

NEWS BRIEFS

Two-for-one 'Emily' tickets available to newlyweds

University Theatre is offering a special wedding gift to newly married couples who wed after March 1. Bringing a marriage certificate to the EMU Ticket Office or the Robinson Theatre box office will allow couples to purchase two "Wild Nights With Emily" tickets for the price of one.

The play - which tells the story of poetess Emily Dickinson's relationship with longtime friend and sisterin-law Susan Gilbert Dickinson runs tonight and Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Robinson Theatre. Tickets are \$5 for University students, \$9 for seniors and University faculty and \$12 for the general public.

- Aaron Shakra

LGBTQA to host drag show Saturday in EMU Ballroom

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Alliance is hosting a 'Sizzle Drag Show" Saturday in the EMU Ballroom. The show begins at 8:00 p.m. and will feature a performance from popular drag performer Dred. The event will also include an amateur night section.

The free show is open to everyone. Interested participants should arrive between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the EMU Ballroom on Saturday to register. Sizzle is being held to raise awareness about AIDS and HIV. The Lane County Public Health Department and the HIV Alliance will be offering on-the-spot HIV testing.

"The purpose of the event is to enjoy ourselves and educate people in a non-abrasive way," LGBTQA member Jose Soto said.

- Jeremy Berrington

University food drive exceeds 90.000-pound goal

The University has gone beyond its original goal for donations for the 25th Governor's State Employees Food Drive.

"We've passed our goal of 90,000 pounds," Governmental Affairs Coordinator Karen Scheeland said.

The drive, titled "Caring Now Hunger Won't Wait!," ended March 5. During the food drive, faculty and staff from about 40 departments collected non-perishable food and money, including funds from payroll deductions, auctions, candy sales, bake sales and raffles.

Scheeland said the University raised \$16,345.58 in cash contributions alone, which translates to about 98,073 pounds of food since \$1 can buy six pounds of food.

Scheeland said the Lundquist College of Business raised \$3,163 from its auction, not including other fundraising efforts. The Psychology Department collected \$2,565, while Facilities Services turned in \$1,040 from payroll deductions alone. The School of Journalism and Communication also raised \$640.26 through various events.

Scheeland said the total number of pounds collected is higher because different departments still need to do some weighing.

"We may come close to last year." Scheeland said. Last year the University donated a total of 113,917 pounds.

The University's donations will be given to local food bank FOOD for Lane County.

- Ayisha Yahya



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INCIDENTS

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"I get more concerned when we have an anonymous report from a female student saying that she was sexually assaulted at a house," he said. "To me, that's a real serious issue."

Incidents in which fraternity members damage property or minors drink alcohol frequently cruise under Loschiavo's radar, however. Student Judicial Affairs is not out looking for rule breakers, Loschiavo said, and the office is not planning to start because the resources to investigate every lead simply don't exist.

For example, Loschiavo said, Delta Sigma Phi members damaged a rental facility in Waldport in spring 2003, but the fraternity was not punished by the University. Loschiavo, who is also the group's faculty adviser, said the fraternity made an agreement with the rental agency to resolve the issue. The fraternity was never officially censured, even though Loschiavo knew an incident had occurred.

Loschiavo wouldn't elaborate on how the group resolved the issue, but he said his office didn't punish the fraternity because the group's self-imposed punishment was exactly what he would have suggested.

Delta Sigma Phi spokesman James Runge said he couldn't comment on the incident. Efforts to interview chapter president Jason Breaux were not successful, despite Runge's assurance that Breaux would comment.

A self-governing greek system

Loschiavo said he allows IFC and the Panhellenic Council to handle many of the violations he hears about, even the serious ones. Both councils have been more active in recent years, he said, adding that this system allows members of the 12 University fraternities and eight sororities to take responsibility for their own violations

IFC Judicial Vice President Jay Gentzkow, who oversees the greek judicial boards and is a member of Theta Chi, would not return repeated calls and could not be reached when calls were made to the Greek Life Office during his scheduled office hours.

Kagan, who is a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon, said IFC's judicial board will impose sanctions on fraternities that violate greek rules.

"The ultimate goal of basically all of the greek community is to be selfgoverning," he said.

Many of its sanctions are geared toward education, not punishment, Kagan said. A common sanction would be for fraternity members to apologize for the harm caused and to begin an educational program that is "related to whatever infraction they caused."

Kagan said the first step in the greek punishment process is to send the rule violator to his fraternity's judicial board. Next, they may be sent to IFC's judicial board. If the violator breaks a studentconduct code rule, the case goes to Student Judicial Affairs, Kagan said.

Jesse Harding, who is a Student Conduct Committee co-chairman and current member of Pi Kappa Alpha, said fraternity members tend to take the punishment process more seriously when referred to Student Judicial Affairs because the office has the power to impose more sanctions than the greek councils.

On the other hand, Harding said, University-imposed rules such as the endorsement only work to undermine the self-governance aspect of the fraternities, which is a large reason for joining.

Harding said he supports higher GPA standards for fraternity members and for holding fraternities accountable "so long as that's something they're comfortable with, they

want and they're striving for."

Stopping the incidents

The responsibility for preventing offcampus incidents falls on many groups, Loschiavo said, not just Student Judicial Affairs. Members of the fraternity need to be responsible, he said, and national organizations, advisors and alumni boards need to actively work to enhance fraternity culture.

"I'm not sure there's anything we can do," Loschiavo said. "We're very limited in the types of consequences we can impose.

Loschiavo said the University could disaffiliate itself from a fraternity if repeated instances of property damage and rule-breaking occur; however, since he came here in 1999, the University has not taken such drastic steps.

"I think, ultimately, the students have to decide that it's a problem," he said. "They have to take ownership over their system."

When the University implemented endorsement standards in fall 2002, Sigma Nu and Pi Kappa Alpha were disaffiliated because they refused to sign the substance-free compliance agreement.

Harding said "big incidents," such as property damage at fraternity parties, are nothing new, adding that groups are just now getting caught. He said fraternities have calmed since the endorsement standards were introduced.

Loschiavo agreed, saying he's noticed a decline in fraternity-related incident reports to his office since the standards were invoked. He said it's too soon to start questioning whether those standards have worked and there will never be a "greek organization that will never make a mistake.

'I don't really know what's going on," he said. "I'm not out there. Is it a concern to me that we've had some complaints recently about property damage? Yes. Have we worked with those chapters to address it so that it won't happen in the future? Yes. Will it happen in the future? I don't know."

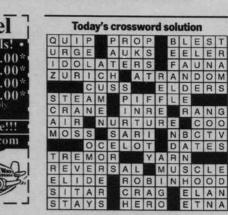
Kagan said progress toward a more academic-oriented greek system "has been exponential" since the endorsement standards were introduced. He said the greek community's culture has also changed.

We're based on community service, he said. "We're based on scholarships, and we're based on philanthropy now.

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

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