

# Oregon Daily Emerald



## Weather forecast

Today  
Showers  
High 47, Low 36

Saturday  
Rain  
High 55, Low 41

## Break time

*A little bit of planning can help that spring break trip go a lot smoother, and the sooner the better / PAGE 3*

## Winning the War

*With the postseason in the balance, the Ducks need a win over the Beavers on Saturday / PAGE 11*

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# Duck!

*To hear one student tell it, it's a tough life being a Duck—an Oregon Ducks mascot, that is*

By Felicity Ayles  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Between blowing chunks in his own suit and brawling with the Oregon State Beaver, it seems like the Oregon Duck has more rebounds this year than the women's basketball team.

In an exclusive interview, "Craig," one of four students who don the duck suit, tells the trials and tribulations of being one of the University's most spirited fans.

Craig, who spoke to the Emerald on condition of anonymity, said he has been fascinated with the mascot since the first sports event he went to his freshman year.

"My freshman and sophomore years, I'd go to the games and be intrigued about watching the mascot," he said. "I thought it was cool to see this guy work."

The University is serious about its Duck mascots, and the grueling auditions in McArthur Court are just the first step.

"It represents the UO and everything we want sportsmanship to be," said cheerleading coach Laraine Raish.

The audition to be the mascot is closed except for a panel of judges who assign points to the applicants with the best dance or skit performance.

Now that he has survived the audition, Craig said he shares his mascot responsibilities among all the University sports with his three co-workers. There are currently three students working full-time as mascots and one alternate.

But Craig said he is the only one of the mascots who attempts stunts.

"I sometimes do a pyramid with a full extension," he said. "You can see pretty well from up there."

The 6-foot-1, 210-pound Craig said he thinks he is the largest mascot the University has ever had, and a special Duck

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Matt Hankins/Emerald

A Duck mascot attracts a small crowd at the women's basketball game against Arizona on Sunday.

## Kitzhaber says waterways are primary focus

*The governor proposes that environmental groups and the timber industry work together*

By Amy Jennaro  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Preservation of salmon, protection of waterways and increased citizen commitment to environmental concerns were all issues Gov. John Kitzhaber presented Thursday as the keynote speaker at the Oregon Logging Conference at the Lane County Fairgrounds.

Kitzhaber outlined a plan for increased commitment in the Oregon lumber industry to preserving waterways.

"The decisions you make have a significant importance in watershed health," he told the delegation.

Kitzhaber's main focus was his commitment to the Oregon Plan, a referendum

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## Decision expected today on election injunctions

The Constitution Court deliberated Thursday but was unable to come to a decision regarding two injunctions filed by student Scott Austin.

Constitution Court justice Heidi Barker said an opinion is expected this morning.

Hearings Wednesday night pitted Austin against defendants ASUO President Geneva Wortman and ASUO Election Coordinator Taylor Sturges.

Austin alleged that the special election called by Wortman was unconstitutional and that an extension by Sturges of the deadline for getting ballot measure wording to the Constitution Court was a violation of elections rules.

An update on the decision will be available on the Emerald Web site at [www.dailyemerald.com](http://www.dailyemerald.com).

## Students feel less than safe on campus, according to survey, groups

*Lack of adequate lighting and too few emergency call boxes are cited as factors*

By Jason George  
Oregon Daily Emerald

If you do not feel safe on campus, you are not alone.

Many people at the University do not feel safe at night on campus. A recent survey of 1,910 students, faculty and staff reported that at night on campus, 30.7 percent of respondents feel "very safe" and 44.9 percent feel "somewhat safe." Around the edges of campus at night, only 10.7 percent feel "very safe" and 42.2 percent "somewhat safe."

"If I walk by Deady and those areas

where it is all dark, then I will think about it," said Aruna Pradhan, a sophomore journalism major who did not participate in the survey.

When asked why the lighting is not better in the area, the Office of Public Safety said aesthetics and costs were the reasons.

Pradhan was a member of a five-woman group that got together this week to discuss safety on campus.

The students talked about emergency phones on campus. The University campus has 25 emergency call boxes for a 280-acre campus, or one box for every 11.2 acres.

"I think, in the off chance something could happen, there needs to be more," said Kit Powell, an undeclared freshman.

The cost of an emergency call box is ap-

proximately \$2,250 for parts and labor, said Thomas Hicks, associate director of OPS. He said that there are plans to install new ones by the new law school building and that he would look into the Deady Hall area.



been in practice for 10 years.

"It gives people a sense of security. Unlike mace, they don't have to think about it," said Sergeant Brough of the Boulder Office of Public Safety. "You would be surprised

how many people will call in and say they just heard a whistle."

Boulder's OPS response time on a 780-acre campus is 30 to 45 seconds. Hicks put the University's average at 120 seconds.

Brough said 26,000 whistles were dispensed at the Boulder campus in fall 1998, and students on campus were instructed on what hearing the noise means and how to react. The Colorado university has also installed them in bathrooms and shower stalls in the residence halls.

Here at the University, Hicks said that they have some whistles in the office and if individuals wanted one they could come by and get one.

"First impression, I think it sounds kind of funny, but I think it could be effective," Powell said.