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Online exclusives

News

Oregon has the highest hunger rate in the nation, and FOOD for Lane County tries to help...

More than 350 MEChA students from all over Oregon came to campus over the weekend...

PFC's Thursday meeting was bogged down by a 90-minute Oregon Daily Emerald hearing...

The sounds and sights of NASU's Winter Pow Wow brought Gerlinger Hall to life on Saturday...


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WEEKLY SPECIALS

Tuesdays
\$2 Tuesday
All you can eat wings
Hip hop Dancing

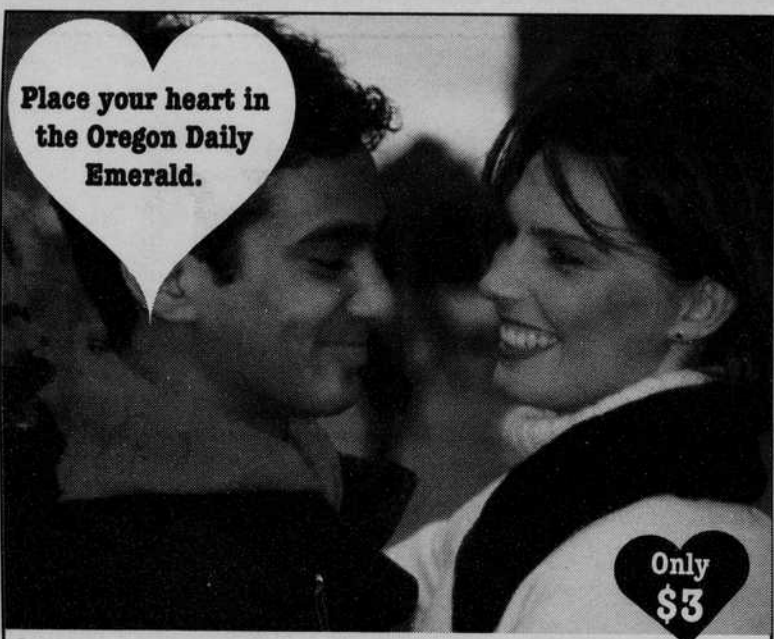
Wednesdays
Hip hop in Kokomo's
No Cover
Karaoke in Rock-n-Rodeo
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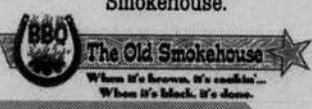


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Feel like asking a question?

Valentine messages will publish in the Oregon Daily Emerald on **Friday, February 14th**. Bring your heart in by February 12th. **Suite 300, EMU. 346-4343**

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(if more than 25 words type may be small and hard to read)

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Oregon Daily Emerald

News briefs

Public to discuss toxic plume

Environmentalists will gather at 7 p.m. today to discuss toxic plume found in the River Road, Whiteaker and Bethel neighborhoods. The event is open to the public, and local residents are encouraged to attend.

Panel members from the Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Toxic Alliance and others will speak about the situation and will answer questions. Local residents will also find out ways to protect their health and property value.

The event will take place at 1055 River Road.

—Brad Schmidt

City Council makes two-year goals

The Eugene City Council took the first step in creating its two-year goals and strategic planning Saturday, spending about seven hours generating ideas and debating.

At adjournment time, the City Council narrowly decided to send four broad goals to the city staff to be "fleshed out" before a final decision is made on whether to adopt them.

But clear City Council divisions were visible at the meeting, as each councilor had different perspectives on issues facing the city, leading to hours of disagreement about University relations, upkeep of essential serv-

ices, jobs, growth and major projects. Although the meeting was officially called to order and subject to parliamentary rules, facilitator Sue Dicile tried to keep the councilors from resorting to a vote on the goals.

"Goal-setting isn't vote-counting," she said. "Goal-setting is the process of acknowledging that everybody sitting at the table represents different values."

After negotiations had broken down and two motions to accept different combinations of goals were defeated, Dicile eventually called for councilors to put a sticker next to the set of goals they liked most. The majority chose the third option, which was to send all four goals to the city for evaluation.

The goals being sent to the city staff include:

- Strengthen the relationship between the city and the University, with the guarantee that the relationship be kept at a high-level policy stage and both positive and negative effects be analyzed. Councilors also agreed the relationship would require clarification of community values.
- Address the needs of the city's most vulnerable people. The city staff will likely analyze what constitutes "most vulnerable" and come up with possible solutions.
- Address out-of-school recreational and educational opportunities for regional youth.
- Ensure effective, efficient and cost-effective government. Possible sub-issues to this may be the hiring

of a performance auditor for the city, exploring regionalization opportunities and exploring whether city services are running with private-sector efficiency.

—Jan Montry

Teach for America brings information

Teach for America, an organization seeking to enhance K-12 education throughout the nation, will be on campus this week to recruit June graduates for its program.

The program selects a corps of about 2,000 college graduates each year for training as teachers. Individuals are then assigned to full-time teaching positions throughout the country. Assignments last two years and include additional training in education.

All positions are paid by the school district that corps members teach in and often provide benefit packages. Beginning salaries for teachers in the program range from \$22,000 to \$40,000.

The Teach for America events scheduled this week include an information table Tuesday and Wednesday in the EMU lobby from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; a screening of the CNN documentary "Teach for America," Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in 301 Chapman; and a general information session and dinner in the EMU Walnut Room from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesday.

—Aimee Rudin

Pot fine

continued from page 1

potentially have their financial aid suspended, and since MOD would

clear the record of first-time offenders, students could be given a second chance.

"Just based on comments at the last meeting, I certainly expect it

will pass," he said.

A similar action recently was taken with alcohol-related offenses, giving an incentive for students to join the Beginning Underage Success Through Educational Diversion program, also run by SAPP. BUSTED was created two years ago as an alternative to the maximum \$250 fine for a handful of alcohol-related offenses.

Municipal Court Judge Wayne Allen said at January's public forum that the increased fines, together with the new diversion program, will give offenders incentive to choose diversion.

"Our desire here is to build upon the success of the BUSTED program," he said.

But Todd Dalotto said the increase would hurt people who qualify for the Oregon Medical Marijuana Act.

Dalotto, who is the executive director for the Compassion Center, said many qualified medical marijuana patients turn to street use either because they can't afford the \$150 fee or because they can't find a participating physician. He said the fine increase will ultimately affect these people, who need marijuana to ease medical symptoms but can't obtain it legally.

"Although the Oregon Medical Marijuana Act protects regular patients, it actually covers a small amount of patients," he said. "A lot of valid, otherwise qualified medical patients out on the street possess less than an ounce that they use for medicine."

Tonight's meeting will be at 7:30 in the City Council chambers.

Contact the senior news reporter at janmontry@dailyemerald.com.



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RELATIONSHIP CHECK-UP

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