

# Oregon Daily Emerald



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## University bolsters Eugene economy

A recent Milken Institute report ranked Eugene's economy at No. 85 on a list of the nation's top 200 cities

By A. Sho Ikeda  
Reporter

The city of Eugene jumped significantly in the Milken Institute's recently released Best Performing Cities index despite Oregon's gloomy economic outlook, an increase partly attributed to the University's influence.

The Milken index — which measures where jobs are being created, where economies are growing and where businesses are thriving — ranked Eugene at No. 85 among the country's top 200 best performing cities. Eugene, which was ranked No. 103 last year, surpassed some larger cities like Seattle and San Francisco. Other Oregon cities ranked by the index include Salem at No. 133, and Portland at No. 141.

According to the Milken report, cities where government and higher education play an important role in the local economy are less susceptible to downturns in the national economy.

Although state funding for higher education has dropped, the University's level of sponsored research grew to a record \$75 million in 2002, a 30 percent increase from the previous year, said Rich Linton, University vice president for research.

Linton explained that 95 percent of the \$75 million came from non-state sources — 85 percent from federal sources and 10 percent came from private donations. Much of

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## SUMMER PARASITES



Pesticide experts suggest minimizing standing water around the home to reduce mosquito populations.  
Jessica Waters  
Emerald

## WEST NILE WATCH

Public health officials warn that the West Nile virus, to which officials attributed 284 deaths nationwide last year, will likely appear in Oregon this year

By A. Sho Ikeda  
Reporter

Warm weather, music festivals and other summertime events spell more people outside during prime mosquito biting hours, which means they may face the threat of

the West Nile virus.

State and local public health officials warn that the mosquito-borne virus will probably appear in Oregon this year and officials are making efforts to inform people about the virus and how to protect themselves from it.

Oregon is one of only four states that had no cases of West Nile virus last year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Protection. Washington state had two positive animal cases, while California had a confirmed human case in 2002. There were more

than 4,000 reported cases of human infections and 284 deaths nationwide in 2002.

To curb possible infections in Oregon, experts suggest many methods for reducing the risk of contracting the virus.

"The key, of course, is going to be to identify mosquito breeding areas," said Pollyanna Lind of the Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides. She explained that as little as one inch of water in a coffee can

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Jessica Waters Emerald

Surendra Subramani, an overseas program coordinator for the Study Abroad office, helps students arrange study in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, Latin America and Oceania.

## Partnership will enhance study abroad opportunities

Under the arrangement, AHA International will become a University program, and will allow more students to get credit for foreign study

By Ayisha Yahya  
Reporter

Hundreds of students and faculty members have chances each year to explore education in a different culture through study abroad programs, and a recent University partnership with the non-profit organization AHA International promises to expand these opportunities.

Under the merger, AHA International will become a self-supporting University program. The organization, which helps organize study abroad programs for about 35 universities nationwide, has worked in collaboration with the University since 1977. The organ-

ization works with the Northwest Consortium for Study Abroad — of which the University is a member — the Midwest Consortium for Study Abroad, the Independent Liberal Arts College Association and Pennsylvania Colleges in Cologne.

"I think (the partnership) reflects the University's desire to be an international university," said Tom Mills, the associate vice president of international programs.

AHA works with universities to organize courses at foreign universities, provide student registration and home stays, and maintain relations with sites of study. It has programs in 14 countries in Europe, Latin America and Africa, and in the past academic year facilitated study for 900 students.

In the past school year, about 170 University students

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### WEATHER

LOW  
55



HIGH  
85

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