sculpting, non-professional writing and gardening also held his interest, and he was a dedicated family man. He wrote genealogies of his side of the family as well as his wife's. He often made an effort to get his whole family into the outdoors for camping and hiking trips.

David Martin, one of Martin's four children, spoke of his father's hardworking character and his storytelling ability.

"When he came to visit us, he expected to be given a saw, a shovel or a paintbrush," David Martin, who lives in Redondo Beach, Calif., said. "I had a feeling when (my parents) left it was because we ran out of chores."

He said his father would rewrite fairy

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Lax taxpayers need not fear — last-minute help is here

Today is the last day to file taxes and extensions without penalty, but post offices in Eugene are offering evening assistance and Web sites are available now

By Brad Schmidt
 Oregon Daily Emerald

In life, so the saying goes, the only things that are certain are death and taxes. Despite knowing this, there always seems to be a mad scramble to finish tax returns in time for the April 15 deadline each year.

Today marks the last day students can file 2001 federal and state tax returns without filing for an extension or incurring penalties. To be considered on time, tax returns must be post-marked with today's date.

Students who have put off filing their forms are in good company: The Internal Revenue Service reported earlier this month that there are an estimated 65 million people yet to file returns — almost half of the total 130 million returns they anticipate receiving this year.

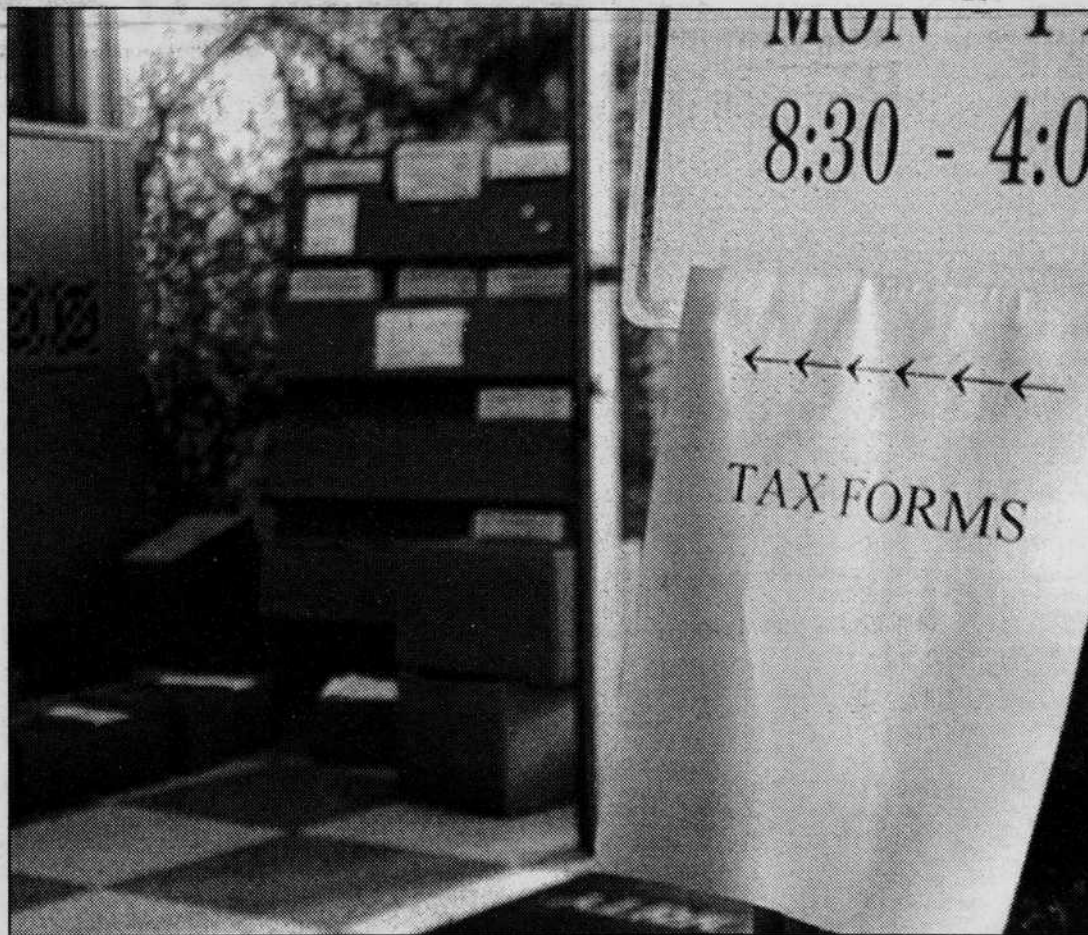
"I just put things off until the last minute," said sophomore Bret Schricker, who said he waited to file until today. "Plus, it's not exactly a fun thing to do."

While the Internal Revenue Service may never get everyone to believe that filling out tax forms is fun, it has made several changes in tax laws this year in an attempt to make it easier for taxpayers to file. Students may qualify for a tax rate reduction credit if they did not receive a rebate check from the federal government last year.

The Oregon Department of Revenue has also taken steps to ease the confusion associated with taxes. At www.steps2cash.org, students can follow five steps to see if they'll be receiving a state refund. For students who don't owe any money, there's not much of a penalty for filing taxes late. But in order to receive a refund, a return must be filed.

For federal taxes, most students qualify for the shortest and easiest form, Form 1040EZ. The form is available at any post

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Adam Jones Emerald

Possibly one of the least favored days of the year is April 15, also known as 'Tax Day.' For those who procrastinate calculating their income taxes, it's a day of numbers and forms. Later on, it becomes a day of lines and waiting.

Late drop-off sites

■ Eugene Main Post Office, 520 Willamette St., from 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. today; last mail collection at midnight. Call 341-3636 for more info.

■ Gateway Post Office, 3148 Gateway St., open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today; last mail collection at midnight. Call 341-3649 for more info.

Eugene voters will face \$19.6 million library levy in May primary

Ballot Measure 20-58, referred by Eugene's City Council, would raise the average homeowner's property taxes \$80 per year

By Katie Ellis
 Oregon Daily Emerald

Eugene voters may experience déjà vu when they enter the voting booths in May. Ballot Measure 20-58 will give voters

another opportunity to decide on a library local option levy during the primary election, and if passed, it will increase property taxes — with the average household paying an additional \$39 to \$80 per year.

The Eugene City Council, under recommendations from the Mayor's Library Improvement Committee, voted on Feb. 25 to place a renewed library levy on the May ballot. The renewal is a 48 percent

increase from the original levy passed four years ago.

"The council's vote was unanimous," said Eugene financial director Sue Cutsogeorge.

The cost increase could pose a problem for voters. With a stagnant economy, Eugeneans might be hesitant to pass another levy. Eugene Public Library Services director Connie Bennett said the increase could hinder the measure's success, but

she expects strong public support.

"In this economic climate, the cost could be a factor," Bennett said. "But I think we have worked hard to uphold the promise we made four years ago. I think people recognize that in the long run, \$80 a year for an entire family is not that much for the services this levy will provide."

Bennett said the committee gave great consideration to the current economic

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2002 ELECTIONS
 Part of an occasional series
TUESDAY
 Voters are asked to spend \$8.6 million on upgrading fire facilities.