

OREGON DAILY EMERALD

An independent newspaper

www.dailyemerald.com

SINCE 1900 | Volume 106, Issue 60 | Thursday, November 18, 2004



BRET FURTWANGLER | GRAPHIC ARTIST

All in the family

University Housing combined the maintenance and cleaning duties of residence halls and family housing units to increase efficiency

BY MEGHAN M. CUNIFF
NEWS REPORTER

University Housing has undergone a restructuring that housing officials say will lead to increased efficiency in the way business is run and rental units are maintained. It hopes to also improve the quality of customer service to residents.

Implemented Oct. 1, the restructuring combines residence hall maintenance and cleaning duties with those of family housing, duties that were once kept separate.

University Housing Director Mike Eyster

said residence hall maintenance facilities have a history of quick and efficient responses, and moving family housing duties to that area will allow family housing to concentrate on efficient customer service.

"I wasn't satisfied with the quality of services we were providing," Eyster said. "I think we can do a much better job with the organizational structure."

Nancy Wright, director of facilities and capital improvement, is now in charge of the family housing facilities previously overseen by Sheri Donahoe, associate director

of residence life.

Donahoe now concentrates on customer service areas, such as providing quick and efficient responses to residents' concerns, Eyster said.

Donahoe said the restructuring has not been in place long enough for anyone to get a clear idea of how it will affect day-to-day business. But because once-separate maintenance facilities now have "the same sewing pattern," Donahoe said, the restructuring should prove beneficial in all areas.

"It's going to be much more streamlined and efficient," she said.

The restructuring has resulted in additional responsibilities for members of upper

HOUSING, page 4



Cell phones capture students' attention

Camera phones are popular on college campuses, although the high price discourages some buyers

BY ANTHONY LUCERO
NEWS REPORTER

There are moments in life when the photographer within a person suddenly springs to life, and the desire to capture a defining event burns bright. Camera phones may be just the gadget for those kinds of moments.

Lower prices, convenience and more interest in cell phone features have created a market for camera phones, especially for college-aged students, said Vickie Liang, sales representative at A Plus Wireless, at 841 E. 13th Ave. Liang said students are very interested in the technology, but high prices on particular camera phone models keep many from buying.

"Students are usually looking somewhere around the \$100 area for camera phones," Liang said.

While camera phones may be considered a novelty feature by some, the integration of a camera into a phone has spawned a plethora of new features people use often, said Liang.

University sophomore Chris Marler, who picked up a Samsung A680 for the camera feature, said the phone was "fairly expensive," but the price after the rebate made it affordable. Marler said he uses the camera feature to snap pictures of notable things throughout the day.

"This past weekend I saw a cool car so I took a picture and showed it to friends, but I usually keep the photos to myself and use them for a screen saver or background on the phone," Marler said.

Sophomore Rachel Edwards recently bought a Samsung SGH-E600, but said she is not technologically advanced and is only now learning how to use its features. The phone is one of many new models that can record short movies, a feature she found after the phone recorded a movie inside her pocket.

"I've taken a few pictures so far, but my friends say they take up a lot of space on the phone, so I don't know how much I'll use it," Edwards said. "It came with software and a cord to e-mail photos to friends, so I want to



LAUREN WIMER | SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Sophomore Chris Marler poses with his self portrait, which he took with his Samsung A680 cell phone.

share photos down the road."

Laura Lawson, a friend of Edwards, said the feature that lets a photo pop up when someone calls is what appeals to her most, in addition to the simplicity of not having to carry around two different gadgets to take pictures and make calls.

Despite its conveniences, camera phones have traditionally been a second option, even for novice photographers, because of the absence of zoom, flash and quality that even some of the newest models lack.

Digital picture quality is measured by how many million pixels, or megapixels, compose a photo. Each pixel is a small dot, so the higher the megapixel count, the more detail in a photo. But even the typical 3.2-megapixel digital camera on today's market beats the best camera phone.

However, newer phone models are catching up to digital cameras in an effort to make a phone the one and only camera one needs to carry around. The 901i, recently released by

DoCoMo, has the capability to shoot pictures with two-megapixel quality.

Top-end models, like the Motorola RAZR V3, are also beginning to bridge the gap between phone and mobile multimedia center. In addition to a 2.2" color screen, the phone features an mp3 player for playing music or movies and short-range wireless capability, or Bluetooth, in addition to a camera.

Bluetooth in phones is beneficial because people can share files and photos over short-range distances, but it also lets Bluetooth-enabled accessories, like headsets, work with the phone wirelessly or broadcast to a speaker in a car without setting up the phone on the speaker system.

In the end, some students just want phones to be phones.

"With my phone I can make and receive phone calls, and that's all I need it to do," sophomore Kit Messinger said.

anthonylucero@dailyemerald.com

Relay race to inspire a healthy awareness

The Men's Center Civil War Relay team to run 50-mile race and discuss men's health issues

BY PARKER HOWELL
SENIOR NEWS REPORTER

When runners from the University Men's Center team pass the baton during Sunday's Civil War Relay, they won't just be competing for top honors in the 50-mile race — Men's Center Director Dave Miller said the race symbolizes men transferring knowledge and awareness of men's health issues.

Five runners will compete on the Men's Center team in the Nov. 21 relay, which stretches from Eugene to Albany. After the race, Men's Center representatives will hold a public discussion about issues affecting men's physical and emotional health.

The annual race, held the day after the Civil War football game between the University and Oregon State University, begins at 7 a.m. at Autzen Stadium. Participants will each run five two-mile legs, carrying the team up Coburg Road and along a route east of Interstate 5 through Brownsville. About eight hours later, the racers will cross the finish line at Linn-Benton Community College in Albany.

Counseling and Testing Center psychologist Jon Davies said the relay, which will also feature teams from OSU among the nearly 40 competing in the race, is a collaborative effort between the men's centers at the two universities. He said the teams will race "not in a competitive spirit, but a spirit

RELAY, page 16

IN BRIEF

Community honors transgender victims of violent hate crimes

Today is Transgender Day of Remembrance, which honors the lives of members of the transgender community who are victims of violence.

The University's Gender Outreach and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Alliance is hosting a speech and candlelight vigil in the EMU Gumwood Room at 7 p.m. today. The event will also feature an open mic session and a film, as well as signs for each person who died as a result of anti-transgender violence in the last year, according to Gender Outreach member Maceo Persson. Gender Outreach is a social support group for people who are transgender, gender variant or gender questioning, Persson said.

"I think it's important to educate about oppression (and) transphobia," he said. Persson added that many transgender people have expressed concerns about their safety or felt threatened.

Persson said there are social and institutional factors in place reinforcing the need for people to "police" people's gender. For instance, social norms demand that people always be neatly categorized as either male or female.

"It's really hard for people to get past that," he said.

The day of remembrance was initiated after the brutal murder of William/Rita Hester of Boston in November, 1998. It is the second year that the day has been observed on campus.

— Ayisha Yahya