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SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON

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*"(The) top of the hill seems to float as if it were in the clouds."*

— Michael Robert, Hendricks Park head gardener

# The hills are alive

A unique view and extensive rhododendron garden have attracted visitors to Hendricks Park for almost 100 years

By Lisa Toth  
 Oregon Daily Emerald

All is quiet every morning as the sunlight breaks through the fog at Hendricks Park, but only until the birds and the gardeners start their day. "It's just us and the birds," said gardener Ginny Alfriend. "They're saying good morning to us."

This time of year, the gardeners at Hendricks Park are busier than usual because the Rhododendron Garden is in



peak season and the flowers are in full bloom. Head gardener Michael Robert, who started working at Hendricks Park in 1978 and has been head gardener since 1981, said Mother's Day is traditionally the busiest day of the year for families to visit the park. Hendricks Park is a short walk up 15th Avenue from the

University. It is also accessible by car, bicycle or Lane Transit District bus by following Walnut Street to Fairmount Boulevard and heading east on Summit Avenue.

Robert and his two co-workers, Alfriend and Keith Stanley, maintain the 78-acre park, which includes a 12-acre garden. Their office — cluttered with everything from hard hats and gardening tools to yellow rain jackets and a coffee machine — is located beneath the bathroom, which means on lunch breaks they can hear the toilets with every flush.

Robert said about 100 "regulars" visit the park daily — walking their dogs, exercising or enjoying the tranquility

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A King George rhododendron, above, currently in full bloom at Hendricks Park, shields a drop of dew from the May sun. Head gardener Michael Robert, left, shows off a rare peony.

Thomas Patterson Emerald

# Marchers advocate legalizing marijuana

■ Participants in Eugene's annual Peace March hold festivities at the Wayne Morse Free Speech Plaza in support of legalizing the drug

By Brad Schmidt  
 Oregon Daily Emerald

More than 200 protesters chanting "What do we want? Drug peace! When do we want it? Now!" arrived at the Wayne Morse Free Speech Plaza just after 12:30 p.m. Saturday, concluding Eugene's third annual Peace March and beginning an afternoon of music and speakers advocating the legalization of hemp and marijuana.

Many of the marchers carried signs reading "Just Say Know" and balloons adorned with a drawing of a cannabis plant. Protesters filled the plaza, while many Saturday Market shoppers viewed the festivities with interest.

Eugene Police Department officer Rusty Foster said the marchers were cooperative in organizing the march. A police presence was established, however, to minimize any possible complications, he said.

Sandy Gonzalez, an information booth assistant at the Eugene Saturday Market, described the relationship between the marchers and the market as a "peaceful coexistence."

After the group arrived at the plaza, the funk band The Thirteenth Tribe took the stage, singing a cover version of Bob Marley's "Get Up Stand Up." One woman stood topless while listening to the music. The smell of marijuana was present but not predominant, as an occasional joint was passed around.

Eugene resident Dwayne Hill said the atmosphere at the rally was fun.

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# Candidate pledges to strengthen education through state aid



MANNIX

■ Kevin Mannix believes more grants and hundreds of millions more in faculty pay are needed for Oregon's university system

By Brook Reinhard  
 Oregon Daily Emerald

Kevin Mannix has served as an Oregon legislator, assistant Oregon attorney general and vice chairman of the Oregon Republican Party. A 1974 graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law, Mannix has been a lawyer for 27 years. He served five terms as a state representative before term limits forced him out of office in 2001. Mannix served as an assistant at-

torney general from 1975 to 1977, and most recently lost a close statewide election for attorney general to incumbent Hardy Myers in 2000. Mannix lives with his family in Salem.

**Q:** Why should students take an interest in this primary election?

**A:** Students should take an interest in every election because critical issues affecting higher education funding come up every time. As one of the strongest proponents for higher education funding, actually talking about specific increases, I want to encourage student participation in the primary and in the general election.

**Q:** Would you back initiatives to raise tuition at Oregon universities beyond the 3 percent per year cap?

**A:** No, unless we also increase grants, aid and merit-based scholarships, so that any student who is in a need situation will not be forced out of school, and students with good capabilities can be recognized. The cap on tuition increases, which I supported as a legislator, is an important means of insuring access. If any university wants to have the leeway to impose higher tuition, I want to make sure that we have a guarantee that need grants will increase to match that and that we also add on some merit grants beyond the need grants so we can encourage quality students to stay in our state.

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## GOVERNOR RACE

This is the fourth in a six-part series featuring the leading gubernatorial candidates in Oregon's May 21 primary election.

### Democrats

April 29: Jim Hill

April 30: Ted Kulongoski

May 1: Bev Stein

### Republicans

Today: Kevin L. Mannix

Tuesday: Jack Roberts

Wednesday: Ron Saxton