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TODAY

Don't forget today is the last day to change your grading options for this term



INSIDE

Mother Kali's bookstore faces tough times because of competitive market

Ducks enter two-game season for race toward possible Cotton Bowl berth

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WEATHER

Rain developing today with highs in the 50s.

University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

Oregon Daily Emerald

An independent newspaper
Volume 97, Issue 52

Schmidt's assault charges cleared

■ **CIVIL CASE:** Oregon football player clears civil suit, but still faces criminal charges

By Trevor Kearney
and Mark McTyre
Oregon Daily Emerald

Oregon defensive end Mark Schmidt was cleared in the civil case brought against him by former University student Robert Engelmann that stemmed from an altercation on Dec. 3, 1994.

Schmidt was awarded \$1 in a countersuit against Engelmann, who was seeking \$108,000 in damages after he was injured in a fight that ensued between the two and also involved former University student Chad Cruchley.

"[The case] has been a bother," Schmidt said. "Basically it was a big set back. I'm a good person and just want to be part of the team and community. It basically ruined my reputation."

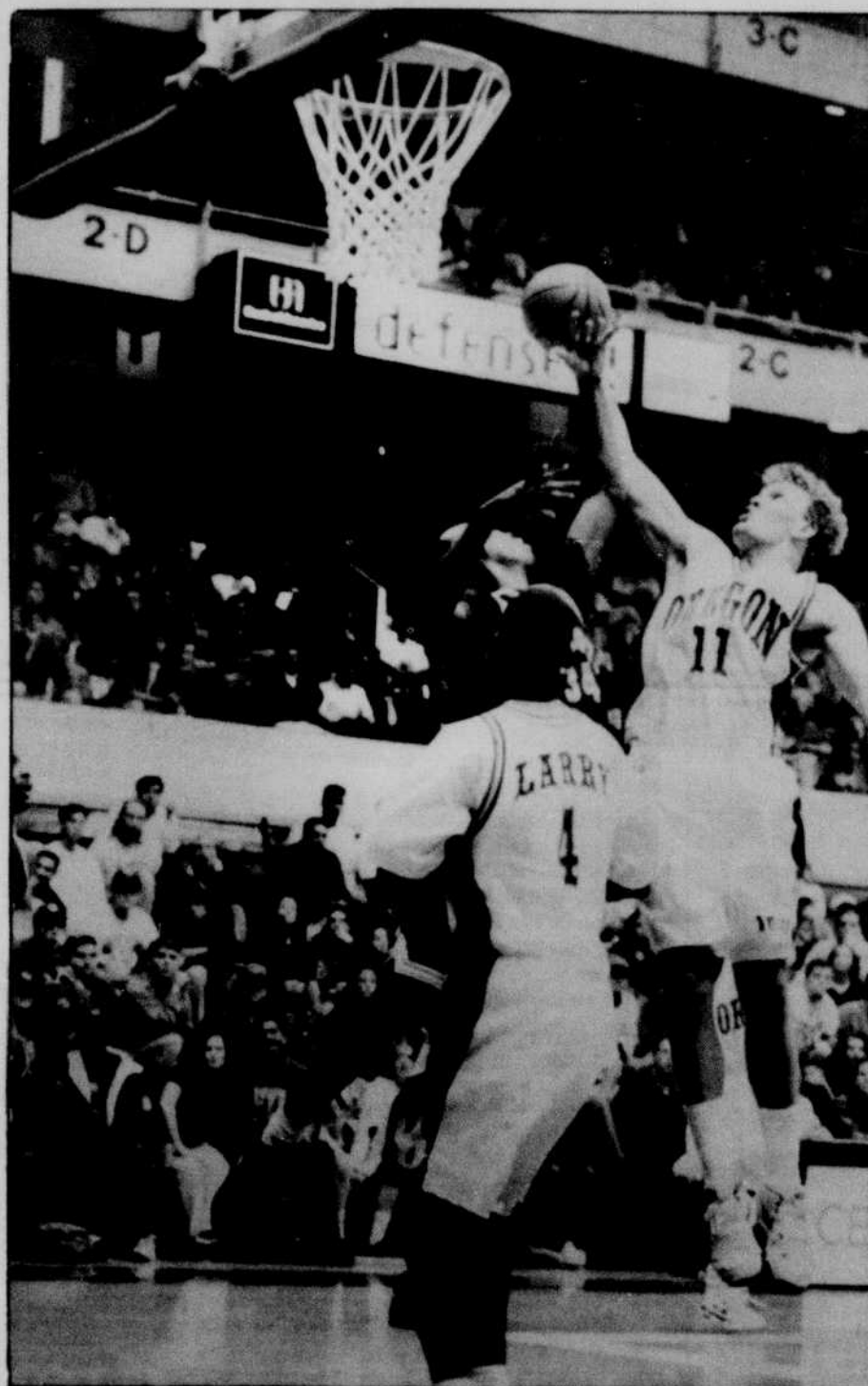
According to Ken Morrow, Schmidt's attorney, conflicting stories from Engelmann, Cruchley and several witnesses led to the jury's decision, which found that Schmidt had not committed assault and battery but Engelmann had.

"[Witnesses] had a totally different version as to how Cruchley was pushed by Schmidt," Morrow said. "They denied Engelmann stepped forward, but he had told police he had. It wasn't that difficult for jurors to see that they weren't telling the truth."

According to Schmidt, the \$1

Turn to **CIVIL CASE**, Page 3

Oregon 74, High Five America 63



Kyle Milling shoots over a High Five America player in a exhibition game Thursday night at McArthur Court. The contest was the Ducks first of the season.

ANDREW BRACKENSICK/Emerald

Hope fading for lost hikers on North Sister

■ **STUDENTS:** Two UO hikers have been lost in wilderness since Sunday, but some optimism remains they will be found

By Brian Womack
Higher Education Reporter

Time is running out for the two students who have been lost in the Sisters Wilderness Area since Sunday.

Search efforts will be significantly scaled back until the weather clears up if they are not found today, said Gary Lewis assistant search coordinator of the Lane County Sheriff's department.

The forecast is for the bad weather to start again Friday evening and continue until at least Monday.

"We will have searched all the areas we can. We will have spent all the energy we can. I guess were going to say they're dead," Lewis said.

However, he is still holding hope that they will be found today.

Because of an expected break in the bad weather today, searchers will be flown to areas on the North Sister, which were previously unreachable by foot, he said. A body-heat sensing aircraft will be used as well.

Searchers have been looking since Monday for Michael R. Casey, a 19-year-old sophomore physics major from Chico, Calif. and Frank L. Allard, a 19-year-old sophomore biology major from Carmel, Calif.

Weather continued to impede rescue attempts as searchers were unable to reach the peak of the North Sister on Thursday, he said. The wind was blowing snow horizontally at 40 mph.

On Wednesday, an abandoned campsite was found at the 7,000 foot level of the 10,000 foot North Sister.

Tracks discovered 50 feet from the abandoned tent site yesterday were covered up by fresh snow, he said. The tracks were leading toward the peak of the North Sister and to its base.

The two had planned to hike to the top of the North Sister and then descend to the Middle Sister if they had time.

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OSU selects Miami University president to take over in January, 1996

■ **RISSE:** The president to-be was chosen for his extensive background in biology and botany

By Regina Brown
Higher Education Reporter

Oregon State University has finally found its new president.

Paul G. Risser, the current president of Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, will arrive at Oregon State University in January 1996 to replace retiring President John Byrne, Risser

said. Risser, 56, was chosen from among three final applicants.

The Oregon State Board of Higher Education chose Risser because of his unique background in biology and botany, board member Rob Mille said. Oregon State University provides agricultural and forestry training for the state, and Risser's past research made him the most qualified candidate, he said.

"I think we found a particularly good fit for the University

with its land grant and research background," Miller said.

Risser is a former professor of botany at Miami University, said Francesca Clifford of the Oregon State System of Higher Education's office of public affairs. He is an internationally known botanist who has worked in more than 20 countries, she said.

His research has focused on grassland and forest ecosystems, landscape ecology, global change, and environmental planning and management,

Clifford said.

Risser has served on the board of editors for some of the prominent journals in the field of botany and co-chaired the Board on Oceans and Atmosphere, Clifford said. In 1994, he was named a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, she said.

Risser is "excited" about his new position as Oregon State University's president, and he is looking forward to serving at a university that focuses on research, he said. Oregon State University is well respected

outside of Oregon, and Risser wants to help Oregonians appreciate its strengths, he said.

"OSU has done very well," Risser said. "I'm very pleased with its direction."

Risser knows that cuts to the higher education system's budget may present a funding challenge, but he thinks the Oregon State University is strong enough to persevere, he said.

"OSU is a very streamlined production," he said. "It's very economical and very efficient."