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Students conduct audit on garbage

The Environmental Studies Service Learning Program sorted EMU food waste to gather information about trash and help

Andrew Black
Environment/Science/Technology

Senior Jessica Rose doesn't particularly like trash. But when the environmental studies major signed up to help sort garbage from the EMU, she figured she could handle it.

Toward the end of the week, though, the project was starting to wear on her. It wasn't so much the smell. Rather, it was the texture of used coffee grinds and half-eaten sandwiches. Pretty soon, Rose was working to choke back the vomit.

"When your hands are in it, it's cold and mushy," Rose said. "Anything that is wet and soggy is not fun to handle."

Rose, along with a handful of students, donned jumpsuits and rubber gloves last week and sorted through 856 pounds of smelly food scraps, loose coffee grounds and dirty napkins as part of a waste audit of EMU Food Services. Students collected the garbage from the EMU dining area during and just after the lunch rush. Afterward, they separated it into categories based on whether the trash could be composted or recycled or had to be thrown out.

Project supervisor and environmental studies graduate teaching fellow Mike Sims said the waste audit is a component of a larger study being conducted by the Environmental Studies Service Learning Program. The waste audit will provide information to help EMU Food Services reduce what goes to the dump, Sims added.

"We hope to produce a waste profile that will provide information about what exactly goes in the Dumpster, and where we can suggest strategies to reduce or recover stuff that does not have to go into the trash," he said.

A goal of the project, Sims said, is to educate people on how to reduce waste and divert it from the landfill. To reduce waste, EMU Food Services could provide reusable mugs, plates and cups or begin a composting program, he added.

"Food waste, coffee grounds and anything made of paper can be

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UO sees Navajo court in action

Pfizer claims to have never distributed or marketed Rezulin on Navajo land and were not responsible for people's usage

Aimee Rudin
Family/Health/Education Reporter

A respectful crowd of American Indian tribal members, lawyers, students and onlookers met in Room 175 of the Knight Law Center on Thursday night to observe the Navajo Supreme Court in action.

Chief Justice Robert Yazzie opened the meeting by announcing the Navajo Nation Council's recent adoption of the Laws of the Diné.

"On Nov. 11, the Navajo Nation Council took a giant step, and adopted a law that is in blunt assertion of traditional Navajo rights and liberties," Yazzie said. "The fundamental laws of the Diné; the Diné means people."

Yazzie said the laws will reinforce traditional Navajo beliefs and thinking. The laws will be applied in tribal courts and will act as a statement to the world.

"It is a sign to the Navajos and to the world

that the Navajos are Navajos," he said. "And they intend to remain Navajos despite all the challenges from the outside world. The fundamental laws of the Diné say who we are."

The Navajo Supreme Court is the highest court of law in the Navajo Nation. Justices of the court have responsibilities almost identical to the federal justices; however, their interpretation of the law may differ.

The court came to the University to hear oral arguments regarding Nelson v. Pfizer. Sixteen members of the Navajo Nation and the Zuni

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Stand up and cheer

The Oregon cheerleading squad heads to nationals in Las Vegas after two months of grueling work

Peter Hockaday
Sports Editor

The life of a cheerleader looks good, but it ain't that pretty.

Cheerleaders are visible but invisible. They dance, jump and tumble for an audience that is watching a clock, waiting for a timeout or halftime period to end.

INSIDE
Coverage of Oregon's home win over Stanford on Thursday.

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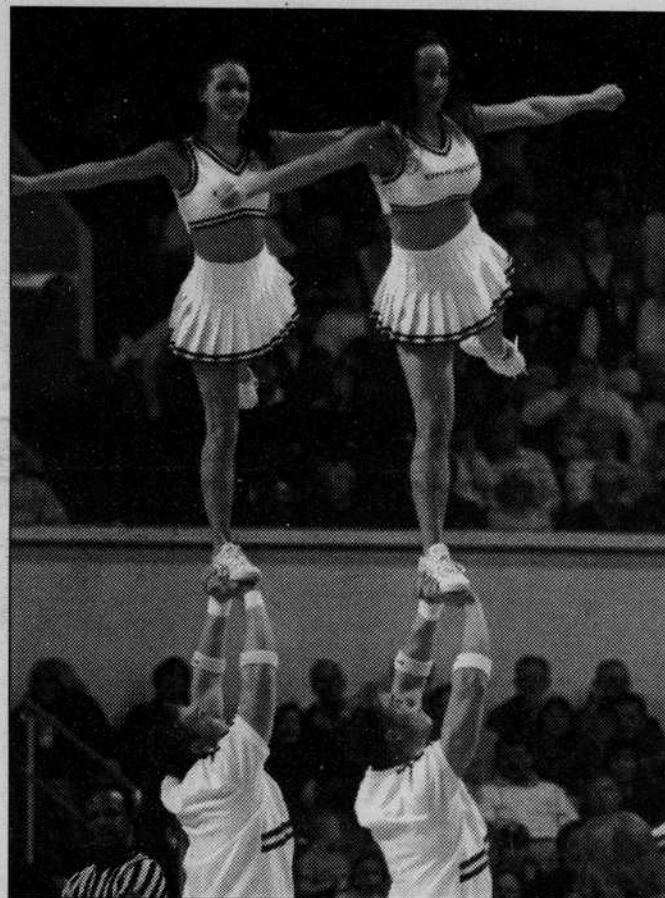
But two weeks ago, the Oregon cheerleaders did

something that elicited, well, some cheerleading from a McArthur Court crowd.

It was a routine — two and a half minutes of Superman-like leaps and gravity-bending tumbles — a routine as carefully synchronized as a Swiss watch.

And this weekend, those cheerleaders hope to make another audience stand up and cheer — specifically the audience at the USA College Nationals cheerleading finals in Las Vegas.

The Ducks will send 11 women and 11 men to the competition, the team's first in several years. The team members, who have worked on their routine for more than two months, say it's a great chance to finally validate all the invisible work they do.



Adam Amato Emerald

The Duck cheerleading team will go to nationals in Las Vegas on Sunday.

"It's a lot of time and work, once you factor in classes, workouts, study hall," freshman cheerleader Rachel Davis said.

Now, all that work is parlaying into a competition for the first time.

"They need something to call their own," head cheerleading coach Laraine Raish said. "They love cheering at games

and getting the crowd involved, but they want to have something on their own."

Nationals will be held in Las Vegas on Sunday and Monday. The Ducks will compete in the "team cheer" section with the entire traveling team, will enter two cheerleaders in the

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Author to speak on cultural balance

Victor Villaseñor, who faced many years of discrimination, expresses his feelings of hatred through his writing

Roman Gokhman
Campus/City Culture Reporter

Victor Villaseñor once wanted to kill his teachers. His hatred drove him to write emotions down on paper 40 years ago.

When he began writing at the age of 20, Villaseñor did it out of anger and hate for the teachers and others who told him Mexicans were dangerous and incapable of achievement.

"The school system basically slaughtered me," Villaseñor said.

The 62-year-old Mexican-American best-selling author has long since let go of his anger and now writes to bring people and cultures together.

Villaseñor will speak to University students and staff this weekend as part of MEChA's Second Annual Mictlampa Chuatlampa (Northwest) Regional Conference. His presentation begins at 5 p.m. Saturday in the Agate Hall ballroom and will be followed by a book signing. Tickets, which include lunch and dinner, are \$8 for students and \$15 for community members.

Villaseñor was born in the Spanish-speaking district of Carlsbad, Calif., in 1940. When he started school at age five, he did not know any English. After years

INSIDE
MEChA meets this weekend.

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'Green Machine' gobbles trash on campus

After searching for almost a year, DPS recently bought a \$28,000 street sweeper to keep up with University litter

Caron Alarab
Crime/Safety/Transportation Reporter

Every Saturday morning, the University's Lot 16 is a reflection of the previous Friday night — sloppy. Located at East 14th Avenue and Kincaid Street, the parking lot is constantly begrimed in broken glass bottles, Styrofoam beer cups and litter,

creating quite a chore for the Facilities Services staff members assigned to clean it by hand.

But after searching for more than a year, Department of Public Safety Parking and Transportation manager Rand Stamm has found the solution in the form of a fast, effective and expensive sweeper that handles the task more thoroughly than ever before.

"We will focus on the worst lots as necessary," he said in reference to Lot 16 and other such locations, "but the entire purpose is to make all our paved parking lots cleaner

and neater."

The Applied Sweeper 424HS — better known as "The Green Machine" — was recently purchased by DPS to deal with the constant problem of litter in campus parking lots. When needed, the green ride-on-or-walk-behind sweeper is operated by an existing staff member of the Parking and Transportation division.

The self-supported DPS division paid \$28,000 for the sweeper using self-earned funds from its Equipment Reserve Fund, Stamm said. Prior to the purchase, DPS con-

tracted out the service of cleaning lots, which cost several thousand dollars each time. The costly service could only be offered once a term at best, which wasn't enough considering trash volume.

"Complaints would come in every week," Stamm said, "and we couldn't keep up with it by hand."

Stamm began to gather information about small sweepers, asked for a Green Machine demonstration and eventually put it out to bid.

The quiet, 68.1 decibel,

Turn to **Machine**, page 6

WEATHER

Today: High 50, Low 23,
Mostly sunny, patchy morning fog

Saturday: High 52, Low 23,
Morning fog, then sunny

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday Computer lab paper waste has dropped significantly

Tuesday Just how far would you go for your Valentine?