



Earth Day 2003

Earth Day festivities including musical entertainment and an arts-and-crafts session will start today at 10:30 a.m. in the EMU

Ayisha Yahya
Freelance Editor

At a time when the Earth and its inhabitants face numerous ecological challenges, students and community members are joining hands to look for solutions. The campus' Earth Day Coalition will host various activities today to celebrate and educate students about environmental issues, in honor of Earth Day. Members from the ASUO Executive, OSPIRG, Outdoor Programs, Campus Recycling and the Survival Center organized the event, which runs from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the EMU.

ASUO Environmental Coordinator Erin Rowland said the event will not only expose students to environmental issues affecting communities globally, but also enable people to see what they can do to help. She said part of the coalition's focus this year is on alternative forms of transportation.

"We really want students to ride the bikes more," Rowland said.

Students can get free bike tune-ups and equipment from noon to 4 p.m. on the Memorial Quad between Chapman and Condon halls.

The coalition also wants to stress the importance of waste reduction and energy conservation. Rowland said one way students and faculty can help to save paper every day is by using reusable mugs for drinks. To create incentive, EMU food services will give a 50-cent discount to customers with reusable mugs all day today.

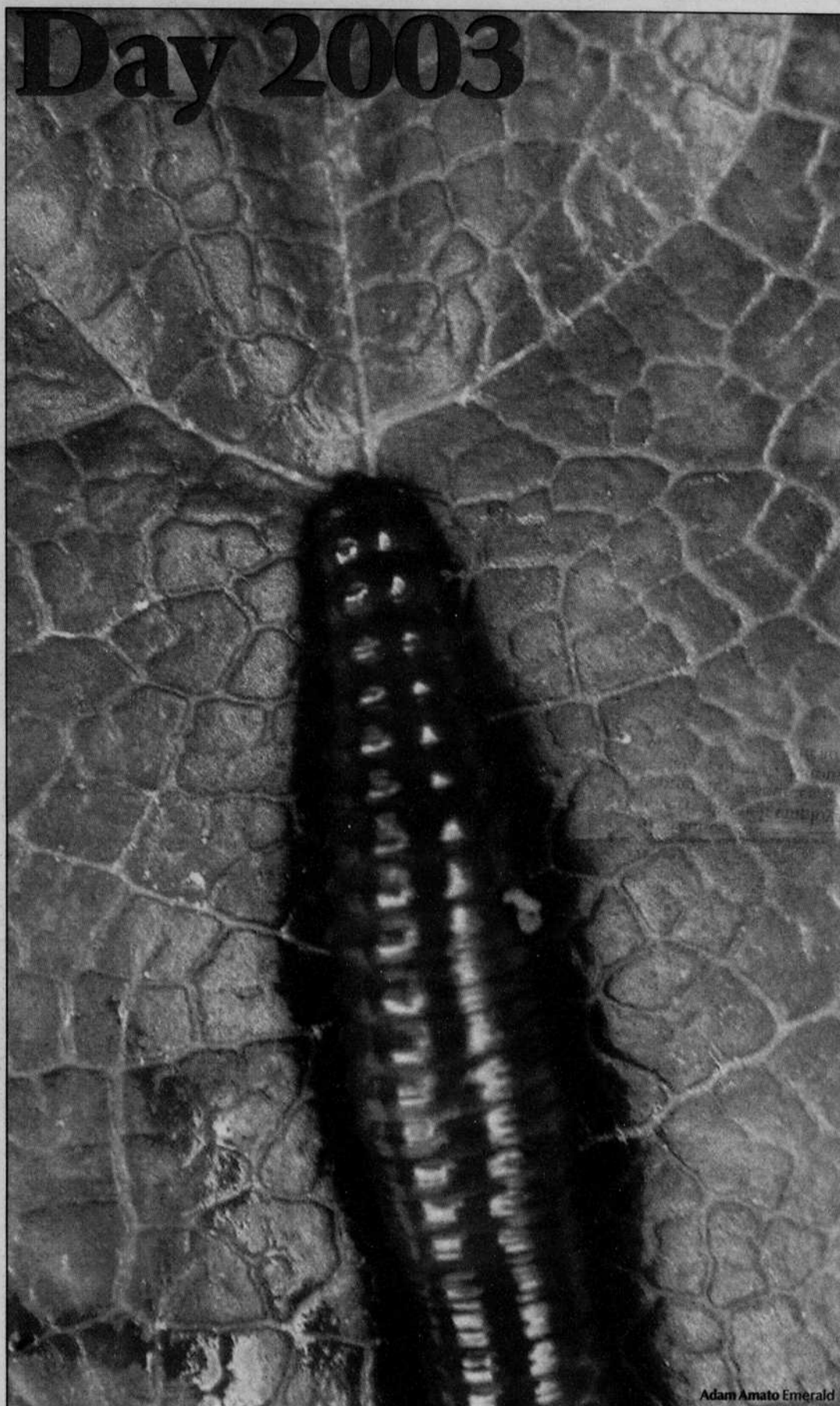
"We're trying to promote things students can easily access," she said. "One small change can make a big difference."

Outdoor Programs Environmental Coordinator Brenda Tincher had similar sentiments.

"Our biggest goal is to raise awareness on how people can change their own habits to help make a difference," she said. Tincher said the coalition wants to create a fun atmosphere through which students can learn.

Part of the Earth Day fun includes a nature arts-and-crafts session in the EMU Amphitheater where students can let their creative juices flow. The coalition will provide art materials. OSPIRG members will also create a giant picture of the Earth Day logo made entirely of bottle caps.

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Adam Amato Emerald

Bill will benefit student parents

House Bill 2450 would allow student parents to chalk up school hours as time toward TANF program requirements

Jan Montry
News Editor

Efforts to increase access to higher education for needy families — as a means to break out of poverty — are gaining momentum in the Oregon Legislature.

The Oregon House of Representatives unanimously approved House Bill 2450 last week, an effort that would allow welfare-to-work participants to count college as work, helping to fulfill labor conditions under the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.

The TANF program, an arm of welfare reform implemented in 1996, provides money to low-income families as parents work to become self-sufficient. According to the Oregon Department of Human Services, the objective of the program is to "reduce the number of families in poverty through employment and other community resources."

Rep. Deborah Kafoury, D-Portland, who helped spearhead efforts in the House, said in a press release that the 1996 TANF reform hurt Oregon's welfare-to-work participants by halting assistance to those who became involved with long-term education and training programs. This reform, coupled with requirements that TANF recipients must

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EPD reports 18 elevator trappings in four months

Campus elevators have trapped passengers 18 times in 2003 due to misuse and jamming

Caron Alarab
Safety/Crime/Transportation Reporter

The jolt is startling as the highlighted floor number above the sliding doors freezes, and all vertical momentum jerks to a stop. The small walls close in as the deadening silence and nervous body odor of the accompanying rider leave no room for comfort.

Being stuck in a campus elevator can be an annoying, time consuming and frightening experience for anyone. Since January, the Department of Public Safety has received 18 reports of people being stuck in elevators, but DPS Associate Director Tom Hicks said he doesn't think that's a particularly

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Adam Amato Emerald



Mark McCambridge Emerald

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Solar and photovoltaic panels help the University utilize sun power/Page 14