



### Stairway to literature



Adam Amato Emerald

The new Eugene Public Library features a grand spiral staircase, similar to that in the Knight Library.

## A new page for Eugene's library

With much more space than the old one, the new Eugene Public Library sports environmentally friendly planning and layout

**Roman Gokhman**  
Campus/City Culture Reporter

Four stories of red bricks and towering windows comprise the exterior. Marble floors, a coffee shop at ground level, rows and rows of books and a grand spiral staircase showcase the interior.

But this is not the Knight Library. The new Eugene Public Library, which opened Dec. 16 on the corner of West 10th Avenue and Olive Street, shares many characteristics with the Knight Library, right down to the architects who planned them.

When local design firm Robertson-Sherwood Architects chose to collaborate with Boston firm Shepley Bulfinch

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Richardson and Abbott, one of the oldest architecture firms in the United States and a specialist in building libraries, they didn't look

farther than the University. Robertson-Sherwood Architects approached SBRA because of its renovation work on the Knight Library.

"We knew it would be an important building downtown," Robertson-Sherwood Architects' Senior Associate Randy Nishimura said.

SBRA architect Geoff Freeman said the goal of the new building was to create an open and encouraging environment.

"We wanted something that would glow, something that spoke to the community," Freeman said.

The new library is about 130,000

square feet, while the old one was only 38,000 square feet — the new children's section alone is larger than the entire main floor of the old library.

Until the library needs to expand, the fourth floor will be rented out for city offices and will be closed to the public.

Nishimura said as the two firms designed the new library, they paid a lot of attention to energy-efficient and environmentally healthy methods, like the strategies being used in the new Lillis Business Complex construction on campus.

The University's Energy Studies in Buildings Laboratory, located in the Center for Housing Innovation, provided energy consultation by studying daylighting and ventilation systems inside the library and using a special kind of paint glaze on the outside.

"It's a challenging building," said  
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## Group fights fear of speaking

Students can join Toastmasters to master the art of communicating by making speeches in public

**Jennifer Bear**  
Campus/City Culture Reporter

Friday and Saturday nights, senior Josh Herr works as a DJ at The Annex, sometimes appearing in front of as many as 500 people. But the University student doesn't get uptight about being the center of attention and having to entertain what could be an intimidating group of people.

Herr's four years in the campus chapter of Toastmasters International have helped him control a fear that many people dread more than death itself: the fear of public speaking.

Erik Parrish, president of the University's 15-member chapter of Toastmasters, said the group's small size creates an ideal environment for beginners to come and explore their strengths and weaknesses as communicators. He added stu-

dents who develop good speaking skills increase their chances of getting a job.

"There aren't any speech classes at the University right now, and it's hard to develop these skills — even though they're essential for your career," Parrish said.

Senior Melissa Magaro has been a member of Toastmasters for two terms, and she joined the speech club to get over her fear of public speaking. The group holds meetings Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in 128 Chiles and offers members many opportunities to practice their communication skills. Participants can sign up to give a speech or simply participate in a Table Topic, a one- or two-minute impromptu speech.

While Toastmasters is open to all students, everyone has to pay a \$16 new member fee and then \$18 every six months for membership dues. Once they're a part of the organization, members progress through the Toastmasters basic speech manual and must complete 10 required oral presentations in order to

become a Certified Toastmaster. Students can then pick a specific focus, such as humorous speaking, public relations or communicating on television.

Parrish said many people may be reluctant to join Toastmasters because they get an extreme case of the jitters when forced to speak in front of others. But he added that shouldn't stop students from thinking about membership.

"It's better to make a mistake in Toastmasters and learn from it than to make a mistake when you're in class and your grade is on the line," Parrish said.

During the weekly Toastmaster meetings, members can give speeches and have their presentations evaluated by the group. Herr said a lot of things can inhibit communication, but some of the most common mistakes beginners make when speaking in public are using filler words — such as um, ah, so and like — not making good eye contact, fidgeting and forgetting

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## Movement aims to start bill of rights for athletes

The 64-page document includes 10 rights intended to protect student athlete interests

**Brad Schmidt**  
News Editor

On the court, things are pretty simple. Shoot from behind the arc, it's a three pointer. Step on the baseline, out of bounds. Move a pivot foot, traveling. In black and white — typically outlined in a handbook and usually officiated by a referee on the hardwood — rules and regulations are predominant in athletics.

Off the court, however, things occasionally slip into a hazy shade of gray.

Take, for instance, the recent suspension of former Oregon point guard Shaquala Williams. The former Pacific-10 Conference Freshman of the Year and 2000 Pac-10 Player of the Year was suspended by head coach Bev Smith for reasons not made public.

"It is what it is," Smith told the Emerald on Dec. 4, when she first suspended the hoops star.

Then, "after considerable thought, reflection and with regret," Smith announced on Dec. 9 that a permanent suspension would be in both Williams' and Oregon's best interests.

"Whether I was treated fairly, it's her program," Williams told the press. "She can do whatever she wants."

And, in essence, Williams' assessment of the situation was correct. Student athletes are at the mercy of coaching personnel; coaches have the ability to determine who plays and who does not. In this case, Williams would not be playing for Oregon — ever again.

To make matters more discouraging, there wasn't a process that allowed for an appeal. That, essentially, was that.

But former University of Kansas track and field head coach Bob Timmons is trying to change the system. Timmons, a longtime advocate of student-athlete rights, is pushing for the

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*Bill of (Athlete's) Rights*

- No. 1 — Opportunity for participation**
  - Would ensure a student's right to play if he or she is capable to play at the level desired by each team and is in compliance with NCAA rules and regulations
- No. 2 — Penalty system**
  - Requires student-athletes to comply with NCAA regulations in a system that protects those who do and allows for punishment of those who do not; also protects school and other players from actions of a few; is compatible with the minimum due process of the Constitution of the United States
- No. 3 — Freedom from discrimination**
  - Student-athletes will receive the same privileges available to students who do not participate in intercollegiate athletics

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### WEATHER

Today: High 48, Low 33, foggy and cloudy  
Wednesday: High 48, Low 33, cloudy morning

### LOOKING AHEAD

Wednesday The University's Museum of Art gets a new director  
Thursday Meet who decides the fate of students' incidental fees