Group receives awards for CD-ROM state atlas

A team from the geography department earned "Best in Show" for the animated map computer program

Andrew Shipley

Freelance Reporte

This year, the University is gaining national recognition once again, not for an athletic team, but for a team from the geography department's InfoGraphics Lab. The group recently won awards for creating a CD-ROM version of the Atlas of Oregon, which is a comprehensive guide of the state's economy, culture, history and natural resources.

The CD-ROM was recognized at the 2002 International Map Design Competition, hosted by the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping, or ACSM, earning both "Best in Show" and "Best in Category' awards. The awards will be presented on March 31 in Phoenix.

More than 70 experts from around

the state contributed to the original Atlas of Oregon, published in 2001. The InfoGraphics team, run by director James Meacham and designer Erik Steiner, then decided to transfer the data onto a two-disc CD-ROM.

Once the book atlas was compiled and designed, it was a matter of transforming the information from a print medium into a digital medium in a way that didn't lose any of the value and ease, and which, at the same time, took advantage of certain extremely interesting and powerful aspects of the digital world to present the data in new ways," Atlas text editor Tom Hager said in an e-mail interview.

Interesting features on the CD-ROM include an animation that allows the reader to observe geological change over time. On another page, readers can see Oregon's trade levels grow and shrink throughout the state's history, an effect that is impossible in the printed medium.

The Atlas has been hailed by many

as a triumph.

Allen Carroll, chief cartographer of the National Geographic Society, whose Family Reference Atlas was defeated by the Atlas of Oregon in the competition, said the University's entry was a "tour-de-force in cartography and design," according to the University Press Web site.

Students are also benefiting from the Atlas.

"The book and the CD-ROM have more information in them than I could ever realistically hope to use." said freshman Zak Bennet, who has used the Atlas. "The CD-ROM just makes it a lot easier to get to.'

The hard copy Atlas has already surpassed circulation expectations with sales of 10,000 and growing.

To purchase the Atlas of Oregon CD-ROM, which costs \$49.95, visit the University Press Web site www.uopress.com.

Andrew Shipley is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

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MIP

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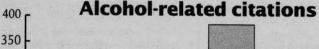
been issued so far this term, including the 31 citations issued last weekend. Sunday afternoon, a weekendshift watch commander said the weekend was "very active" after officers issued more than 20 citations between Friday and Saturday night.

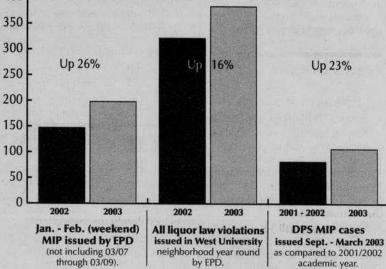
Aguilar, who works on citywide patrol, said the recent rise is not an indication of more people drinking but simply a reflection of more issued citations. Taking into account a variety of factors, from concerts and local events to holidays like Mardi Gras, Aguilar said one factor warmer weather - has been known to draw more people to the streets.

"When it's cold, people are partying indoors with doors and windows closed, but when it's warm they take out the tiki torches and open their backyards," he said. "People are also more likely to walk from place to place, which increases the chance that (officers) will contact them."

EPD spokeswoman Pam Olshanski said 142 of the 318 weekend MIP citations reported to EPD last October were issued in the West University neighborhood, an area somewhat notorious for parties and increased enforcement. Out of the 1,548 liquor-law violations issued citywide in 2002 - including possession, furnishing, purchasing and unlicensed kegs - 384 were issued in the area, meaning 24 percent of all citations were issued in a neighborhood holding only four percent of the Eugene population, she said. Despite variations in the most recent statistics because of delayed data entry and case updates, Olshanski said the numbers convey a significant increase in MIPs compared with winter term 2002.

DPS Associate Director Tom Hicks





through 03/09). Scott Abts Emerald

SOURCE: EPD and DPS reports

EPD and DPS reports reflect an increase in minor in possession of alcohol citations this year compared with 2002, while the number of alcohol-related citations issued in the West University neighborhood during the last two years has shown an increase as well.

said DPS has received reports of more than 107 MIP cases - which can include one to several citations per case - since September, equaling a 23 percent increase from the same time frame last year. In 2002, DPS reports showed MIP cases to be more prominent in October and February than the last three, warmer months of the school year - April, May and June. Although he couldn't speculate on the February rise, Hicks said October — being the first full month of the academic year - tends to involve more enforcement from DPS officers who are trying to set the authoritative tone for the year.

(not including 03/07

"To some extent, it's going to have to do with the level of enforcement," he said, "and that varies throughout the year."

Director of Student Judicial Affairs Chris Loschiavo said he believes the recent warm weather could have increased the attendance of parties held the last two weekends, but trying to predict wild or quiet weekends is a difficult task.

'No one saw the September riot coming, and that happened before classes started," he said.

Although Student Judicial Affairs receives a different, and in most cases higher, number of MIP reports compared to DPS. Loschiavo said one observation can be made by all local officials and authorities: "This year, we're already ahead of where we were last year."

Contact the reporter at caronalarab@dailyemerald.com.

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