



## Bracing for losses



32-year-old Mike and three month-old Mikey Bolin watch Winnie the Pooh at a shelter. The First Place Family Center is counting on the passage of Measure 28 to keep operations at the current level.

Adam Amato Emerald

# Charitable operations

With voting on Measure 28 just a few weeks away, some local charitable organizations are preparing to lose funding or deal with shortages if it fails

## Oregon votes 2003

**Aimee Rudin**

Family/Health/Education Reporter

A squat gray building sits in Eugene that is fairly easy to miss.

Cars litter the driveway, and plastic playground equipment has taken over an area that once had a dream of being a yard; it's an easy sight for the eye to skip over.

Yet, inside this unassuming building there is an opportunity for homeless and low-income families with children to find a dry place to spend the night, eat a warm meal and hope for tomorrow.

Failure of state Ballot Measure 28 could hamper this help for many people in need. A mix of private donations, volunteer fundraising and state dollars pay for the First Place Family Center on Amazon Parkway. If Measure 28 fails on Jan. 28, the state could reduce funding for the center.

The facility serves 100 people a day and provides services including child care, laundry and cooking facilities, showers, message and mail service, and on-site employment counseling for adults. In the evening, the center moves to one of 53 local congregations or synagogues for its night shelter program. The night program provides sleeping areas, dinner and breakfast, and transportation to and from the day-use facility for people registered at the center.

Jake Dudell, Emergency Services Director, is optimistic about the center's ability to continue operations should Measure 28 fail.

"We'll always operate," Dudell said. "It may be at lower tiers, and we may not be able to serve as many people, but we will keep going."

Measure 28 comes to the consideration of voters as an income tax increase, which, over the next three years, would raise approximately \$724 million for Oregon. Of this estimate, \$313 million would be used to sustain state programs and services that were slated for cuts in September. The remainder of the money

**Measure 28**  
A 10-part series examining the budget implications of the Jan. 28 special election.

would be put toward the 2003-05 budget.

Homeless shelters, soup kitchens and low-income housing could all see results of a trickle-down effect if Measure 28 fails.

"Some specialty shelters are going to close," Eugene Mission Assistant Director Lynn Antis said. "We could easily see an increase in our numbers as an indirect effect of the budget cuts. We will have more clients and fewer resources with which to help serve them in the community."

At FOOD for Lane County, a division of the Oregon Food Bank Network, there is concern of a food shortage if Measure 28 fails.

"We are anticipating a lot of individuals losing their resources as a result of the cuts and coming to us for help," Communications Director for FOOD for Lane County Dana Turell said. "There are going to be a lot of people needing us for the first time."

The group currently supplies groceries to 66,000 residents a year, almost half of whom are children.

"This is a time to be creative, a time to think out of the box and a time to get people the care they need," Turell said.

Contact the reporter at [aimeerudin@dailyemerald.com](mailto:aimeerudin@dailyemerald.com).

# OUS grads give system high marks

A recent survey of Oregon graduates suggests that even in a sluggish economy, students are happy with their experience

**Roman Gokhman**

Campus/City Culture Reporter

One year after receiving their diplomas, Oregon University System graduates are well on their way to promising careers and are happy with their university experiences, according to a new study.

A report completed by the Oregon Survey Resource Laboratory at the University surveyed 1,004 of the 9,590

total students graduating OUS schools with bachelor's degrees in 2000-01, and concluded that graduates are "satisfied customers" when it comes to their education.

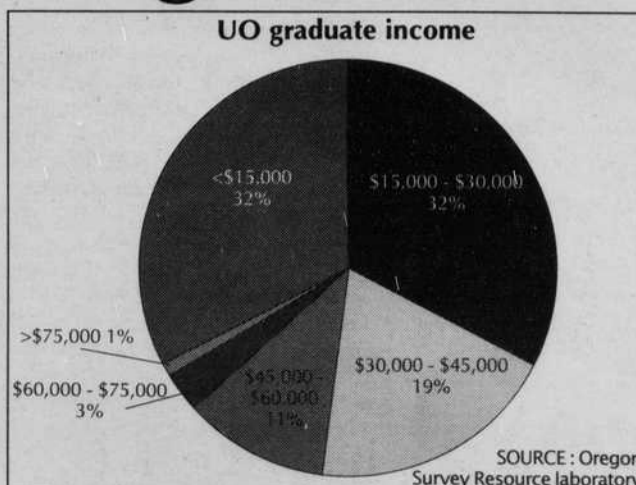
Eighty percent of those interviewed rated their education a four or higher on a five-point scale, with one being "poor" and five being "excellent." If graduates could begin again, 77 percent said they would attend the same OUS school.

The Emerald could not reach any 2001 graduates for comment, but 2002 graduate Michael Tu said he was pleased with his education.

"The classes that I took gave me the

Turn to **Grads**, page 4A

UO graduate income



# Events honor MLK Jr.

More than a week of local events will celebrate the civil rights leader's commitment to racial equality

**Roman Gokhman**

Campus/City Culture Reporter

Eugene and Springfield will celebrate the life of Martin Luther King Jr. with speeches, a march and awards during the weekend and throughout next week. The Hult Center, the Springfield DoubleTree Hotel, the University and West Eugene are hosting events that will pay homage to the civil rights leader.

The Martin Luther King Day Celebration, organized by the MLK Jr. Celebration Committee of Lane County, will take place in the Soreng Theater of the Hult Center on Monday. The event is free.

"This is an event to bring the community together," committee Chairwoman Tina Napier said.

Oregon Secretary of State Bill Bradbury will present the keynote address, and the Eugene Human Rights Commission will present the Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership Award to Lane County Circuit Court Judge Cynthia D. Carlson.

The award recognizes a group or an individual who demonstrates leadership in making Eugene a more supportive city for its communities of color. Carlson orchestrated two programs in Oregon that allow employees of the justice system and others to have dialogues about race-related issues.

"This is something I feel very strongly about," Carlson said. "Dr. King was a great leader in the equal treatment of people. Everybody in the community has some role to play in this."

The MLK Contest and Celebration at the Springfield DoubleTree Hotel is that city's main event on Monday and is organized by several agencies, including the Springfield Alliance For Equality and Respect.

"This (event) is recognizing a man who was for peace and non-violence, and a man who stood up for the rights of all ethnicities," SAFER Co-Chairwoman Elaine Hayes said.

Bahati Ansari, who organized the first MLK celebration in Lane County, before it was a national holiday, will give be the speaker. Ansari is also responsible for

Turn to **MLK**, page 3A

## WEATHER

Today: High 50, Low 30, cloudy morning, patchy fog

Saturday: High 50, Low 30, mostly cloudy, morning fog

## LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesday Eugene, Springfield and the University celebrate the life of Martin Luther King Jr.

Wednesday Some people fear the passage of Measure 28 could be detrimental during a recession