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Oregon accepts 'unofficial' bowl bid

From staff and wire reports

For the first time in school history, Oregon's football team will be going to back-to-back bowl games.

Oregon, at 7-2 overall and ranked 20th in this week's Associated Press poll, will be playing in the Anaheim Freedom Bowl in Anaheim, Calif. on Dec. 29 against the second-place team from the Western Athletic Conference which would appear to be Colorado State.

Bowl bids cannot officially be extended until Nov. 24, but that rule is often overlooked so that bowls can lock in a pair of teams before that date.

The Ducks have been a strong choice of the Freedom Bowl committee since bowl scouts were first allowed to scout prospec-

tive bowl teams on Oct. 13.

The Freedom Bowl committee has reportedly been very impressed with Oregon's home crowds at Autzen Stadium and liked the fact that the Ducks would be able to bring a large contingent of fans to the bowl game, as they did a year ago when Oregon went to the Independence Bowl in Shreveport, La.

The Freedom Bowl would be played in the 67,000-seat Anaheim Stadium, and Oregon Athletic Director Bill Byrne has reportedly promised Freedom Bowl officials that Oregon could bring somewhere between 12,000 and 18,000 fans to the Freedom Bowl.

Byrne, who has been very tight-lipped about a bowl selection, had little to say

Monday other than Oregon will accept the invitation.

"Under the rules, that's about all I can say," Byrne said. "Aside from that, we're thrilled by the all attention but right now we've got to concentrate on beating California."

The Ducks travel to Berkeley, Calif., to face the Golden Bears Saturday and close out the regular season at Oregon State Nov. 17.

The Freedom Bowl game would kick-off at 5 p.m. PST on Dec. 29, a date in which four other bowl games will be played. The game will be televised by the Raycom Network but would likely be televised back to Oregon through the Oregon Sports Network.

Almanac

Today is Election Day. Please remember to vote.

Briefly



Jumping off a bridge attached to a large rubber band may not be everyone's idea of a good time, but 300 University students have done it and lived to tell the tale.

See story, Page 5

Dan Williams, University vice president for administration, told his side of the Grateful Dead controversy to a group of planning, public policy and management students Monday afternoon.

Williams said input from Eugene residents and business owners about drug use at Dead concerts led to the decision to keep the band away from Autzen Stadium next summer.

See story, Page 4

Regionally

VANCOUVER, Wash. (AP) - An explosion of steam and ash Monday at Mount St. Helens apparently created a small mudflow, but no damage was reported and scientists said they had no evidence a bigger event was in the offing.

The explosion did, however, spew ash 30,000 feet into the air, scientists said.

See story, Page 12

Sports

The Washington Huskies clearly deserve the No. 1 spot in the Associated Press' Top-25 college football poll. With "powerhouse" Notre Dame's loss to Stanford earlier this year, it's time to recognize Washington as the best in the country.

See 'From the Sidelines,' Page 9



Photo by Sean Foster

HEP instructor Donna Wong (left) discusses a grammar lesson with student Christina Casas, who is originally from Mexico

City and now lives in Salem. About 85 percent of HEP students graduate, and half of those go on to university study.

Students succeeding in HEP classes

By Cathy Peterson
Emerald Reporter

Students in Donna Wong's writing and grammar class are edgy. Today, half of them will take the writing portion of an exam that grants them the equivalency of a high school diploma.

"I admire them," Wong said. "They work so hard to learn another language. Their time here is so precious. I encourage them to dream their biggest dreams."

The 10 students in the grammar class have all worked as migrant or seasonal farm laborers. For them, the skills course is one more step toward earn-

ing a high school diploma and getting on with their lives.

Established at the University in 1967, the High School Equivalency Program is open to anyone regardless of race, creed or color who has been a migrant or seasonal farmworker or has family members who have done farm-related work. The applicant must be a high school dropout and be at least 17 years old.

Students attend small classes in one of the program's several buildings on 17th Avenue five days a week, seven hours a day. The program is free for the students, who live in dormitories or commute. Students also receive a weekly stipend of

\$10.

With a budget of \$400,000, University HEP Director Steve Marks-Fife said the program serves 132 people a year, during three eight- to 10-week semesters.

Although the average person in the program is a Latino male, 19 to 20 years old with at least a 10th grade education, Marks-Fife said Native American, white and Asian students round out the classes.

"The program is very good," student Victor Magdaleno said. "It gives Hispanics a second chance to make something of themselves. It makes us feel better about ourselves."

Magdaleno, 22, said he

dropped out of a Portland-area high school at the beginning of his senior year because he was spending too much time partying. After working in landscaping with his father, he decided to give school another try. After he graduates from HEP, Magdaleno said he wants to study computer programming in college.

Student Lupe Campos, 18, who said she dropped out of school because of family problems, called HEP "an opportunity to see how far you can reach."

"Even though you've fallen you can get up and make some-

Turn to PROGRAM, Page 6