

Grads at Oregon State seek membership information

The university says release of graduates' information would violate privacy

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CORVALLIS — Members of the graduate student union at Oregon State University have filed an unfair labor complaint against the school, claiming the administration will not release full information on union member eligibility.

The university will not release the names and employment information of graduate teaching assistants to the union, claiming that release of that information would violate

the federal Family Education Rights and Privacy Act.

Luke Ackerman, the outgoing graduate union president, said it's nearly impossible to operate as a functional union when it's unclear just who belongs.

"We're really bargaining in the blind," Ackerman told The Corvallis Gazette-Times. "We have to be able to communicate with our members, and we don't know who are members are."

Union members only include those graduate students who are paid to teach or do research at the university that is not part of their work toward a thesis or dissertation, a distinction that can make tracking

members difficult.

The union is in contract negotiations with the university to renew a labor agreement that expired June 30.

David Shaw, OSU associate director of human resources, said the university had been asking graduate students to sign waivers allowing them to release their information to the union.

Ackerman said the university has offered to try to release some of the needed information in the form of directory information, rather than under the label of employment information to avoid violating the law.

Information from: Corvallis Gazette-Times

SPORTS BRIEFS

Oregon coach honored by Multiple Sclerosis Society

The Oregon Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society will honor Oregon men's basketball head coach Ernie Kent with the 2004 Hope Award.

The award, which is the highest honor given by the National MS Society, is handed out to an individual who exhibits outstanding philanthropy, community service and leadership.

The award will be presented to Kent on September 10 at McArthur Court at the annual Dinner of Championships gala benefit. Funds from the annual dinner will benefit the National MS Society.

Kent's resume includes the 2002 Pacific-10 Conference Coach of the Year and Basketball Times District Coach of the Year. He was also head

coach of the USA Basketball Junior National Team, who won the gold medal at the 2003 Global Games.

In the past three years, the men's basketball program under Kent has produced three NBA first-round draft picks, including Fred Jones (2002), Luke Ridnour (2003) and Luke Jackson (2004).

In 1977, Kent graduated from the University of Oregon with a degree in community service and public affairs.

Football program sets ticket sales record

Oregon's football program has set the record for football season ticket sales for the seventh year in a row, Senior Associate Athletics Director Dave Heeke said.

Oregon has sold 40,576 tickets so far, which exceeds last year's mark of 40,435. Approximately 50 season tickets remain for the upcoming 2004 football season.

Remaining single-game tickets go on sale to the general public on Friday, July 30. Heeke announced that he does not anticipate single-game tickets for the Oct. 30 home game against Washington to be available.

Single-game reserved seating will be available for Oregon's five remaining home games against Indiana (Sept. 11), Idaho (Sept. 25), Arizona State (Oct. 2), Arizona (Oct. 16) and UCLA (Nov. 13).

Tickets for the Indiana game will cost \$50 each, while the other four games will cost \$32 each.

Single-game tickets may be purchased this Friday beginning at midnight either online at www.GoDucks.com or later that morning at 9 a.m. by phone (541-346-4461 or 1-800-WEBFOOT) and in person at the Casanova Center Athletic Ticket Office.

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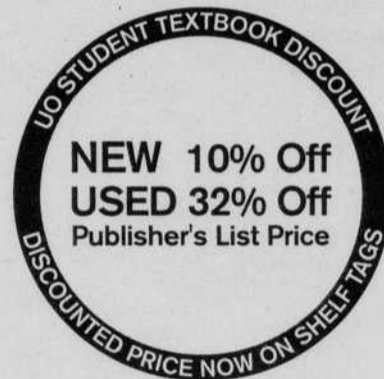
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