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As thousands of University students check in to their dorms on Sept. 17, sophomore Adam Brickell tries to make his dorm room in Watson Hall more liveable by hammering together a bunk.

Photo by Andre Ranieri

Student receives critical head injuries after brawl

CORVALLIS (AP) — An Oregon State University student was on life support systems in a Medford hospital late Saturday after suffering critical head injuries in a fight involving at least six people, Corvallis police said.

Edward L. Wyant, 19, of Eagle Point remained unconscious and in critical condition in the intensive care unit at Providence Hospital in Medford, nursing supervisor Connie Gillette said.

A police report said Wyant suffered a broken skull, broken nose and cerebral contusions in the fight, which occurred early Saturday in Corvallis.

Officers had responded about 1 a.m. to a report of an injured person at an intersection and found Wyant lying on the sidewalk, said Deputy Police Chief Mike Breazeal.

Police reports said Wyant and two friends had been walking in the area when they became involved in a fight with three other college-age males.

"As a result of the altercation, Wyant received a severe head injury," Breazeal said.

Wyant's two friends suffered contusions and abrasions, the report said. Their names were

withheld to protect them from possible contact by Wyant's attackers, Breazeal said.

Police said Saturday night they had made no arrests and had no suspects. They said they were having difficulty finding witnesses and were asking the public for help.

Wyant, a sophomore science major at Oregon State, was flown by Life Flight helicopter from Good Samaritan Hospital in Corvallis to Providence Hospital in Medford about 2 p.m. Saturday "to be near his family," a Good Samaritan nursing supervisor said.

Wyant's parents, Ralph and Anna Wyant, live in Eagle Point, about 10 miles north of Medford. They had asked that their son be transferred.

Oregon State President John Byrne said Saturday he was appalled at the assault.

Jo Anne Trow, Oregon State vice president for student affairs, said she was notified of the attack early Saturday, according to procedure whenever a university student is seriously injured.

"We will cooperate in any way we can with the Corvallis police," she said.

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