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## Senators: 'No confidence'

By Paula Green  
Emerald Reporter

In light of frustration brought about by the forced retirement of University President Paul Olum, the University Senate on Tuesday supported a resolution of "no confidence" in Chancellor William "Bud" Davis and the State Board of Higher Education.

The resolution, drafted by mathematics professor Peter Gilkey and signed by 28 colleagues, resolved that "the faculty and students of the University of Oregon have no confidence in the current chancellor of the State System of Higher Education or in the current State

Board of Higher Education."

The statement also resolved that "the faculty and students of the University of Oregon urge the governor to take appropriate action to ensure the responsiveness of the State Board of Higher Education to the concerns of the faculties and students of the several institutions and the citizenry of the state."

Copies of the document, which now will be sent to the University Assembly meeting next week for a vote of support, also will be sent to the state board, the chancellor and Gov. Neil Goldschmidt.

The statement, which gives five main reasons for the "no confidence" vote, ac-

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## OSU student falls from roof

An Oregon State University student was injured in Eugene early Sunday when she fell about 20 feet off the roof of a fraternity house.

Leigh Minter, 19, was at a party at the Beta Theta Pi fraternity house, 1009 Patterson St., co-sponsored by the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity and the Delta Gamma and Pi Beta Phi sororities. Minter said she fell when a drain pipe she was hanging from broke.

She was trying to climb from the roof into a friend's window.

Minter was treated and released from Sacred Heart General Hospital at about 1:25 a.m. for a chipped wrist bone and a compressed spinal lumbar. Minter, a sophomore at OSU, said that although she's "OK," she's recuperating at home in Beaverton and hopes to be back in classes next week.

Minter said she has no intention of suing, and Beta house President Jeff Partridge claimed the incident was her fault.

According to Partridge, Minter was uninvited to the party and should not

have been there. A friend of Minter's from OSU, who was invited to the party, her. Minter's friend has a boyfriend who lives in the Beta house. It was his room into which Minter was trying to climb.

Partridge said that each house cosponsoring the party had a security guard at the door. It was the responsibility of guards from the two sororities to check to see if women at the party had been invited.

"She should never have been at our party in the first place, and she got in on the mistake of the sororities," he said.

Once she was at the party, Partridge said that Minter "had a couple of beers, I guess. I don't know how drunk she was."

Partridge added that the upstairs of the house, not to mention the roof, was off-limits at the party.

Minter, a member of Gamma Phi Beta at OSU, said that the fall from the three-story house was "kind of scary."

"It's a substantial distance," Partridge said.

## New county program helps parents settle child custody

By Andrew LaMar  
Emerald Reporter

Divorce can be an ugly ordeal — especially if it entails a court battle for child custody.

A new Lane County program is attempting to steer parents away from the courtroom.

The Family Mediation Program helps divorced or separated parents work out child custody between themselves instead of between their lawyers.

According to a new law, parents who file suits with the Lane County Circuit Court are required to attend one mediation session before appearing in court. Parents may have the session with a private counselor at their own expense or with one of the three county program counselors for free.

The aim of the program is to improve the process for making child dispute decisions, according to court administrator Norm Meyer. Reaching an agreement out of court saves children the trauma of seeing their parents fight for them and saves parents the legal fees of a court battle, Meyer said.

"Resolving (visitation and custody) issues in an adversarial trial setting is not in the best interest of the kids," Meyers said.

Courts with similar programs have found most parents who go through mediation reach an agreement and only see a judge to have him sign the decree, according to program manager Barbara Lee. Furthermore, the decisions appear to last longer,



Barb Lee

she added.

Both results help lighten the court's load of cases.

"A judge doesn't know the children," Lee said. "So the decision the judge makes is based on not knowing them. Whereas, if the parents can agree, then in most cases it's a much better plan. They're happier and the child is happier."

In order to fund the program, which costs more than \$100,000 a year, the county increased the price of marriage licenses from \$50 to \$60 and the divorce filing fee from \$100 to \$185.

The program began Nov. 2 and only has about 10 cases now. But Lee worked seven years in Clackamas County on a similar program and said

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## Thanksgiving may be a tradition but only for Americans

Countries around the world dot the calendar with their own special holidays.

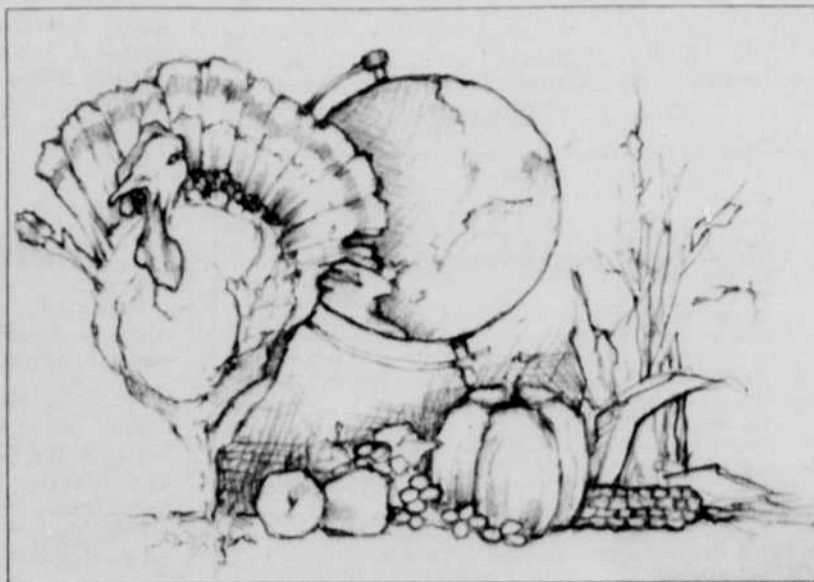
By Kelly Kortekaas  
Emerald Associate Editor

Thanksgiving. The day Americans celebrate the settling of this nation. Most people envision turkey and mashed potatoes, yams and pumpkin pie... but what will people be doing in the other parts of the world on Thursday?

The answer — probably the same thing they do every day. That's right — no cranberries, no pilgrim candles, and no... no pumpkin pie. So how do they get along without a Thanksgiving? Though these nations do without a "turkey day," their holiday calendars are not left with an unreparable hole. As with Thanksgiving, some foreign holidays celebrate agricultural harvests or the change of season.

Germany, for one, is well-known for its annual Oktoberfest. In fact, several small versions of the Oktoberfest are featured in a few small towns in Washington and Oregon, such as those in Leavenworth, Wash. and at Mt. Angel, near Portland. Though these festivals are small, they do bear a relatively close resemblance to the Oktoberfest in Munich, said Helmut Plant, a University associate professor of German.

Oktoberfest originated from a celebration of the harvest and the wedding of the princess of Bavaria, ac-



Graphic by Lorraine Rath

cording to Plant. The festival was considered a celebration of the princess' wedding.

From the last two weeks in September to the first weekend in October, millions of Germans gather in Theresien, a huge meadow in the center of Munich, to celebrate Oktoberfest, Plant said. Munich's many breweries set up tents along the outside of the meadow, and provide live bands and plenty of beer within, he

said. The festival also includes a large display of folk art, and a wide variety of food, including grilled oxen, herring, roasted almonds, Turkish honey, and cotton candy, he added.

At about the same time as the Oktoberfest celebration in Germany, Italy has its own grape harvest festivals. These festivals take place in the smaller communities, usually those surrounding the large grape vineyards, said Sylvia Giustina, a University senior instructor of romantic languages.

Frascati, a small town just outside of Rome, is one such town. Though not as large as Munich's Oktoberfest, this small-town festival attracts "the whole countryside," Giustina said.

The festival features a wine-filled fountain in the center of town, she said. Each visitor to the celebration can drink from the fountain and also can taste other wines, she added.

Unlike Germany's Oktoberfest and Italy's grape harvest festivals, Norway's Mid-Summer Night festival or Sankt Hans marks a change in seasons. This June holiday celebrates the coming of the light evenings and the end of a long dark winter, according to Leslie Grove, a University Germanic languages instructor.

To celebrate this occasion, Norwegians build large

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