

Oregon Daily Emerald

Office of Mediation
ready to intervene
in student disputes
See Page 4

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California organization threatens to plant bombs if inmates not released

By Scott Maben
Of the Emerald

Police were alerted last week to an unusual letter threatening to explode bombs at the University if certain prison inmates in California were not released and flown out of the country, according to Capt. Oakley Glenn, director of the Office of Public Safety.

"A letter was received in the mail from an organization saying if some people weren't freed from a prison in California, each given \$100,000 and put on a jet out of the country, they'd put bombs in the administration building here on campus," Glenn said.

Evacuations were not conducted in response to the letter because there is not a campus facility formally or commonly referred to as "the administration building," Glenn said, so a bomb location could not be defined. Also, no exact time of explosion was revealed, he said.

"There was something in the letter which gave it away," he added. "I can't say what, but something in it told us there wasn't any bomb anywhere. There was no need to evacuate."

According to information in the letter, the cutoff date for the bomb explosions came around midnight Sunday, Glenn said.

The OPS interpreted the intended location of explosives as any of three possible buildings. Officers were instructed to alert personnel in Oregon Hall, Johnson Hall and McArthur Court.

Oregon Hall houses the registrar and student records offices. Johnson Hall contains offices of University administrators. Glenn said he couldn't reveal why Mac Court was considered a target.

An investigation of the threat is underway by the Eugene Police Department. Other agencies also have been brought in to the case, Glenn said.

Sgt. Chuck Tilby, who is heading EPD's investigation, notified administrators in each building about the bomb threat, Glenn said.

Turn to Bomb, Page 4

University seeks opinion of state attorney general

By Stan Nelson
Of the Emerald

The University administration has requested that the Oregon State Attorney General issue an opinion on the constitutionality of the Athletic Department's drug-testing policy, said University President Paul Olum on Monday.

"We believe this is the best way of resolving all the questions various groups or individuals have raised about the effects of the drug-testing program on the rights of our athletes," Olum said in a prepared statement.

The University administration and legal advisers have maintained Athletic Department drug testing is constitutional and does not violate athletes' civil rights.

The ASUO Office of Student Advocacy and American Civil Liberties Union representatives have contended, however, that drug testing infringes upon athletes' rights, and the decision to begin drug testing should have gone through formal administrative rule-making procedures.

The University submitted its request for a written opinion to the Oregon State System of Higher Education. The State System is expected to review and approve the request as well as determine whether the issue might affect other Oregon colleges and universities, Olum said.

Oregon State University also requires its athletes to participate in a drug-testing program. Other higher education institutions such as Eastern Oregon State College are reviewing proposals or developing procedures to begin drug testing.

The attorney general opinion "has potential for solving the issue," said Dave Fidanque, associate director of the ACLU in Oregon. "However, we still have a number of athletes on campus who are being tested against their will," and others who are refusing to consent to drug

testing and are being denied access to competition, he said.

"While (the administration) is sending a request to the attorney general, the University still has not suspended the policy in question," said Lucille Kaplan, OSA director. There is the possibility the drug-testing program could be struck down, and the University should suspend the program until a final decision is reached, she said.

Both Fidanque and Kaplan indicated they provided input in the formation of the attorney general's opinion outline request.

"We are confident that our program is constitutional and that no athletes' rights have been violated," said University Vice President for Administration Dan Williams in a prepared statement. "Others, particularly the American Civil Liberties Union and the Associated Students of the University of Oregon, do not agree with our conclusions. We have listened carefully to all of their reasons and arguments for challenging the program and find that we do not agree with their conclusions."

If an attorney general opinion is granted, an individual or organization disagreeing with the decision then would have the means to ask for a further court resolution, Olum said.

The University has agreed to abide by the outcome of the ruling, Olum said, and based on the schedule of the attorney general's office, a response could be made within six to eight weeks, Olum indicated.

The request asks the attorney general for an opinion on constitutional issues, contested cases under the Oregon Administrative Procedures Act and rulemaking under the Oregon APA.

Turn to Testing, Page 4

Apartheid inception topic of lecture

By Carolyn Lamberson
Of the Emerald

About 100 community members, University faculty and students attended a free lecture Tuesday evening at the Eugene Conference Center on the historical perspective of the South African dilemma.

The forum, sponsored by the University's Henry Failing Fund, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Hult Center for the Performing Arts, featured University history Professor David Anthony. Anthony is a nationally known scholar of apartheid and the American black experience.

Anthony's lecture focused on the history of South Africa and the beginnings of apartheid.

"The South African dilemma should not be viewed simply as 'South African.' It's more a 'southern African' problem," he said. "It is a dilemma or crisis that affects all the neighbors of South Africa."

Anthony went briefly into the geographical aspects of South Africa and then traced the beginnings of the nation to the 15th century when Spain and Portugal controlled the seas. The southern area of the continent was important to these nations because they needed a secure path to the Indies for trading purposes, he said.

When the sea-going empire of the



Photo by Dan Wheeler

History Professor David Anthony lectures on the history that led to the current state of racial segregation in South Africa.

Portuguese began to decay, Portugal was challenged by the Dutch, and by the mid-17th century the Dutch assumed control of the area, Anthony said. In 1652, the representatives of the Dutch East India Co. established themselves at what is now Capetown.

By the 18th century, the Dutch settlers began to show interest in owning land, Anthony said. These people, as well as a number of

Huguenots who were being expelled from Europe, were the original ancestors of the current Afrikaaner minority, he said.

Tensions between the settlers and the natives began soon afterward, Anthony said. The Europeans, accustomed to densely settled land, assumed that the surrounding area

Turn to Africa, Page 3

Oregon Student Lobby against merit-based aid

By Shawn Wirtz
Of the Emerald

Gov. Neil Goldschmidt's budget proposal to set aside \$1 million for a merit-based scholarship program is icing without the cake, the Oregon Student Lobby said Tuesday.

The program is designed to "retain Oregon's brightest students," Goldschmidt said in his budget summary released Monday, and would be the first state program that would not take financial need into account.

The OSL will ask the Legislature to put the \$1 million into the need-based aid program instead, said Sherry Oeser, OSL executive director. The Oregon Scholarship Commission needs at least \$6 million to provide enough financial aid to all needy students, she said.

"Because there isn't enough money available they have to set deadlines," which weeds out eligible students, Oeser said. "That's especially true for people who are non-traditional students."

About 60 percent of Oregon's brightest students stay in Oregon anyway, Oeser said. "From the different things that we've seen, it's not going to change students' choice of institutions," she said.

Students who go out of state usually do so to attend church-affiliated universities or schools that offer programs not available in Oregon, Oeser said.

"If we don't have enough money for need-based, we certainly don't have enough for merit," said ASUO President Steve Nelson. "We've worked against that in the OSL, and I don't support it at all."

The proposal calls for an increase in the OSC's budget from \$21,082,556 to \$23,000,594 in general

Turn to Merit, Page 3