



Keri Anderson, sophomore
Major: pre-journalism

On making a living versus being well educated: "I think it's important to do something that you're going to enjoy. I've always loved to write."

"I really like Eugene. I think it's a unique town. I'll definitely stay in the Northwest."

Strangest thing in Eugene: "There's a lot of strange people that hang out by the EMU. There's always somebody random there."



Nicole Cisco, freshman
Major: journalism (emphasis on photojournalism)

On the state of journalism and the economy: "I'm hoping by the time I'm trying to make a living it'll be happening again. I think photography's about to explode."

On college: "I'm just really excited to start over, to be in a place where everything is about the school."

Katie Turley, freshman
Major: business (emphasis on health care)

On the economy: "I think by the time we get out it'll be better. I think there will be jobs out there. I want to major in something I'm guaranteed to make a living with. I want a job that I'll love, but I also want to make a living. I think it's impossible to make a good living if you're not happy with your job."

On Eugene: "It's very overwhelming. So many new people. There's some strange people."



Joey "Beats" Brady, junior
Major: economics, with a minor in math

On opening a quesadilla stand on campus: "That's what I'm doing to help the economy. Bad times call for entrepreneurship. Can't get a job? Start a new one.... I've made exactly 25 cents. Not profit, just income."

HOPE, HOMEWORK & THE TRAUMA OF COMPOSTING

Incoming UO students reflect on beginning of college, and life thereafter

BY RICK LEVIN WITH PHOTOS BY NAOMI LEVIT

As autumn finally clamped down Monday afternoon with its bracing breezes, lengthening shadows and besotted aroma of leaves and wood smoke, that familiar collegiate feel began to creep onto the UO campus, and with it a scurrying and gawking gaggle of new and returning students — the future leaders of America — fresh-scrubbed and full of anxiety, idealism and maps to tomorrow's classes.

In J.D. Salinger's *Franny and Zooey* —

which gave us consummate poles of '50s academia — college was either a means of self-aggrandizement or a neurotic journey into self-discovery. To give something that good old college try meant the intellectual equivalent of the spur of Manifest Destiny: a confident and optimistic and presumably successful push into the blessed unknown. But this is the 21st century, a new era of nose rings and ring tones, skyrocketing unemployment and global warming. What

is it that your average college student wants, desires, strives for and dreams after in this so-called post-modern, post-racial, post-everything world in which we now live?

The answer is: the same shit, basically. Fulfillment. Knowledge. Earning power. To get distance from one's parents. To be a success and not fuck up. To make a name for one's self. And to make it to class on time.

What students want from their higher education is the one thing they just can't be taught: to be adequately prepared for that battering ram folks like to call "the real world," to be turned from a cabbage into a cauliflower.

For Washington state native Morganne Hatfield, 18, the real world reared its complicated head before she'd been in Eugene a full week, in the classic form of Emerald City waste-disposal sophistication. The incoming freshman said that in her hometown of Sammamish, everything just goes into the garbage can. "It's frustrating, because I don't know what's compost,"

she said, rattling off a litany of designated recyclables above and beyond plain old trash. "That's the most frustrating thing so far."

Give it a week.

Freshman Katie Turley, a business major from Southern California, said she found adjusting to her new life in Eugene "very overwhelming," pointing out the myriad people she's seeing and meeting around town. "There's some strange people," she said.

What about the balance between education and earning power? What's more important, being a well-rounded, liberally educated citizen or a person chiseled and honed for the workplace? To be crude, is money the driving motivation of college or, as so many would like to believe, is it the hunger for knowledge, the quest for capital-T truth? It's amazing how many freshman, stereotypically the most vulnerable and naïve class of under-classmen, give the right answer in this regard.