

Day-long fast to raise hunger awareness

The Newman Center is hosting a fast starting on Friday to increase understanding of global hunger issues

Aimee Rudin

Family/Health/Education Reporter

"The first freedom of man, I contend, is the freedom to eat," Eleanor Roosevelt said.

Every day, about 24,000 people around the world die from hunger and related causes, according to a Stanford University report on worldwide hunger. On Friday, University students

and members of the community will have an opportunity to gain first-hand experience with hunger and how it affects the body and mind.

The St. Thomas More Newman Center is sponsoring a 24-hour fast in an effort to raise awareness about worldwide hunger. The fast starts at noon on Friday, and participants should plan on meeting at 5 p.m. in the St. Dominic room of the center, located at 1850 Emerald St.

Justin Zuiker, one of the event's student coordinators, said the fast will use the honor system.

"Because of work and school schedules, we will not be meeting as a group until 5:00 p.m.," he said. "But all participants must not eat from noon Friday to noon Saturday."

In order to encourage a feeling of solidarity and unity, participants in the fast are encouraged to bring a sleeping bag and stay the night at the center, Zuiker said.

Saturday morning the group will travel to the FOOD for Lane County community garden. There, they will help till the soil and, in doing so, gain an understanding of worldwide hunger, said Father David Orique, associate campus minister at the Newman Center.

"The fast has four main components," Orique explained.

"There is the physical aspect of denying food to the body, an educational aspect will occur in the evening during a series of readings and activities, a spiritual aspect in the form of prayer and thought and the last will occur when participants take action against hunger by working at the garden."

Orique said one of the goals of the fast involves participants taking their thoughts off their own hunger and instead focusing on world hunger and its ramifications.

"As members of the Catholic faith we try to look at the idea of social justice," he said. "We try to answer the question, 'Why are people hungry?'"

Sister Dodi, a long-time volunteer


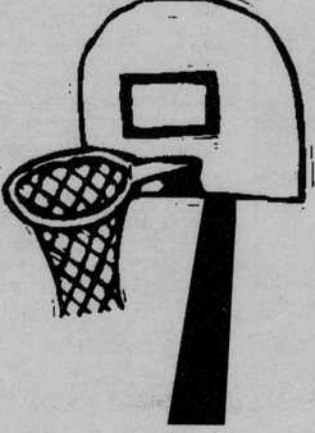
at the Newman Center, said that hunger is often looked at as a plague of the lazy, and she is adamant that this is incorrect.

"Hunger persists because hungry people lack the opportunity they need to bring their own hunger to an end," she said. "Hungry people are not the problem — they're the solution. The world does not have a billion starving mouths to feed. It has one billion hard working courageous human beings whose creativity and productivity must be unleashed."

For more information about the 24-hour fast contact the Newman Center at 343-7021.

Contact the reporter at aimeerudin@dailyemerald.com.

PLAY HARD, EAT WELL!

EMU • REC CENTER

Guess the Score

Thurs 3/6 Ducks : _____ vs. ASU : _____
 Sat 3/8 Ducks : _____ vs. AZ : _____

Match: 1 score 2 scores 3 scores 4 scores
 Win: 44 oz Mug 22 oz Smashie \$20 Smashie Bucks \$500 Cash Prize

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____

Prizes and participation may vary. Prizes must be redeemed within 7 days. Some restrictions apply, see store for details. Entries must be submitted at the EMU or Rec Center locations before 3 pm on Thursday, March 6.

Environment

continued from page 1

Along with DiPeso there will be keynote speakers including Krishna Iyer, a former justice on India's Supreme Court, and the Reverend Al Sharpton, who is currently contending for the Democratic presidential nomination.

LAW outreach director Rachel

Bredfeldt said it wasn't feasible to look at environmental justice by just looking at national issues, which is the reason for the mixed group of speakers.

"We wanted to have an international focus and a diverse group," she said.

Riman agreed with Bredfeldt, adding there would also be a large number of panels and workshops

that will focus on multiple issues. Riman also said organizing the conference was rewarding to him because the event will bring together a variety of people.

"It's a rejuvenation of environmental activists. ... (We) spur each other on," he said.

Contact the reporter at alishauhnessy@dailyemerald.com.

Forum

continued from page 1

football head coach Mike Bellotti earns more money than the governor and called it "disturbing."

Community member George

Beres discussed the idea of separating athletics from academics in college funding. Retail consultant Bruce Miller referred to recent newspaper articles in emphasizing the social power of college athletes. Former University athletic

director and avid Title IX advocate Becky Sisley proposed bringing back the "reasonableness" of college athletics funding.

Contact the reporter at caronalarab@dailyemerald.com.

Yadili

continued from page 1

love, discipline and Nigerian culture. As a middle child between one younger and two older brothers, Okwumabua said being picked on as a child was frustrating, but when she looks back, she wouldn't change a thing.

"It made me a lot tougher," the 19-year-old said.

Before graduating from Glenlawn Collegiate High School, Okwumabua studied hard, played soccer and basketball, ran track and volunteered for several causes, including mentoring elementary kids and visiting with senior citizens.

"Basically, anything I could get my hands on in the community," she added.

When she first arrived in Eugene, Okwumabua said it took a little time to get used to the surroundings and the people.

"It's a little quieter than the city I came from," she said. "We didn't have too many trees, either."

To keep her sanity between practice and class, she said she likes to listen to rap, rhythm and blues, soul, gospel and reggae music. And although she likes to

spend time on the phone, she said she hasn't kept in touch with her high school friends as much as she would like. She says her family is a different story, however.

"I miss them a lot and we talk during the holidays," she said. "But I especially miss the food."

Her mother, Christina, always made traditional Nigerian cuisine for her family, including jello rice — a seasoned dish made with onions and tomatoes — and anything with the banana-like fruit, plantain. Okwumabua's parents, Christina, a math teacher, and Nat, a financial analyst, have lived in Canada for almost three decades after moving from Nigeria and marrying a few years later. Though she has never taken to sewing herself, Christina contributed authentic Nigerian fabrics to the hand-made quilt that now sits on the bed in her daughter's residence hall room.

One of the things Christina said she misses most about their time together is the hours her daughter would spend doing her hair.

"She was my hair dresser," Christina said. "And she always had to do hers herself. I found her to be very independent"

When she makes time for it, Okwumabua said she enjoys braiding

and adding extensions to her hair, partly because it saves her a lot of money. But before music, braiding and even basketball, she said her classes are number one on her list of priorities, adding that her parents always made sure she finished her studies before going out and having fun. Even when it came time to celebrate her birthday last month, the undeclared major said it wasn't anything special because she had to study for a midterm the next day.

Besides getting a happy birthday phone call from her family, Okwumabua also received her daily call from boyfriend Mychal Smith. The couple met in Canada last summer while Smith was visiting from Alabama to see family. After being together for about eight months, Okwumabua said she talks to Smith twice a day on average.

"He's my wake-up call in the morning," she added.

Okwumabua's roommate and teammate, freshman Carolyn Ganes, said the lovebirds talk on the phone all the time.

"She talks to her boyfriend a lot," she said. "Like, a lot."

After getting over her initial shyness and settling into the groove of the team and college life, Okwumabua said she considers Eugene to be a second home and her friends a second family. One other thing she has gotten used to is her teammates' nickname for her — "Chuke" — taken from the second part of her full first name, Yadilichukwu. Her studies, her team, her hobbies and her nickname have all contributed to Okwumabua's sense of comfort in what seemed foreign and unfamiliar just two terms ago.

"This is more or less my home now, and I am looking forward to moving out of the dorms, getting my own place and making the best of the next few years," she said.

Things are piecing together nicely.

Contact the reporter at caronalarab@dailyemerald.com.

SPRING BREAK 2003



Picture Yourself Somewhere Fun!

*\$99 Round Trip With Student Advantage Card
 *\$129 Round Trip With College ID

Or Save 15% on walk-up fares with Student Advantage Card

Always affordable. Always convenient. Always hassle-free.
 Visit www.greyhound.com or call 1-800-231-2222

GREYHOUND

*Three-day advance purchase required. Offers valid for travel 2/17/03 - 4/30/03. Easter blackout dates apply. Not valid in combination with any other discount fare. Some restrictions and limitations may apply. Student Advantage discount subject to change and availability. Prices subject to change without notice.

Le Petit Gourmet Bakery

Wedding Cakes

Affordable elegance since 1985.

Call for your free consultation and samples.

Le Petit Gourmet Bakery
 Located next door to the Wild Oats Market
 50 E. 25th St. • 485-1377

STOREWIDE SALE!

20-70% OFF

Ski Equipment
 Downhill • Cross Country
 Snowboards • Clothing

On Now!

Berg's Ski Shop

13th & Lawrence • 683-1300 • www.bergsskishop.com