

## Sneezes and sniffles

Allergy season is back and the Student Health Center offers many treatment options, from nasal spray to antihistamines

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## Men, women track shine

Some of the nation's track stars shined, but Oregon individual wins help teams to reign at Hayward Field during the Pepsi Team Invitational on Saturday

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## TODAY

The Shoah Week Exhibit, held by the JSU, begins at 8 a.m. in the EMU Fir Room.

## WEATHER

**Today**  
Mostly cloudy  
High 68. Low 40.  
**Tuesday**  
Partly cloudy  
High 70. Low 44.

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### EDUCATE YOUR MIND

## Students 'Reach for Success'

Students of color from middle schools around the state got a chance to visit the University for a taste of college life

By Teri Meeuwssen  
Higher Education Editor

"Is it frozen?"  
"Why does it smell so bad?"  
"Whose was it?"  
"Is that a real brain?"

Questions for middle school students from around the state were encouraged and answered during the University's 11th Annual "Reach for Success" visitation day on Saturday, April 18.

More than 150 middle school students of color surfed the Internet, saw how television commercials are produced, experienced college life and held, felt and took in the formaldehyde smell of a human brain.

"It's so squooshy and weird, but I'm getting used to it," one of the students said of the brain. "It's kind of cool."

The visitation day was designed to give middle school students a taste of what college life is like while giving parents a chance to see what they need to do to help their children succeed in school.

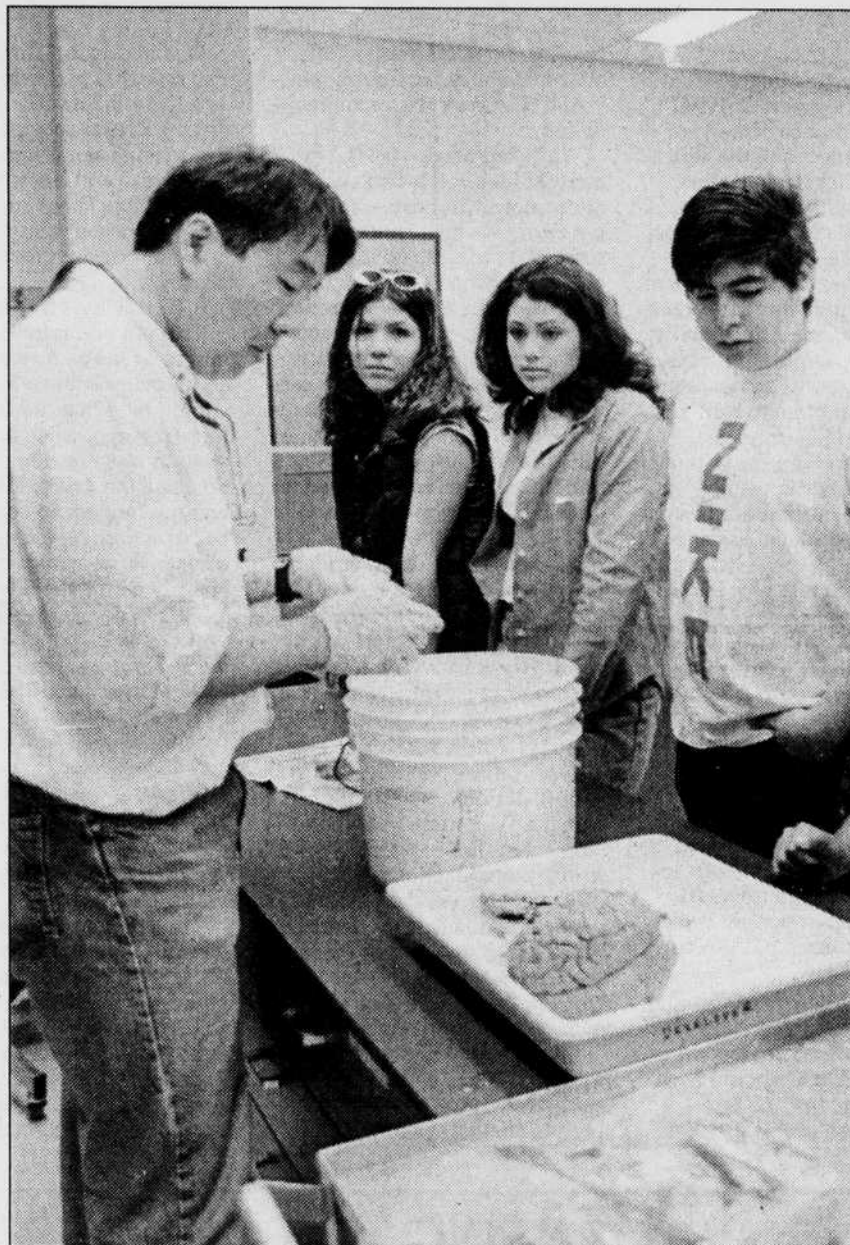
"It's one of our most enjoyable programs because we get to meet and talk with the parents about classes [students] can take as well as talk about financial aid to assure students about what they can do," said Program Director Jim Garcia of the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

Parents had a chance to talk with admissions and financial aid counselors during parent workshops about "cultural survival in a non-diverse society" and "helping students succeed in school." Some of the workshops were also held in Spanish.

Middle school students were invited to attend the program because middle school is the best age level to begin talking and thinking about students' futures, Garcia said.

"Students need to be aware of opportunities [in college]," he said. "Everything starts

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Terry Takabashi, associate professor of Biology, gives visiting middle school students a hands-on lesson on the human brain.

## Graduation preparations commence

The Office of the Registrar will begin checking the transcripts of graduating students this week

By Doug Irving  
Student Activities Editor

It's about time.

The years of rushing through books, sweating through tests and pounding out papers are almost over. Saturday, June 13 is the big day.

The University expects about 2,000 students to graduate that day. And there are still a few things those seniors need to worry about.

Everyone planning to graduate should have applied for graduation already. Those who haven't can still petition the Office of the Registrar to apply late, although that's not a sure bet.

The office will begin checking transcripts this week, said graduation specialist Estelle Forster. It will post its comments on the Web version of every graduating student's transcript.

The address for DuckWeb is [duckweb.uoregon.edu](http://duckweb.uoregon.edu).

The office will also mail two kinds of cards. You want a green card — that means the Registrar agrees you can graduate. You're in trouble if you get a yellow card.

Seniors who run into trouble need to talk with student-records specialists in the Office of Academic Advising.

About 85 percent of seniors who apply to graduate actually do, Forster said. Most of the remaining 15 percent graduate the following term.

Students who get the green card aren't done: they still need to prepare for the commencement ceremony.

The University has no dress requirement for the ceremony, said commencement coordinator Mary Hudzikiewicz. It recommends a cap and gown.

Not one student attended the main ceremony in anything different last year, she said.

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## Prospective CPAs will need to take five-year program in 2000

A recent legislative bill requires five years of study before students can take the CPA examination as of 2000

By Amalie Young  
Higher Education Reporter

Accounting students will soon have to walk a slightly longer road before they can become full-fledged Certified Public Accountants (CPAs).

According to a legislative bill passed recently, accounting students will be required to go through a fifth year of study to be eligible to take the Certified Public Accounting examination as of 2000. The State Board of Higher Education voted Friday to reinstate a one-year Masters in Accounting program at the University to compensate

for the fifth year.

New accountants without five years of university-level education will be denied membership to the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, according to a decision made nearly a decade ago that will kick in on January 1, 2000. That decision has spurred the implementation of legislation in Oregon and many other states that will also require five years of study before taking the CPA exam.

The University's original masters program was removed because of a lack of interest in the accounting program and difficulties with gaining masters program accreditation in the early 1980s, said Helen Gernon, director of the accounting masters program in the Charles H. Lundquist College of Business.

While the four-year undergraduate pro-

gram was considered adequate preparation at that time, professionals in the field have said that a four-year program does not do enough to develop students' oral and written communication skills or their critical thinking skills, she said.

Students without five years of preparation are less competitive in the job market, said Mike Lewis, a University graduate and shareholder in Jones and Ross, a local accounting firm.

"National firms are going to other states to recruit students with five years of education and students from other states are coming to Oregon to compete for jobs," Lewis said.

Students who complete the five-year program "will be ready to engage in financial, tax, and managerial accounting and

have developed skills in auditing and accounting systems," according to a proposal for the reinstatement of the masters program. Training in accounting research and communications as well as general business will also be provided.

"It has to do with preparing a professional for a lifetime of learning, providing students with skills to be successful in the accounting profession," Gernon said.

Like other students who prepare for professional careers in other disciplines, such as law and architecture, accounting students should be required to go through an extensive educational process, Gernon said.

For more information on new legislative requirements and the Masters in Accounting program, call Gernon at 346-5127.