

Longhouse: Grand opening January 11

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and building the longhouse has taken over a decade," Hubin said. "There were major contributions from Dave Frohnmayer that he made available at his disposal and the UO student body voted unanimously to direct \$350,000 toward the project."

Hubin added that many people also contributed time, many writing grants. In addition, different Oregon tribes contributed money that helped in raising the \$1.2 million needed. The Coquille Indian Tribe and the Confederate Tribes of the Warm Springs donated certified wood. There were a number of unmentioned tribes that donated money and time as well.

The main focus of the longhouse has been to incorporate traditions and values of several American Indian tribes.

"The design was decided because we wanted to incorporate many cultures of tribes from North and South America," Bettles said. "The longhouse is more than a facility, it's a place for students to learn about other tribes and cultures."

Bettles said that although they have much in common, each tribe has something unique to bring.

"That's unique to a community and a building that represents true diversity," Bettles said.

There are a lot of new additions to the much-improved longhouse. It will hold restaurant-quality equipment, such as a commercial freezer, refrigerator and dishwasher.

Bettles said most powwows held on campus attract nearly 200 people, and a commercial dishwasher helps clean up after large gatherings. He added that there will also be a food preparation table, cabinets and a pantry.

In addition to the kitchen, there will be a large fireplace, changing rooms, restrooms, an office and a large maple floor similar to what is found in a gymnasium, Bettles said.

"Not having to deal with a non-tribal walking surface was desired, so we have a wooden floor," Bettles said.

The outdoors will be well landscaped. There will be a number of indigenous plants surrounding the building and on the roof, Bettles said. However, he added that because they have to be planted seasonally the landscaping process won't be complete until the spring. In addition there will be a roasting pit and dancing circle outside and,

to ensure privacy, the building will be surrounded by trees, Bettles said.

Academic Advisor James Florendo said he hopes the longhouse will benefit all students.

"It's a place to show support for Native students and provide a space for them to experience things with their families when they come here," Florendo said.

He added that they've been hoping for this new building since the old longhouse was condemned more than 20 years ago.

"They promised to rebuild it, but it got to the point where we thought it would never happen," Florendo said.

The grand opening of the Many Nations Longhouse is set for Jan. 11.

"I anticipate that all nine tribes and others will participate," Bettles said.

He added that most functions held in the longhouse are free as long as they don't conflict with tribal protocol; for example, drinking and smoking are not allowed.

"The longhouse gives a lot of support to students," Bettles said. "It's a safe haven in the hustle and bustle of University life."

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IN BRIEF

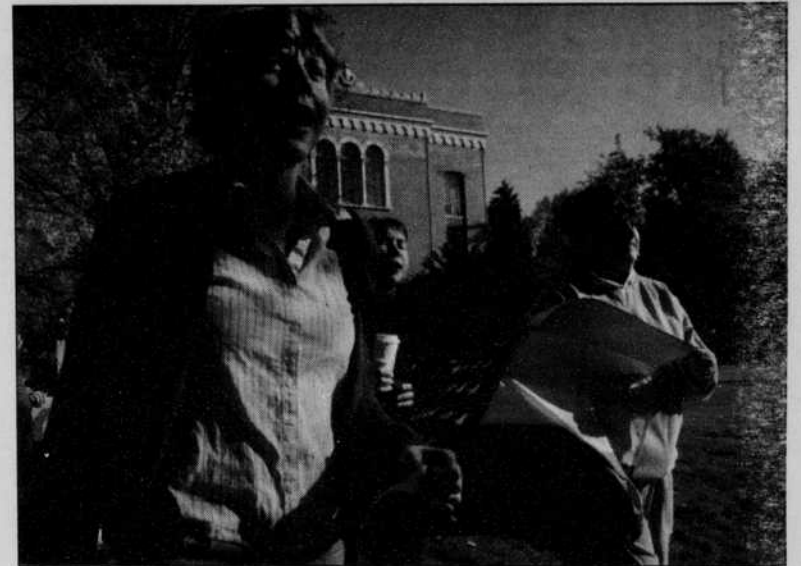
Kerry's votes key to Bush win, Rove says

WASHINGTON — Reflecting on how he delivered President Bush

his second term, White House political adviser Karl Rove admitted Sunday that John Kerry's vote for, then against, funding in Iraq and Afghanistan was the "gift that kept on giving." The deft strategy of Rove, whom Bush calls the architect of his re-election campaign, is

credited with helping move the nation from the 49 percent to 49 percent stalemate of the 2000 election to a 51 percent to 48 percent split in the Republicans' favor.

— The Associated Press



TIM BOBOSKY | PHOTOGRAPHER

University students Erin Dougherty, left, and Jes Burns march to the Lane County Deeds and Records office to make a statement about same sex marriage Friday afternoon.

Marriage licenses: Protest more than just a statement

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He added that it is not within his capacity to change state law, and the protesters should start there.

Hoehne, in an interview afterward, said he wasn't sure what would have happened if he tried to process their application, but added it probably would have been invalidated.

"It would probably be the same as issuing a marriage to an underage couple," he said.

The protesters then sat in the office as an act of civil disobedience. Some protesters called their parents to say they were "getting married."

Junior Erin Dougherty called her father to tell him about the protest.

"He was proud of me," she said,

her cheeks wet with tears. "He was like, 'keep trying.' It's just so overwhelming."

Junior Aaron Renner said the protest was inspired by civil rights movements from the past.

"This is the way that Martin Luther King, (Jr.), Mohandas Gandhi and all of the others have dealt with it," he said.

Cathcart said she saw the protest not just as a statement, but also as an opportunity to bring people together.

"People are taking the news and election really hard," she said. "This is one way of building community, showing support to one another."

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