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Points for meals will roll over next term

Up to 50 points of University student card balances will carry over from week to week

BY JOE BAILEY
NEWS REPORTER

A new plan for roll-over meal points seeks to eliminate the crowds of students that pack the residence hall dining areas on Saturday night.

Students living in the halls will be able to roll over unused meal points from week to week beginning winter term.

Currently, students on the University Housing meal plan must use all their allotted meal points before midnight Saturday. The new plan will allow students to roll up to 50 points into the following week.

By allowing students to save meal points from week to week, University Housing hopes to alleviate congestion in dining facilities on Saturdays, Food Services Director Tom Driscoll said.

The current system leads to students crowding the Grab 'n Go Marketplace and Common Grounds Cafe in the Hamilton complex on Saturday nights, leading to long lines and behavior problems, officials say.

"The behavior issues that resident assistants, housing staff and dining staff had to deal with increased on Saturday nights, due in part to an increased number of people," Residence Hall Association President Todd Mann wrote in an e-mail.

The new system will also protect students who forget to use their remaining points by Saturday night from losing points they had already paid for, the e-mail said.

Students will not be able to roll over extra points from term to term, as accounts will be emptied at the end of each term.

Although roll-over meal points may lead to more points being spent over the course of the term, Driscoll does not expect the new system to raise food costs.

"Students are very diligent about making sure they spend all their points," he said, adding that the system will only ease pressure on Saturday nights.

The 50-point cap on how many points a student can roll over was added to prevent students from accumulating large numbers of points and then spending them all at the end of each term.

"The only potential problem that I see arising from its implementation is a rush it could create in the last week of each term," Mann said in the

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Committee to review professor's case

Law professor Merle Weiner was sued for an article she wrote in 2004, and she says the University should have protected her

BY NICHOLAS WILBUR
NEWS REPORTER

The University's faculty- and staff-run Senate is in the process of creating a committee to examine whether University policy and state law should provide legal protection for faculty members when they're sued over materials they publish while employed by the University.

The issue arose after University law professor Merle Weiner was sued after referring to a domestic violence court case in her article,

"Strengthening Article 20," which was published in the University of San Francisco Law Review in 2004.

Jurgen Aldinger, a defendant in the original case, claimed Weiner's reference was defamatory.

The University would not protect Weiner in the case, so she sought private counsel, Weiner said. The lawsuit was settled out of court.

Her article deals with child abduction and domestic violence victims' rights to secure

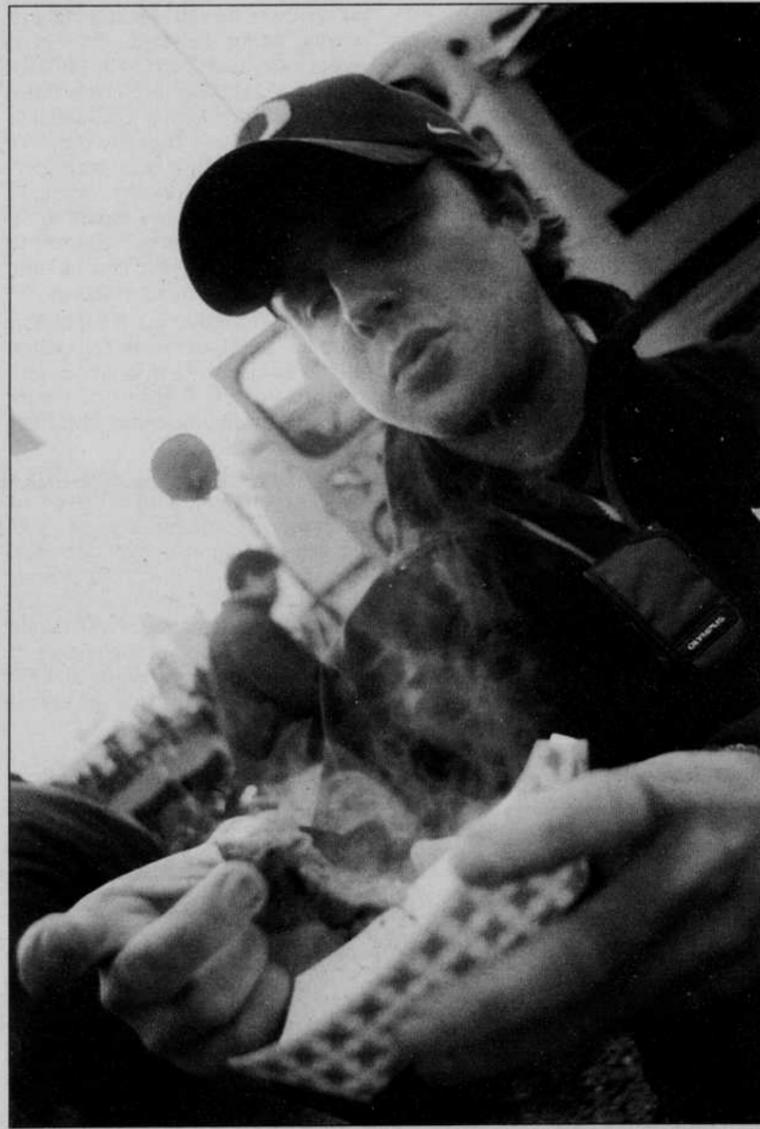
guardianship. The article, which addresses Article 20 of the Hague Convention, argues that children shouldn't be returned to an unsafe home because it violates human rights principles.

Because of her connections as a lawyer and University law professor, Weiner received free representation by the law firm Johnson, Clifton, Larson & Schaller of Eugene.

"I had resources ... and it was still very difficult," Weiner said. "A faculty member in the sciences or any other department would be left hanging."

Weiner used sections from the Oregon Revised Statutes and the University's Faculty

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TIM BOBOSKY | PHOTO EDITOR

(Above) The Hungry Cyclist, Tom Kevill-Davies, eats grilled steak at a Civil War tailgate party. Kevill-Davies is biking from New York City to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in search of the perfect meal and said the steak was the best food he ate during his visit to Autzen Stadium. (Top right) Kevill-Davies demonstrates the bike he uses on his trip. He left Eugene Monday to travel to Roseburg to eat Thanksgiving dinner with a family he met at the Oregon coast.



KAI-HUEI YAU | FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER

Eating his way through Autzen

Tom Kevill-Davies' trek across America in search of the perfect meal brought the Londoner to Autzen tailgate parties

BY MEGHANN M. CUNIFF
NEWS EDITOR

Tom Kevill-Davies has eaten some of the best food in the United States in some of the greatest places in the country.

He has eaten Willapa Bay oysters, munched on fresh-caught Dungeness crab with fishermen on the Oregon coast and devoured some of the finest pizza New York City has to offer.

It might seem difficult to match those experiences, but on Saturday, the 26-year-old man from London got a taste of Autzen Stadium, and he loved every bite of it.

Kevill-Davies has spent the last six months biking around the country in search of the perfect meal. He started in New York and plans to end the trip in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, making plenty of stops along the way.

Calling himself The Hungry Cyclist, Kevill-Davies takes tips through his Web site, www.thehungrycyclist.com, about where he might find good food.

He learned of the annual Civil War football game through tips submitted on the site.

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IN BRIEF

Student Senate votes to adhere to opposing Westmoreland sale

The Student Senate voted against sending a letter to University President Dave Frohnmayer regarding the sale of Westmoreland Apartments because members said it was inconsistent with the initial opposition expressed by the Senate.

The letter asked for a timeline for selling Westmoreland and asked that the University reinvest money in comparable housing options for students.

The Senate expressed concern that the letter would send a mixed message and that opposing the sale should remain the focus.

"I think it shows strength to stick to our guns," Senate Treasurer Mike Filippelli said.

Senate Vice President Sara Hamilton and Senator Wally Hicks drafted the letter. Hicks said it is the latest voice of their constituents, particularly Westmoreland Tenants Council chairwoman Bing Li. Hamilton said it's Senate's job to plan for the future.

"I would encourage Senate to have a little more foresight," Hamilton said. "If the University wants something they're going to get it, and that's the way it is."

The Senate also allocated \$1,130 for three groups. Part of the money will go toward a telephone account for the Student Bar Association. The rest of the funds will help pay for the Oregon Voice campus magazine's purchase of distribution boxes, the Jewish

Student Union's "Culture Night" celebration today at 6 p.m. in the Fir Room and a long-distance telephone account for the Designated Driver Shuttle.

— Nicholas Wilbur

Comedian Steve Hofstetter performs at University tonight

Comedian Steve Hofstetter is coming to the University tonight as part of the Jewish Student Union's Jewish Comedy Night.

Many University students may recognize Hofstetter as one of their friends on the Facebook (www.facebook.com). According to one of his syndicated humor columns, Hofstetter had more than 1 percent of all the college students in the world on his Facebook friends list

until Facebook administrators cleared out the 200,000-person roster earlier this month because it was slowing down the Web site.

In addition to writing his syndicated column, "Thinking Man," Hofstetter, a graduate of Columbia University, hosts "Four Quotas" on Sirius Satellite Radio, is the director of acquisitions for Comedy Express TV and has written two books, according to his Web site (www.stevhofstetter.com).

JSU director Jonathan Rosenberg said Jewish Comedy Night will include comedy based on a variety of topics including Jewish culture.

"All groups can laugh about a lot with their histories," Rosenberg said.

The event will take place at 7 p.m. in the EMU Fir Room.

— Eva Sylwester