

Dam controversy

Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt was on hand Wednesday to assist in the partial destruction of a dam in Medford

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Swordfights with style

'The Mask of Zorro' comes to the big screen with Antonio Banderas and Anthony Hopkins, giving energetic performances of sword-play and passion

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TODAY

This is the first day of finals during summer term at the University.

WEATHER**Today**

Sunny
High 91. Low 56.

Friday

Partly cloudy
High 83. Low 58.

University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

Oregon Daily Emerald

An independent newspaper
Volume 100, Issue 8

GOING FOR DISTANCE

LAURA GOSS/Emerald

"Nowhere else has that legacy and that tradition that this place has."

Martin Smith
men's track and field coach

New men's track and field head coach Martin Smith talks about his future with the University at Wednesday's press conference.

A long jump from Wisconsin

Smith says the chance to coach at Oregon is 'like playing for the New York Yankees'

By Mirjam Swanson
Freelance Reporter

Martin Smith has been named the new Oregon men's track and field head coach, replacing longtime Oregon coach Bill Dellinger. University athletic director Bill Moos made the announcement at a press conference Tuesday.

Smith, who was the head cross country coach and assistant track coach at Wisconsin, was one of three candidates vying for the position. Former Oregon assistant John Gillespie and former Oregon runner Matt Centrowitz, currently a track coach at American University in Washington, D.C., were also considered.

"It was a very long and thorough search," Moos said. "I was able to utilize the many resources

made available to me in regards to people quite knowledgeable in the sport of track and field."

Smith, who twice was awarded NCAA coach of the year honors during his 15 years at Wisconsin, led the Badgers to two cross country national championships and 10 District IV team championships. His teams finished in the top five in the nation on nine different occasions.

"This is a quality individual with tremendous qualifications," Moos said. "He truly wants to be at the University of Oregon, and I think that this is going to be a great, great era for Oregon track and field."



Smith said he had been preparing himself for an opportunity to coach a program as prestigious as Oregon's his entire career.

"I dreamed about being in this situation, having a chance like this," Smith said. "I just made up my mind: 'If I get it I'm going to take it.' Nowhere else has that legacy and that tradition that this place has. It's like playing for the New York Yankees. It's mystical, but the fact of the matter is all that happened because of all the guys before me, both coaches and athletes. Now it's my responsibility to see if I can continue it and that's the challenge. I look forward to the challenges."

Smith's specialties in the past have been fo-

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Senate passes bill that might increase Pell Grants

If the bill is approved by the House, it could also lower interest rates on student loans

By Peter Breden
Oregon Daily Emerald

Students may soon see a dramatic increase in money available from federal grants. The U.S. Senate renewed and bolstered its financial commitment to an affordable college education with the reauthorization of the higher education bill last Thursday.

The bill, which is up for reauthorization every five years, passed by a 96-1 vote. The House passed a similar bill in May, but before any higher education bill can be forwarded to President Clinton, Congress must resolve the differences.

The bill passed Thursday by the Senate

was highlighted by the substantial proposed increase in the maximum Pell Grant award from \$3,000 to \$5,000. The lone vote opposed to reauthorization came from Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C.

In addition to students receiving more financial assistance, those who are on direct loan programs would see a decrease in their interest rate from 8.23 percent to 7.43 percent. The reduction will affect the seven Oregon postsecondary schools that use a direct lending program to borrow from the government instead of borrowing through private lending institutions. University of Oregon students would be affected by the interest rate reduction.

"There are grant increases and new grant programs in this bill that will make the dream of a college education a reality for more people," Oregon Republican Sen. Gordon Smith said in a press release.

The bill's passage is a victory for increasing access to higher education, ASUO federal affairs coordinator C.J. Gabbe said.

"There's an opportunity for more needy students to get an education," Gabbe said. "We still have a ways as far as eliminating loan origination fees. Those are things we're going to continue to push for."

Smith and Oregon Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden wrote a Sense of the Senate amend-

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**SMITH**