

Skate park

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covered area surrounding the park. Noble, 37, of Florence, known to many locals as "Death," said he's not sure where his sinister nickname originated. "I mean, (my name) sounds like 'death,' but with a 'g,' so it's all just a misunderstanding I guess," he said, chuckling.

As co-owner of Airspeed L.L.C., a skate park design and construction company he started with his girlfriend less than three years ago, Noble said he comes to Eugene once or twice a week to skate with the locals.

Noble said the city of Eugene contacted Airspeed about five months ago, armed with less than \$140,000 to build a park. In designing it, he said he included an additional area for younger skaters, creating a park that "doesn't stifle, but allows skills to grow."

He said he also connected all the "speed lines," the paths bikers and skaters can take to gain speed, to the "air hits," jump off points where more determined individuals can "blast an air" so skaters and bikers can roll along what he calls "lines of maximum velocity."

The park is surrounded by construc-

tion in progress, but the dust and debris are only minor setbacks for those who use it most often. The truest of skate park lovers grin and bear it while forced to do tricks and flips to a background of bel-lowing dust clouds.

Sophomore Jon Gagnon has been BMX biking for 12 years and said he sees more than 50 people at the park at any given time, with a large majority being skateboarders and about 75 percent being elementary school children.

"It's pretty good around here 'til about 2:30 when the younger kids get out," Gagnon said. "Death did a good job in making it very different."

Senior Chris Bredeson, who has been skateboarding for 16 years, said he likes Bethel because the design is functional.

"Everything works together," he said as he watched Noble perform a trick to the hoots and cheers of other skateboarders.

Noble said he thinks it's a "bag" how the rainy season keeps skaters and bikers from enjoying local parks, pointing out that youth activism could inspire the outdoor skatepark covers needed to prevent acidic rain from tearing away at the concrete surfaces.

"The city listens to what kids say," he said.

Caron Alarab is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

Internet

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plaints are less than cordial.

Meyers said he was irritated by the incident, but added it could do some good: If students change their computing habits, the network's speed could likely increase.

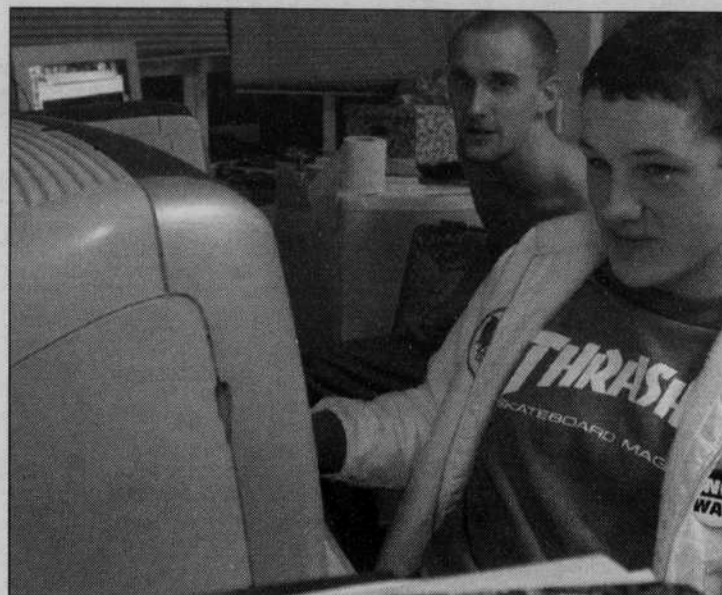
Some students in Carson did think the notices were authentic, despite the spelling and grammatical errors within the letter.

"I know a few people that turned it off for a couple of days," University freshman Erik Sogn said.

University senior Chris Brunner said he hopes students using programs like Kazaa will adjust their settings to reduce bandwidth usage. By adjusting settings, students can still use the same programs without creating such dramatic slowdowns.

Network clogging has been an ongoing problem in the residence halls, and Meyers said the administration has been evaluating hardware called Packeteer, which prioritizes all Internet usage and makes file sharing a low priority.

"I'm inclined to believe it will



Adam Amato Emerald

Roommates Ethan Walsh, a sophomore sociology major (right), and Tim Robinson, an undeclared sophomore (left), live in Carson. "I'm all for pirating software," Walsh said.

fix the problem," Meyers said. "But at that (high) price, we want to be sure."

Students who want more information on how to reduce band-

width usage can contact ResNet at 346-4223.

Contact the reporter at jodyburruss@dailyemerald.com.



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

An Open Letter to all University of Oregon Students Possible Tuition Surcharge

In its Fifth Special Session, the Oregon Legislature, in an attempt to balance the state budget, referred an income tax surcharge to the voters. Measure 28, which would raise approximately \$313 million in this biennium, will be on the ballot in a special election on January 28, 2003. As a backup in the event this revenue measure is rejected, the legislature also passed a set of provisional budget reductions totaling \$313 million. Higher education's share of this reduction would be \$26.9 million, and the University of Oregon's share of that would be about \$6.5 million.

UO's Senior Vice President and Provost John Moseley and Vice President for Student Affairs Anne Leavitt met with student leaders on September 27, 2002 to discuss this possible budget cut, its consequences and solutions. This meeting was the subject of a full report in the Oregon Daily Emerald on September 30, on page 1. Given the size of the possible reduction and the fact that it would have to be taken in the last three to six months of the biennium, this cut would reduce general funds available for this time period by either 15% (winter and spring terms) or 30% (spring term only). Since the university spends most of its general fund budget on direct instruction and related activities, it will not be possible to take these cuts without significant reductions in classes and programs which UO students need for their educational objectives.

While neither students nor the UO administration wish to see further tuition increases this year, the group agreed that a tuition surcharge was much more desirable than the course and program cuts that would be required if the full reduction had to be made. Indeed, such a surcharge would be significantly less expensive for many students than reducing class availability and forcing students to stay in school one more term to complete the requirements for graduation. Possible tuition surcharge plans were discussed with students, which would raise up to \$4 million of the \$6.5 million potential cut. The University has committed that these funds would be used first to protect courses and programs, and second to protect other student services and instructional support.

In the interests of simplicity and a fair distribution of these cuts, students recommended that a fixed dollar amount per credit hour be imposed on all credits. It was also recommended that all current discounts remain in place, including the discount for afternoon courses. A surcharge of \$10 per credit hour assessed both winter and spring terms would raise the required \$4 million. The University also committed to supply up to \$500,000 in additional financial aid to assist the students most in need, and to honor the commitment of all "full tuition" scholarships by providing sufficient additional funds to cover full tuition, where necessary. Students recommended that the surcharge not be collected unless it becomes necessary due to the failure of Measure 28, and the failure of the legislature to act quickly to find other sources of revenue to cover this shortfall if the measure does fail. The university agreed to have the surcharge payable only if necessary, and not before March 1, 2003 for winter term, and May 1, 2003 for spring term.

Bills mailed to students in mid-December, which include billing for winter term, will include an updated version of the information here, together with an estimate of the specific potential effect on the student's bill and information on additional financial aid. Except for financial aid, a student can easily estimate the effect of this surcharge by simply multiplying the number of credit hours planned by \$10 per credit hour.

We are all hopeful that this surcharge does not have to be imposed. If Measure 28 passes on January 28th, the surcharge will be dropped, and all university activities will continue to be funded as currently budgeted. In any case, students can rest assured that the University of Oregon is fully committed to continue to provide both the number and quality of courses and programs that our students need and expect. Even if the surcharge is imposed, we are confident that UO will continue to be, as it has been designated by the *Fisk Guide to Higher Education* for the past five years, a "best buy" in higher education, in terms of quality and value for the price.

Sincerely,

John Moseley
John Moseley,
Senior Vice President and Provost

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Reaction

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"If there is action to be taken, it should be done under U.N. directives," he said.

Nail said the mainstream media is overlooking opposition to the war.

"Although 100,000 people turned out in San Francisco and 140,000 turned out in Washington, D.C., the press coverage was negligible," he said.

Junior anthropology major Kelly Shaw said that Iraq should not be held to a different standard than other countries.

"If we're going to force any country to disarm itself, we should disarm as well," he said.

Hannah Skelton, a freshman physics major, said she comes from a military family. Her father served in the Air Force during the Vietnam War. Her brother will graduate from the Citadel and will go into the Marine Corps this year. Skelton herself is an Army ROTC cadet bound for West Point next year.

When asked about the possibility of her brother seeing combat in Iraq, Skelton said that it's all part of the job.

"You go into that knowing that the possibility is there," she said.

Skelton said she believes the United States has an obligation to prevent Iraq from harming others.

"Whatever Saddam Hussein is doing in Iraq, if it is going to be dangerous for the world, then we should take care of the situation," she said. "We have to do what needs to be done."

Contact the senior news reporter at kennaulman@dailyemerald.com

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