

Estrogen drugs now require warning

As of Tuesday, all women who take prescription drugs containing estrogen must also be given a brochure stating in simple language, estrogen may cause cancer.

The U.S. Food and Drug Ad-

ministration (FDA) announced manufacturers will be required to supply the warnings and pharmacists must distribute them.

Estrogen is the female sex hormone currently used by five million women during and after

menopause. The government hopes the warning label will cut this use at least in half, according to Dr. Donald Kennedy, commissioner of food and drugs.

"We will be checking compliance on a random basis of spot checking at stores throughout the

wanted to know what he should do about filling prescriptions if he ran out," Schramm said.

"We would hold the drug company responsible, not him. The manufacturers have not moved fast enough with printing the brochures."

they are used too frequently and for too long.

For women who use estrogen drugs during and after menopause "for longer than a year, the risk of cancer in the lining of the uterus is about five to 10 times greater than for women who have never taken estrogens," Kennedy said.

"Women who use estrogen after menopause are about two and one-half times as likely to develop gall bladder disease requiring surgery," he added.

The least necessary use of estrogens, according to Kennedy, is after menopause. He said there was "no good evidence that estrogens are effective in helping to keep the skin soft or to promote more youthful feelings in the post-menopausal woman. Yet they are widely used for such purposes."

Though FDA officials said they were not as concerned about birth control pills containing estrogen because there is no evidence linking that use to cancer, Schramm interpreted the regulation as requiring patients taking the pills to also be given the warning brochures.

By KATHLEEN MONJE
Of the Emerald

state," said Bernice Schramm, Portland FDA import monitor and consumer complaints handler.

"We also find out about non-compliance from calls by consumers."

Schramm pointed out if the warning brochures are not distributed, the pharmacist or manufacturer is liable for mis-labeling prosecution.

She said the druggists will not be held liable by the FDA if they have not been supplied with brochures.

"A pharmacist called me and said he had a limited supply and

Physicians can indicate on prescriptions that they do not want a patient to receive the warning, Schramm said, but she added if a patient had problems with the drug in such a case, the physician would be legally liable.

Doctors must also distribute the warning with estrogen samples dispensed in their offices.

"Unfortunately, there is no alternative drug that can be substituted for estrogen," Schramm pointed out.

"Estrogens are valuable drugs, with many beneficial medical purposes," Commissioner Kennedy said. But he said the FDA fears



Emerald photo

Raking in the season

Fall just won't leave you alone. It always expects you to make a clean sweep of it.

Anti-South Africa speech scheduled

Prexy Nesbitt, coordinator for the Campaign to Oppose Bank Loans to South Africa, will speak Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in Grace Lutheran Church, 710 E. 17th Ave.

Nesbitt's topic will be "African Freedom: Overcoming the U.S. Obstacles." The event is open to the public free of charge.

Nesbitt will also conduct an "Action Workshop" Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Wesley Center, 1236 Kincaid St. Anyone interested in ending U.S. involvement with South Africa may participate in the workshop, which will include discussions of educational approaches and action strategies.

Nesbitt is associate director of the American Committee on Africa. His talk and the workshop are sponsored by People for Southern African Freedom (PSAF) and by Clergy and Laity Concerned (CALC).

As an Antioch College student, Nesbitt spent a year in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. He has since done graduate work in African history and politics at Columbia and Northwestern Universities.

PSAF is a local group which recently sponsored a protest against sale of the Krugerrand, a South African gold coin sold by the investment firm of Merrill, Lynch, Fenner and Smith.

CALC is a national organization with a local chapter in Eugene.

DOOR BURGER NITE

Pool
& Foosball
or Dancing

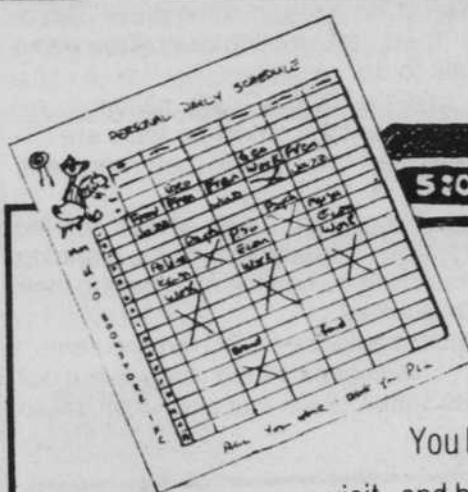
One Hamburger & 1 Beer

\$1.00

Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The **NEW** Back Door

1046 Oak Park in The Overpark



5:02

Our schedule fits yours.

You have a variety of things going at once: classes to attend, friends to visit, and homework to be done. You don't want to drop what you're doing to rush off to the Bookstore just to get that item you forgot. So we've made our hours more convenient for you and we're open later than before to give you more flexibility.

UO
BOOKSTORE
13th & Kincaid

Now Open

Mon-Fri 8:15-5:30
Sat 10:00-2:00

music
city

40th & Donald
Eugene, Oregon
345-8289



GUITARS 33 1/3%
OFF LIST PRICE

When purchased with its case at the regular price

limit one coupon per
customer, no trades
expires 10/31/77

OPEN WEEKDAYS TIL 9