

Programs profit

Three programs faced the ASUO Programs Finance Committee with their 1998-99 budgets; two left with budget increases

PAGE 3

Women's race open

Stanford leads the Pac-10, but important losses and crucial future games leave the rest of the conference jockeying for position

PAGE 5

TODAY

The University begins charging \$10 per transaction for changing or dropping classes.

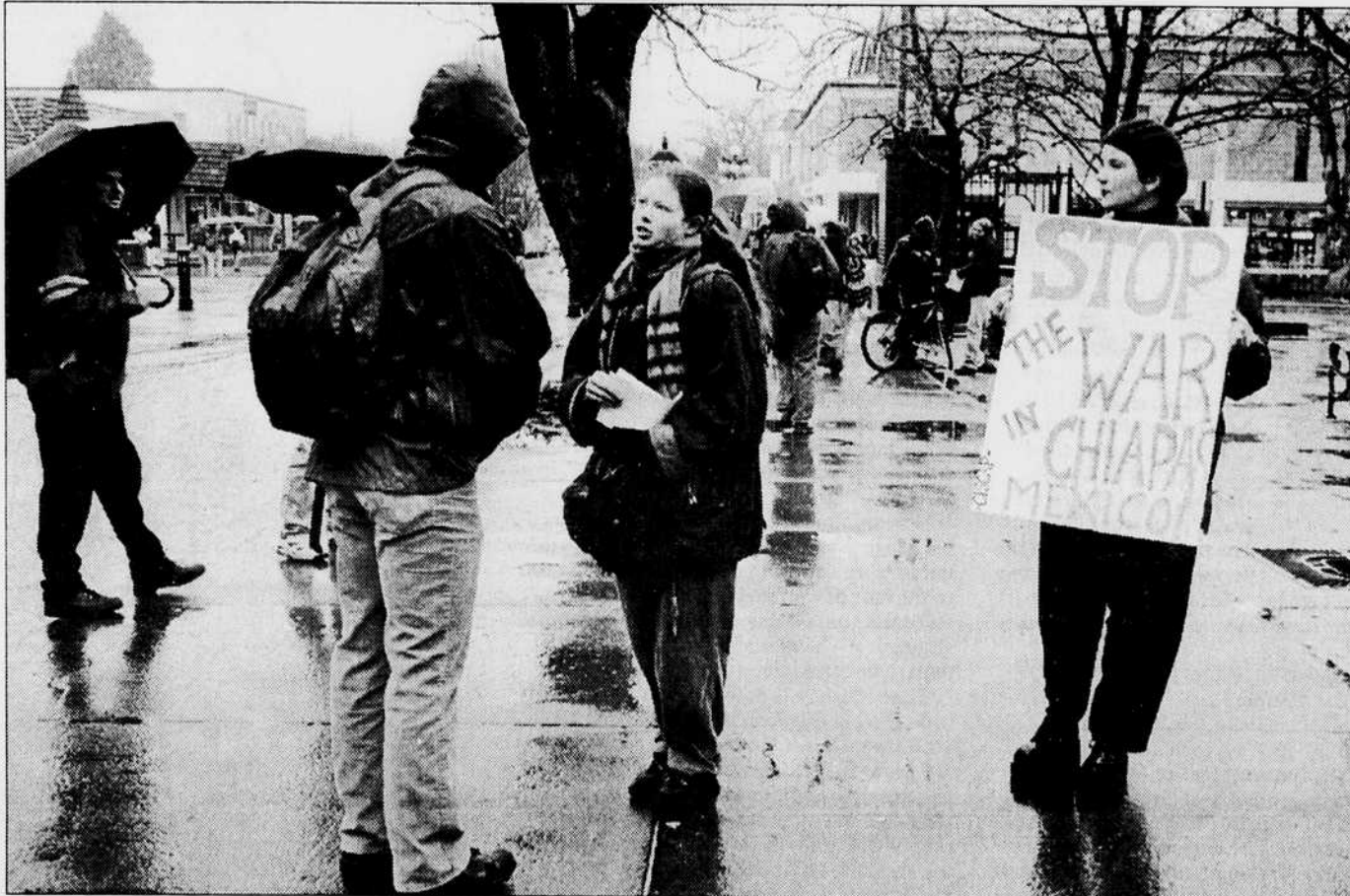
WEATHER

Today
Rain
High 50. Low 41.
Wednesday
Rain
High 50. Low 40.

University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

Oregon Daily Emerald

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"They can only win with international support."

John Groves
CISCAP volunteer

Maura Furfey (left) and Jenny Smith are trying to raise awareness of the plight of Chiapas in Mexico. The vigil was held Monday at noon on the corner of 13th and Kincaid.

WENDY FULLER/Emerald

Vigil honors victims of Chiapas massacre

A Eugene grass-roots group wants to end the violence in the southern Mexican state

By Michael Burnham
Community Reporter

A crowd of almost 40 people braved a winter day and gathered for a vigil Monday to acknowledge the recent massacre in southern Mexico.

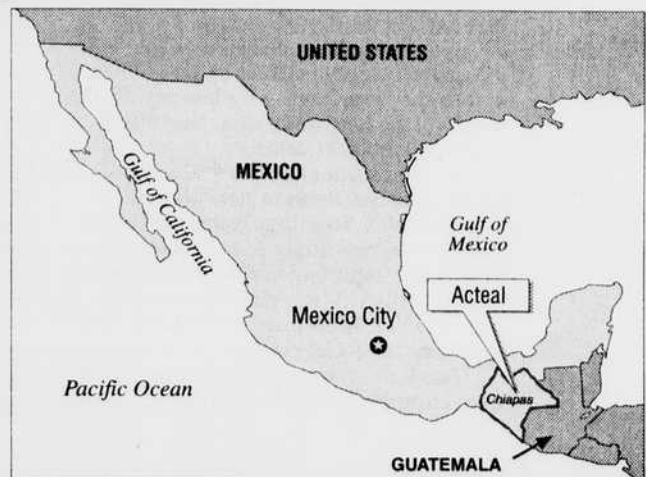
The vigil, which was organized by the Committee in Solidarity with the Central American People, a Eugene grass-roots organization, was held at the corner of 13th Avenue and Kincaid Street in recognition of an "International Day of Action" aimed at stopping U.S. military aid to Mexico.

"We're calling for the demilitarization of Chiapas," said Scott Miksch, a CISCAP staff member. Miksch said this could be accomplished if the Mexican government pulled its army out of Chiapas and if the United States ended military aid to its war-torn southern neighbor.

"There is a definite connection between U.S. military aid to Mexico and the recent massacre in Chiapas," he said. He added that weapons used to prevent drug-trafficking are leaving government hands and are being used by paramilitary groups such as the one believed to be responsible for the massacre.

The massacre occurred Dec. 22 in the village of Acteal, Chiapas, when attackers, whom the Mexican government believed to be paramilitary rebels from a neighboring community, gunned down 45 unarmed Tzotzil Indians with AK-47s.

The Indians were believed to have been sympathetic to the Zapatistas, who are currently involved in an anti-government movement. The movement sprang up in



MATT GARTON/Emerald

Turn to VIGIL, Page 3

Military grant aids artificial intelligence research

A \$1.1 million grant will enable UO researchers to develop problem-solving PCs

By Nicole Kristal
Higher Education Reporter

While some new forms of technology have brought about such controversial procedures as cloning, researchers at the University have developed more practical technological advancements through the use of artificial intelligence.

The Computational Intelligence Research Laboratory has received a \$1.1 million grant from the joint Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and Air

Force Laboratories Planning and Decision Aids program to continue its research in the field of artificial intelligence.

"We're finding more effective ways to exploit machines and solve harder and harder problems," senior research associate Matthew Ginsberg said.

The laboratory aims at making scheduling and planning more efficient in corporations and small businesses. One of the institutions that benefits from these advancements is the military.

"There is a tiny bit of trickiness in taking defense department money," Ginsberg said.

The military can use the laboratory's

technology to help build aircraft and move troops in the Middle East more efficiently.

Ginsberg said he finds it fortunate that the work supported by the defense department has a general-purpose application.

"If we were just moving troops, our work couldn't be used for important peacetime applications," Ginsberg said.

While it can take the military almost two days to solve problems on production lines, for example, the system developed by the laboratory can produce an optimal schedule in two and a half minutes.

"Our system can run on a PC," laborato-

Turn to GRANT, Page 4

Blood and marrow needed

The ASUO, University Alumni Association and the Lane Memorial Blood Bank are holding a blood drive today and Wednesday in the EMU Fir Room. The drive will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Interested students, faculty and staff can also register to be bone marrow donors at the blood drive. The drive is in response to a national shortage of minority donors. After the forms are screened, the blood bank will perform blood tests and tissue typing to determine if a person is eligible to be put into the National Marrow Donor Program Registry on Feb. 3. This service is free for minorities, but otherwise the fee is \$20.