

Oregon Daily Emerald



Weather forecast

Today Rain High 57, Low 47
 Saturday Rain High 56, Low 49

Rhythm & Reviews

Big Head Todd and the Monsters' new release "Live Monsters" trends into mediocrity / PAGE 6A

Civil War 1998

Oregon and Oregon State meet for the 105th time this Saturday at Parker Stadium / SECTION B

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CUISINE LIMOUSINES



Mark Stern, owner of Carte Blanche, finishes up a hard day of serving soup in front of PLC. Stern is one of several vendors whose carts now dot the campus.

Vendors provide warm vittles

Vendors weather the cold to serve university students an assortment of food choices

By Tricia Schwennesen
 Oregon Daily Emerald

From beneath a blue and white striped vinyl umbrella, steam billows out around the ruddy-faced man's head as students line up to purchase his tongue-tantalizing treats.

Always with a smile and silver tongs in hand, Tim Nally has served kosher hot dogs from his portable cart, One Bad Dawg, for the past two years.

At 30 to 75 people a day, most of them repeat customers, that's more than

12,600 hot dogs in two years.

"You gotta like people," he said. "This is like a little United Nations down here, and I've made some good friends."

Nally said the cart, located at 13th Avenue and Kincaid Street, was a natural spin-off from his wife's restaurant, Sam's To Go Sandwiches, located around the corner, on 11th Avenue.

"I just looked into it and found out that no one was selling good hot dogs," he said. "I'll never end up driving a Mercedes, but I get rich from the friends I make here."

The favorite combination for hot dog lovers is a polish dog with ketchup, mustard, onions and relish.

Susann Suprenant, a graduate student

in theater arts, said she prefers her plain hot dog with mustard only.

"I just want to go with the pure hot dog experience," she said. "I was standing here thinking that I don't want to walk too far, and they're yummy."

The simple operation is made up of two propane-heated pots, one for cooking and one to keep the hot dogs warm, and counter space to hold the condiments.

"I offer 10 things that they can have any or all of," he said.

There's ketchup, two types of mustard, mayonnaise, nacho cheese, onions, two relishes, tomatoes or sauerkraut.

Nally knows most of his repeat cus-

Turn to **CARTS**, Page 3A

Mexico's conditions discussed

Edgar Cortez will speak at an on-campus conference this weekend, addressing human rights and problems in Mexico

By Erin Snelgrove
 Oregon Daily Emerald

At the first annual Northwest Mexico Solidarity conference, concerned students and faculty will discuss human rights violations in Mexico, hoping to find answers toward solving Mexico's growing economic and social problems.

This conference is at the University Law School this weekend and will feature keynote speaker Edgar Cortez, the director of the Mexico City-based Miguel Agustin Pro Juarez Human Rights Center. Cortez will speak on his experiences fighting for justice and democracy in Mexico.

"Edgar Cortez can help us answer how to best solve these human rights violations in Mexico," said Dan Goldrich, a political science professor and active member of the Committee in Solidarity with the Central American People. "Cortez has had experience being a director of a Mexican human rights organization. He'll be describing to us how Mexican human rights organizations are organizing and strategizing to deal with these problems. So on the basis of that, we'll have a better idea of how to work with solidarity."

The first speech will be from 11 a.m. to noon and is titled, "The National Picture of Human Rights in Mexico." The second speech is from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. and is titled, "Mexican Civil Society and the Role of In-

Turn to **CORTEZ**, Page 4A

Conference

■ **WHO:** Edgar Cortez, director of the Miguel Agustin Pro Juarez Human Rights Center

■ **WHEN:** Saturday at 11 a.m., Cortez will speak on human rights in Mexico; 1 p.m.: Cortez will speak on the role of international solidarity

■ **WHERE:** University Law School

Media representatives debate role in political process

A forum gave the audience members the chance to express their frustrations about coverage

By Michael Hines
 Oregon Daily Emerald

The news media are in a constant struggle to find balance, local news representatives said at Thursday's Democratic Party of Lane County forum. They try to balance fairness between opposing sides, opposing candidates and even minor vs. major parties.

The forum, which was held in Harris Hall, was moderated by School of Journalism and Communication Dean Tim Gleason and State Senator Susan Castillo.

In general, the local radio, television and newspaper outlets to a good job of covering politics, Register-Guard political reporter Harry Esteve told the audience of about 90.

"You're going to get a good deal of information on a candidate's stand on issues," he said.

KEZI-TV political reporter Jeanne Powell agreed but pointed out that many media do not have the time or space to cover every detail in political debates.

"Our stories average about 45 seconds," she said in the forum, which was co-hosted by the Wayne Morse Free Speech Forum. "So you're not going to get a lot of information about a particular candidate."

Esteve described the position local me-

dia are put in as a "catch-22." News outlets want to disseminate information that is most pertinent to the people, and this often means ignoring ideas that are in the minority.

"We do tend to focus too much on major party candidates," conceded Springfield News reporter Pete Malloris.

He added that the media often cover news that may not make the public happy, such as budget cuts or political bickering.

"We pay attention to [politics] when something interesting is going on," Malloris said. This often makes the stories' subjects and the public cynical about politics, he said.

Debate also surrounded the idea of the

massive amounts of money floating in political campaigns.

"Political advertising should not be allowed in this country," freelance journalist George Beres said. This was an idea echoed by several representatives on the eight-person panel, including KLCC radio political commentator Alan Siporin.

Many in the audience voiced their frustration with media coverage of politics, and the panelists said the public often does not understand the responsiveness of news media to feedback.

"Letters to the editors are a very strong way to get change," said Alice Talmadge, political reporter for the Eugene Weekly. "It's a good place for dialogue."