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TODAY

A tree lighting ceremony will take place tonight at 5:30 p.m. in Springfield's Fitch Park.



INSIDE

Making your Christmas list and checking it twice? Don't forget to buy gifts for your pets

Mens Basketball beat West Florida

5
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WEATHER

Showers today with a high near 50

University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

Oregon Daily Emerald

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World AIDS day speaker talks about Oregon trends



Nancy Blake and Joanne Frank tie red ribbons at the Red Ribbon Compassion Ceremony Thursday at the Chiles Center. The ribbons symbolize solidarity and compassion for those individuals affected by HIV and AIDS.

■ **AIDS:** Many people wait until they are sick and don't get tested until they have symptoms of the disease

By Doug Irving

Student Activities Reporter

Dr. Robert McAllister said that despite some positive statistics, the epidemic of AIDS shows no sign of easing in Oregon. His speech was sponsored by the Health Education Center in conjunction with World AIDS Day today.

"A lot of our population is not changing their behavior," he said. "Many of us need to examine our behaviors."

McAllister, a representative from the Oregon Health Division HIV Program, presented an update about current HIV trends. During the discussion in the EMU Ben Linder Room, he concentrated on two major at-risk populations, homosexual/bisexual men and intravenous drug users.

In the homosexual/bisexual population he said the number of cases had reached a "plateau effect," meaning the percentage of cases has begun to level off, but the number of cases every year has not decreased.

In the intravenous drug user population, McAllister said the statistics may look positive but probably aren't an accurate reflection of users with HIV.

WORLD
A.I.D.S.
DAY

Turn to AIDS, Page 3

Anthropology professor receives environmental research award

■ **AWARD:** Aikens' work examines how native peoples have adapted to environmental changes

By Mara Stine

Higher Education Reporter

A \$10,000 award in high desert natural resource management was given to University professor and archaeologist C. Melvin Aikens recently.

The High Desert Museum's Earle A. Chiles Award honors

Aikens' three decades of research in environmental archeology and was presented on Nov. 28 in Portland, said Jack Cooper, communications director of the museum located near Bend, Ore.

"What he has learned about how native peoples have adapted to environmental change over many years helps us understand the importance of living in harmony with our environment," Cooper said.

Aikens, who heads the

anthropology department and has worked as a professor and an archaeologist since 1968, studied how native peoples have adapted to environmental changes in the High Desert during the past 11,000 years.

The region warmed up and dried out, he said, adding that between 5,000 and 7,000 years ago, the area reached its peak heat and dryness.

"Since then it has become milder and moister," Aikens said.

Environmental changes were not extreme but were severe enough to dry up marsh lands, which forced people to adapt to the environment.

Cooper said Aikens was given the award not only because his research is academically valuable, but also because it can be practically applied to the modern world. For example, Aikens served as a mediator to help resolve conflicts between proponents of the Wells Dam Project in the Columbia Plateau and the

Native American community.

This is the first time the award has recognized the cultural history and human resources of the high desert, Aikens said, explaining that in the past, ranchers and wildlife biologists, not anthropologists, were given the award.

"It's the first time it has been awarded for work related to humans," he said.

Aikens said he plans to use the \$10,000 award to pay for future research projects.

Female faculty, students feel power of sexism within sciences

■ **GENDER:** Women are typically a minority in the sciences, and it is caused by a number of factors that are sometimes very subtle

By Jennifer Carter

Student Activities Reporter

Of the University's 2,209 science majors, only 820 are women, according to statistics from the registrar's office, a characteristic typical within the science community.

Catherine Page, an assistant professor of chemistry, says she feels supported by the men and women in her field.

But other women striving to be scientists have not been as supported. Six years ago, 14 women in a University of Montreal engineering class were killed

by Marc Lepine because, as Lepine said, they were taking jobs away from men and did not have a right to be involved in science.

Page, one of four women (out of 23 faculty members) in the chemistry department, said the sexism that she has encountered as a female scientist has been much more subtle than what people usually think of as sexism.

"I think sexism is now reaching a subtle level," she said. "It is subtle in our brains."

An example of this subtle discrimination, Page said, is when women are not invited to participate in conferences. "It's not uncommon to go to a symposium with 100 people and maybe have one

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Graduate student Lisa Francis shows a modeling program that optimizes molecular structure to sophomore Elizabeth Cogan and professor Kathy Page.