

Residence Hall Association elects new members

The group is funded by room and board fees; they sponsor events and leadership development programs

BY JOE BAILEY
NEWS REPORTER

The Residence Hall Association elections have brought three freshmen to the RHA Executive Board for the 2005-06 academic year.

Jason Bruderlin will serve as vice president, Keith Bassett as finance chair and Melissa Hoffman as marketing and outreach chair. Elections were held from Oct. 18-19 in the lobbies of Barnhart, Carson and Hamilton complexes.

The RHA will manage a budget of

\$24,000 for the 2005-06 academic year, money that comes out of the room and board that residents pay. The budget is used to put on and sponsor events as well as pay for leadership development programs and capital improvements.

Bruderlin is excited about what he describes as limitless possibilities to enact positive change in the residence halls. He expects fellow residents to become more engaged with RHA as the year progresses.

"You're not really here long

enough to know anything about anything unless you're actively seeking out ways to get involved," he said. "People start to realize that RHA is spending their money and putting on programs and is a source for advocacy for their concerns."

RHA President Todd Mann, who was elected to his position last year, praised Bruderlin, calling him "a very driven person."

Mann shares Bruderlin's enthusiasm for the upcoming year.

Although the RHA has only had two meetings, Mann has been pleased by the participation of the new officers.

"I was very impressed by the caliber of the comments and the focus that

was made by those people," he said.

Mann said the RHA often serves as a training ground for campus leaders, offering them some of their first leadership opportunities as college students.

"It's a common trend within student leadership, if you start in RHA as a freshman, then as you move out of the halls you get involved in other organizations," he said. "It is really building a foundation of leadership."

In addition to the elected positions, a cabinet of seven students appointed by Mann serves on the RHA General Council, along with 18 student representatives elected by the residence complexes.

Freshman Kristin Vanderburgh, the

RHA administrator, serves in the cabinet. Her primary responsibility is creating the RHA newsletter, sent to residents. She said that while the RHA includes an impressive group of leaders, the atmosphere remains relaxed.

"We're still just a bunch of students trying to figure out what's best," she said.

Serving along with Vanderburgh on the RHA Cabinet will be Krystal Collins, staff relations coordinator; Trevor Whitbread, director of athletics; Pat Cunningham, Webmaster; Liz Pfriem, publicity coordinator; Justin Tandingan, diversity coordinator; and Whitney Pollack, recognition chair.

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COURTESY

In 1996 someone filled in a small drainage channel on Cody Avenue, causing flooding that winter.



Flooding occurred in 1996 on West 17th Avenue and Hayes Street.

COURTESY

Flood: Damage could affect waste systems

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Several days of heavy rainfall in Dec. 1964 caused the most massive flooding recorded in Eugene.

Damage from the 1964 flood can still be seen on the Rogue River near Graves Creek, in Southern Oregon, where raging flood waters destroyed a 50-foot high bridge, Solin said.

But that degree of devastation is not likely to happen again because of additional dams built upstream on the McKenzie River, Solin said.

In the event of an 100-year flood, 71,000 cubic feet of water will flow down the Willamette River at Highway 126 in Springfield, according to the mitigation plan.

Areas that lie on a floodplain will become inundated.

Four percent of structures and 61 miles of roadways in the Eugene/Springfield area lay within mapped 100-year floodplains, the plan stated.

In 2003, there were about 3,500 flood insurance policies in Lane County and 320 of the policy holders filed claims, according to the plan.

Areas in the city that are outside of the floodplain may experience flooding because of plugged and overflowing storm water drains. The areas at highest risk for problematic stormwater drainage in Eugene are the Amazon Creek and basins in the south hills, the

mitigation plan states.

Near campus, the intersections of East 18th Avenue and Hilyard Street, East 25th Avenue and Agate Street and East 25th Avenue and Alder Street are prone to flooding, yet they lie outside of mapped floodplains.

Major flooding may also cause wastewater systems to become unusable, which is one of the city's greatest concerns, Solin said. After the 1996 flooding, a wastewater pump station near the airport broke for a while, he said. The station has since been elevated, but other wastewater systems could be lost during a major flood, he said.

If a system is out, then people in that area won't be able to flush their toilets, he said.

Preparing for a flood

The city's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan discusses possible projects that may prevent major flood damage.

Some of them are already complete. For example, concrete channels in the past were applied to the Amazon Creek to prevent flooding throughout downtown Eugene, Solin said.

Also the city of Eugene now requires all finished floor elevations for new constructions be at least 1 foot above 100-year flood elevation, according to the plan.

More work could still be done. For example, there are currently no dams or flood control systems on the Mohawk River, which heavily flooded areas from Marcola to Springfield in 1996, Solin said.

Water rescue teams were used in 1996 and are ready for a major flood today, Solin said.

"We've had it," he said. "We've done it." Students can also take steps to protect their belongings from flood damage.

During a flood, people should avoid storm drains, sewers, power lines and buildings surrounded by flood water. People should not drive or walk through flood waters — even six inches of water is dangerous.

Students should also watch out for snakes or animals that may seek shelter inside homes.

People living in areas that may flood, such as basements, need to keep all valuables and personal records mobile so that they can be moved quickly, Solin said.

"If it's raining for days and nights in a row this next winter or spring, people will need to pay attention to the radio or news," Solin said, "so that they are aware of what we're asking them to do."

Contact the crime, health and safety reporter at kgagnon@dailyemerald.com

★ THURSDAY NOV. 3 ★
RACHEL'S WITH INVERT

Jeep
THE TANGERINE DREAM
NIGHT S. SNOWBOARD MOVIE PREMIERE
W/ THE SCHOLARS
★ FRIDAY NOV. 4 ★

EUGENE'S PRESENTS
MC CHRIS
★ SATURDAY NOV. 5 ★
REVENGE: NERDTOUR
WITH SKYNETT AND ERCS!

THRASHER!
WORLD RENOWNED SPOKEN WORD ARTIST & FORMER DEAD KENNEDYS VOCALIST PERFORMS A LIVE ROCK SET BACKED BY THE MELVINS!
JELLO BIAFRA
WITH THE MELVINS
★ MONDAY NOV. 7 ★
PLUS AN OPENING SET FEATURING MELVINS ALTAMONT & THE RECTANGLES

WOW HALL

ALL SHOWS ARE ALL AGES
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
687-2746
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★ TUESDAY NOV. 8 ★
AN EVENING WITH NEW MONSOON

WHY?
WITH AQUEDUCT + KIKI
★ WEDNESDAY NOV. 9 ★

★ THURSDAY NOV. 10 ★
ANTHONY B
WITH SOUL MAJESTIC

allister FENIX TX
WITH HOUSTON CALLS
★ SATURDAY NOV. 19 ★
DAY AT THE FAIR & DENVER HARBOR

★ ★ ★ SHOWS COMING UP ★ ★ ★

SUNDAY NOV. 13 SUBTLE DIEGO DELORIAN • FRIDAY NOV. 18 REIGNITION VOL. 10
TUESDAY NOV. 22 TAL BACHMAN • TUESDAY NOV. 29 THE NEW MASTERSOUNDS
DISCO ORGANICA • WEDNESDAY NOV. 30 GARAJ MAHAL ELEVEN EYES
THURSDAY DEC. 1 !!! • FRIDAY DEC. 2 DREW EMMITT BAND WITH BILLY NERSHI
OF SO TAARKA • SATURDAY DEC. 3 THE BLASTERS WHOPNER COUNTY COUNTRY ALL-STARS • THURSDAY DEC. 8 BOB SCHNEIDER AND BAND