

# Bus Project engages youth in politics

The project invites many Oregonians to participate in politics and to support progressive candidates

**Roman Gokhman**  
Campus/City Culture Reporter

The Oregon Bus Project represents a cross between MTV's "Road Rules" and "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" — it's a bus full of politicians and students traveling around Oregon in support of progressive candidates in swing districts where the vote can go either way.

The project is now in its second year of increasing youth participation in politics, and supporters say it has been incredibly successful. The brainchild of Portland lawyer Jefferson Smith, the project has been championed by Democrats all over the state.

"I was the person to say 'We need to get on the damn bus,'" Smith said, adding the project would not be possible without the support of others — such as Gov. Ted Kulongoski, former Gov. John Kitzhaber and Sen.

Ron Wyden, and many high school and university students.

Kulongoski said the project gave a renewed energy to campaigns in 2002.

"(The project) brought a fresh new way for young people to have an immediate impact on the political process," he said in an e-mail interview.

**"(The project) brought a fresh new way for young people to have an immediate impact on the political process."**

**Ted Kulongoski**  
governor of Oregon

Oregon Secretary of State Bill Bradbury said he also supports the project because he is worried that youth participation in politics is declining.

"That's a real concern," he said. "I support anything involving getting

young people to vote." Bradbury has given four speeches in support of the program and of its leader.

Smith said he has several goals for the project: Bridge the urban-rural divide that separates liberals in metropolitan areas and conservatives in agricultural towns, engage people — especially youths — in politics, and get them to vote for progressive candidates. All of the candidates the project has supported to date have been Democrats.

"We're not adverse with supporting progressive Republicans — as long as they are truly progressive," said Portland attorney Anne Martens, Smith's coworker.

Project members bought a 1978 touring coach in May and "filled it with crazed loons," Smith said.

"Riders" travel to cities and towns where progressive candidates have a chance to win elections, hold community conversations and go door-to-door to support these candidates.

Project members select the candidate they want to support by judging his or her attention to the "six E's" — education, election reform, envi-

ronment, economic fairness, equal rights and health care.

Martens said she joined the project to counteract cynicism in politics, adding that many people complain about the effect politics has on their lives without doing anything about it.

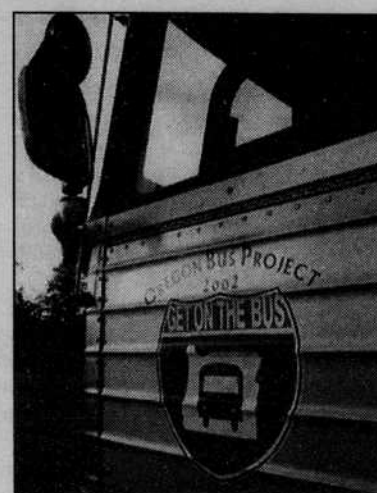
Smith said riders knocked on about 70,000 doors during the last Oregon election cycle.

"This is the most exciting thing in Oregon politics in the last 20 years," he said. "Oregon should be a state that sets an example to the nation of what a state can be like."

Smith, a 1996 University graduate, said too many people think politics is boring — something he is trying to change.

About two-thirds of riders have been students, Smith said. University students, such as ASUO President Rachel Pilliod and College Democrats Co-Chairman Mike Linman, have gone on several trips.

University freshman Eathan Firpo, who rode on 10 trips and interned for the project, said Jefferson's dream has been successful so



Courtesy

far. Firpo said he got involved in the project because he was tired of voicing his opinions but not reinforcing them with actions.

"I had been an armchair philosopher too long without doing something," he said. "I needed to be a part of it."

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

## STUDENT TRAVEL

# web fares

and NOT just online

London.....	\$467
Paris.....	\$386
Amsterdam...	\$406
Sydney.....	\$1475
Madrid.....	\$379
Rio de Janeiro..	\$668

Fare is roundtrip from Eugene. Subject to change and availability. Tax not included. Restrictions and blackouts apply.

877 1/2 East 13th St. (541) 344.2263

[www.statravel.com](http://www.statravel.com)

STA TRAVEL

ONLINE >> ON THE PHONE >> ON CAMPUS >> ON THE STREET

### Crime watch

#### Theft and recoveries

The Department of Public Safety received stolen bike reports from Hamilton Complex and from an off-campus location. DPS also received four found property reports.

**Saturday, Feb. 15, 11:52 p.m.:** DPS received a report of a subject carrying two bicycle tires at the East 13th Avenue and Agate Street intersection.

#### Disorderly conduct

DPS received eight suspicious subject reports, four graffiti reports, three noise reports, three trespassing reports, two vandalized vending machine reports and two disorderly conduct reports.

**Saturday, Feb. 15, 6:55 a.m.:** DPS received a report of a male subject on the roof of Gilbert Hall.

**Sunday, Feb. 16, 1:51 a.m.:** DPS received a report of a verbal dispute at Lot 16, near PLC.

**Monday, Feb. 17, 2:27 a.m.:** DPS received a report of harassment, which occurred via online instant messenger at Bean Complex.

**Monday, Feb. 17, 4:00 p.m.:** DPS received a report of two students being stalked near Pacific Hall. Eugene Police Department is presently investigating a possible stalking order on the suspect.

**Monday, Feb. 17, 4:37 p.m.:** DPS received a report of public indecency by a male subject at the Knight Library.

#### Alcohol and drugs

DPS received reports of five issued minor in possession of alcohol citations, three alcohol-related incidents and three drug law violations.

**Tuesday, Feb. 11, 12:44 a.m.:** DPS received a report of the smell of marijuana in Bean.

#### Miscellaneous

DPS received 10 towing/traffic-related reports, three sleeping suspect reports and two can rummaging reports.

**Friday, Feb. 14, 11:08 a.m.:** DPS received a report of two dogs exhibiting violence near East Campus Housing.

**Saturday, Feb. 15, 10:53 p.m.:** DPS received a report of one subject camping at Lot 16, near PLC.

## ODE DISPLAY ADVERTISING

# 346-3712

## Exposure

continued from page 1

officers to issue more than a letter of trespass.

Hicks said neither of the two alleged masturbators are University students, and EPD spokeswoman Kerry Delf added that the two suspect descriptions are completely different.

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

## Do you need to take the

### GRE • GMAT • TOEFL • PPST/PRAXIS

The University of Oregon Testing Office is an official ETS computer-based testing site. Testing is available year-round, Monday-Friday, 2 sessions a day. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 541.346.2772 or by visiting the Testing Office.

The Testing Office is located on the 2nd floor (Rm. 238) of the University Health and Counseling Center, 1590 E. 13th Ave., Eugene OR.

The period of greatest demand is usually Sept. through March, so it makes sense to **plan ahead**.

For more information visit the Testing Office web site at <http://www.uoregon.edu/~testing/>

?

## Summer Employment

### Glacier National Park Montana

**Apply Today!**

**Interviewing On Campus March 3rd**

**The Resort at Glacier, St. Mary Lodge**

**For information call:**

# 1-800-368-3689

**Apply Online @ [www.glacierparkjobs.com](http://www.glacierparkjobs.com)**

**Oregon Daily Emerald**  
P.O. Box 3159, Eugene OR 97403

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published daily Monday through Friday during the school year by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co. Inc., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon. The Emerald operates independently of the University with offices in Suite 300 of the Erb Memorial Union. The Emerald is private property. The unlawful removal or use of papers is prosecutable by law.

**NEWSROOM — (541) 346-5511**  
**Editor in chief:** Michael J. Kleckner  
**Managing editor:** Jessica Richelderfer  
**Freelance:** Ayisha Yahya, *editor* **News desks:** Brook Reinhard, Brad Schmidt, *news editors*. Jan Montry, *senior reporter* — city/state politics, Jennifer Bear, *senior reporter* — city/state politics, Roman Gokhman, *campus/city culture*, Caron Alarab, *safety/crime/transportation* **Pulse:** Jacquelyn Lewis, *editor*. Ryan Bornheimer, *senior reporter*. Helen Schumacher, Aaron Shakra, *reporters*. Joe Bechard, Nika Carlson, Natasha Chilingirian, Peter Hallinan, Mason West, *columnists* **Sports:** Peter Hockaday, *editor*. Adam Jude, *senior reporter*. Hank Hager, Jesse Thomas, *reporters*. **Commentary:** Pat Payne, *editor*. Salena De La Cruz, Meghann Farnsworth, Philip

Huang, Julie Lauderbaugh, Kathryn Petersen, Sarah Spellman, *columnists* **Design:** Colleen Froehlich, *editor*. A. Scott Abts, *senior graphic designer*. Jennie Cramlet, Adelle Lennox, *graphic designers*. Steve Baggs, Peter Utsey, *illustrators*. Tyler Wintermute, *junior illustrator* **Photo:** Adam Amato, *editor*. Jeremy Forrest, *senior photographer*. Danielle Hickey, Mark McCambridge, *photographers* **Copy:** Jennifer Snyder, Jennifer Sudick, *copy chiefs*. Susan Gayton, Colleen McDonald, Heather Thompson, Travis Willse, Talia Wilson, *copy editors* **Online:** Erik Bishoff, *editor*. Helen Irwandi, *webmaster*. **BUSINESS — 346-5512** **General manager:** Judy Riedl **Business supervisor:** Kathy Carbone **Receptionist:** Sarah Goracke **Distribution:** Joel Domreis, Heather Lake, Matt O'Brien, John Long, Mike Sarnoff-Wood

**ADVERTISING — DISPLAY 346-3712 CLASSIFIED 346-4343**  
**Director:** Becky Merchant **Sales manager:** Michael Kirk  
**Special publications and classified manager:** Hilary Mosher  
**Sales representatives:** Tim Bott, Michelle Chan, Aaron Golden, Kim Humphries, Jenn Knoop, Lindsay McNamara, Mickey Miles, Valisa Nelson, Laura Staples, Sherry Telford, Jeremy Williams **Assistants:** Liz Carson, Katy Cooney, Katy Hager, Erin O'Connell, Keri Spangler, Kate Workman

**PRODUCTION — 346-4381** **Manager:** Michele Ross  
**Production coordinator:** Tara Sloan **Designers:** Laura Chamberlain, Emily Cooke, Matt Graff, Andy Holland, Marissa Jones, Jayoung Park, Laura Paz, Kira Stoops