

ARENA

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they cost to fund. The two sports help fund all other sports at the University.

The reasoning behind the additional costs is diversified. Relocation costs of moving the softball field, among other things in the area, is estimated at \$10 to \$12 million. Understanding the design more precisely and what is wanted has also added significant amounts.

Williams said the University is not prepared to re-evaluate the selection of the new arena site at this time, adding that Howe Field is still the

least expensive site when compared to land proposed for the new federal courthouse and the Autzen Stadium location. Those sites would have required \$20 to \$25 million for purchasing and land reconstruction.

Campus Planning Committee Chairwoman Carole Daly said the Howe Field site does not violate any of the guidelines set forth by the Long Range Campus Plan except for density issues. The committee is vocal in the arena's development because it oversees new projects at the University and ensures certain guidelines are followed in how the campus will be developed in the future.

"There's not a site anywhere on campus that you could build this — whether you built it at Autzen Stadium, whether you built it here — that would not exceed the density and you would have to do the same thing," Daly said.

English Professor James Earl has a different opinion. Earl has expressed his concern regarding the new arena from the beginning, saying he doesn't see the need for a new facility at all.

"I have a hard time getting comfortable with the idea that we are going to be the school that has two arenas," Earl said. "That's a level of excess already, even before we even talk about

the nature of the new arena."

Earl also has said that when the University originally went public about the new arena, the cost was \$90 million, or at the low end of the original range. Now that the cost has doubled, Earl believes the \$180 million figure is at the low end of another range.

"What you're watching is the tip of the iceberg," Earl said. "You're just watching the arms race at work. Nothing is surprising in what's happening here. Expansion is the name of the game."

Earl said he recognizes there is strong commercial pressure for Oregon to have an arena right now, and

he expects there is a 50 percent chance of the arena being built.

Williams said the opening of the arena — slated for the start of the 2006-07 basketball season — is in jeopardy because of delays in dealing with debt financing.

"I don't think we're at the point where we know there is going to be a delay but we're certainly getting close," Williams said. "There's a certain reality setting in here in terms of revenue and cost that's causing us to sharpen our pencils."

Contact the sports reporter at jessethomas@dailyemerald.com.

EDUCATION

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center at the Oregon Hillel and an Israeli interest group to suit that purpose, he said. Litwer is also on the executive board of Alpha Epsilon Pi, a Jewish fraternity on campus; works with the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, an Israel advocacy group; and helped found a new advocacy group whose aim is to push for stronger political ties between the United States and Israel.

Oregon Hillel Executive Director Hal Applebaum, who has known Litwer for more than two years, said he was "instrumental" in creating and enhancing the Israel resource center at Oregon Hillel.

"He returned energized and committed to sharing not only his experience but also the importance of, not only Jewish students, but all students connecting with the state of Israel," Applebaum said.

Litwer wasn't always so involved in Israel advocacy, he said. Something about Israel changed him.

"Like many people, I used to have some real misconceptions about Israel," Litwer said. "When I was there, there were a couple of things that just really got under my skin, (especially) meeting people whose lives have been severely affected by the war in Israel that, I believe, is ongoing."

Litwer said he met an Israeli man who continued to direct a center for children with broken families even

though the man had recently experienced his own personal tragedy.

"While we were there, there was a dog that was following us around while we got the tour (of the center) — a beautiful golden retriever," Litwer said. "I asked about the dog and it turned out the dog was his daughter's. We found out after we left that his daughter had been shot by a Palestinian sniper just 10 months prior."

"There's nobody in Israel who hasn't lost a family member. I can't imagine what living like that would be like. You come back here and you see headlines, like yesterday's in The Register-Guard, talking about this 'Berlin Wall' that they're putting up so they can live safely. I could hardly not do something, you'd feel the same way,

All I could think to do about it is to hope to educate some people."

Litwer said during his trip he also was struck by how similar the Israelis are to Americans, both socially and politically. In fact, he said he felt at home there, which surprised him because he previously thought of the Middle East as purely "exotic."

He said he felt it important to educate people about the similarities between the two countries — especially regarding their mutual belief in democracy and human rights — so they can see the importance of the United States supporting Israel.

Litwer must split the grant evenly between two community charities of his choice; however, one must be in Israel and one in Eugene. He has not

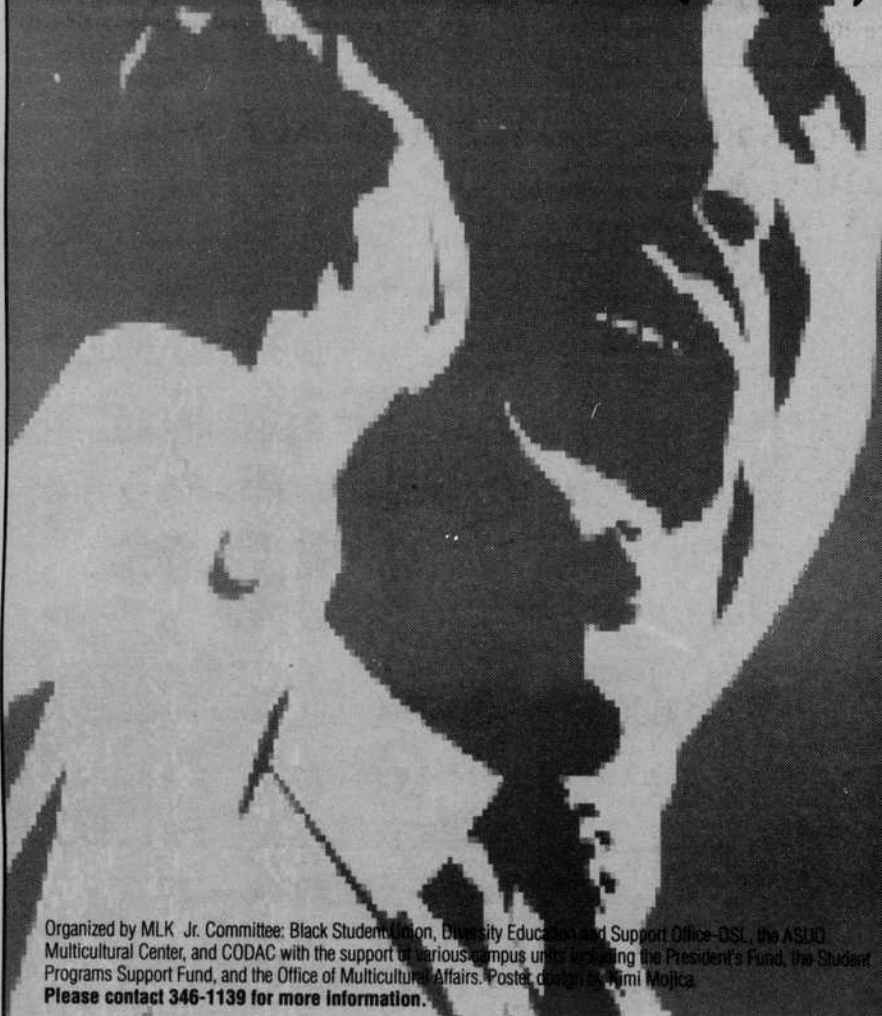
yet decided how to spend it, he said.

Litwer said more and more people are becoming interested in Israel through the efforts of Jewish advocacy groups. In fact, he said birthright Israel set a record during winter break by sending more than 6,000 people to Israel.

"It's starting to hit critical mass," he said. "People are realizing that the best way to make general conclusions about how you feel about Israel as a Jew is to go. When I came to this campus there were very few people who would describe themselves as pro-Israel advocates ... now there's a whole club. I think we've done quite well."

Contact the people/culture/faith reporter at jaredpaben@dailyemerald.com.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Recommitting Ourselves to the Legacy January 19-31, 2004



Monday, January 19

NAACP MLK Day Annual March • 9am start

Route starts at the Serbu Center parking lot on 2727 MLK Blvd. and ends at the EWEB Building for a short program. More info: NAACP 541-431-1119

Springfield Celebration • 2-4pm • Springfield Middle School

1084 G Street Featuring speaker Ms. Lyllye Parker. More info: Elaine Hayes 541-485-1755

Eugene Celebration • 7pm • Hult Center

Featuring Mr. Ralph Wiley. More info: Greg Hanes 541-868-6050

Wednesday, January 21

UO MLK Jr. Keynote

Dr. Tricia Rose from UC Santa Cruz

7pm, Willamette 100

An author, feminist, noted hip-hop scholar and Professor of American Studies, Dr. Tricia Rose is an authority on politics of Black women's sexuality and issues of race, love and desire.

Thursday, January 22

A chance to engage Dr. Rose in intimate conversation about her lecture. Noon @ Knight Library Browsing Room (Please RSVP at 346-3216)

Saturday, January 24

"Feel the Spirit" Cultural Performances

8-9:30pm EMU Ballroom w/the UO Gospel Choir and the Eugene African Dance Troop

Wednesday, January 28

Unity Celebration and Candlelight Vigil

6 pm Gerlinger Lounge & 7pm Vigil Procession Begins Cross-cultural presentations by student activists and leaders honoring and reflecting on the teachings of MLK Jr. and his impact on communities.

Thursday, January 29

MLK Awards Luncheon

11:30pm Gerlinger Lounge

Saturday, January 31

Oregon Student of Color Coalition Conference Keynote

Yuri Kochiyama, human rights activist

Noon McKenzie Room 129-229 Friend of Malcom X and survivor of WWII Japanese-American Internment, renowned activist Yuri Kochiyama has championed human rights, protested radical inequality and supported political prisoners in the US and throughout the world.



Organized by MLK Jr. Committee: Black Student Union, Diversity Education and Support Office-DSO, the ASUD Multicultural Center, and CODAC with the support of various campus units including the President's Fund, the Student Programs Support Fund, and the Office of Multicultural Affairs. Poster design by Nimi Mojica. Please contact 346-1139 for more information.

O UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

The UO is an equal opportunity affirmative action institution committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Accommodations for people with disabilities will be provided if requested in advance.

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.

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