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WEATHER

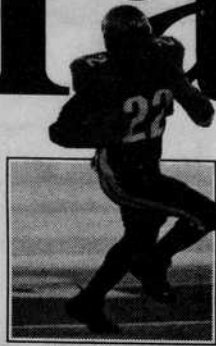
Today

PARTLY SUNNY
Wednesday

RAIN POSSIBLE

A tale of inspiration

A local dog with a prosthetic leg and his owner travel to area hospitals and schools throughout Oregon to share their story of overcoming obstacles. **PAGE 6**



Ducks on Droughns' back

When senior tailback Reuben Droughns is healthy, the Oregon football team almost always win, and Droughns is the healthiest he's been all season now. **PAGE 7**

Day of the Dead

■ Dia de los Muertos gives students a chance to revere and remember relatives and heroes who have passed away

By Simone Ripke
Oregon Daily Emerald

Trilce Navarrete carefully set up brushes, paint, water, a pallet, chocolate, fruit and a candle on the colorful altar in the EMU Fir Room on Friday.

Navarrete, a first year graduate student, is also a member of MEChA, the Chicano student union, helping students prepare for the Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead celebration. The holiday is a Mexican tradition honoring dead relatives and heroes. The actual celebration is on Nov. 2, but students have set up an altar and organized activities regarding the holiday for the entire week.

Students will bring photos to the altar throughout the week of those they want to remember. Navarrete brought a photo of Oswaldo Guayasamin, an Equadorian painter who recently passed away. The items she placed by Guayasamin's photo represent his life.

When candles on the altar go out or when items are moved, people believe the spirits of the dead visited the altar, she said.

Although remembering deceased relatives can make people sad, the celebra-



An altar in the EMU Fir Room is one of several activities organized by the Chicano student union in preparation for the Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead celebration. Students will bring photos to the altar throughout the week of people they want to remember who have passed away. Jeffrey Stockton Emerald

tion is far from morbid, said Alma Llamas, a senior majoring in Spanish and business. Llamas, who is the program coordinator for MEChA, said the celebration, which includes poetry, music and traditional food makes most participants

happy rather than sad.

Llamas said Mexicans believe death is a part of life rather than its end and people like to keep alive the memory of loved ones.

MEChA started celebrating the holiday

in 1981 and plans to continue the tradition in the future.

"Dia de los Muertos is really important for us to remember in terms of our culture and our heritage," said Sylvia Gil, a senior

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Grant will fund prevention program

■ The First Steps program will be funded by a \$500,000 grant from the Legislature as part of an effort to reduce violence in children

By Stefanie Knowlton
Oregon Daily Emerald

The University Institute on Violence and Destructive Behavior, a youth violence prevention research facility, received a \$500,000 grant from the Legislature this session to implement an early childhood prevention program at public schools statewide.

The institute was established in 1995 to find solutions to growing youth violence in the country, and researchers at IVDB have been working on the early childhood intervention program for the last seven years, implementing it in a few schools in the Eugene area.

"We are extremely pleased and very encouraged ... it shows that they are interested in this program," said Hill Walker, IVDB co-director and creator of the program.

The grant is designed to implement First Steps, one of the only prevention programs geared toward kindergarten and first-grade children.

The goal is to target students who may have a little trouble listening and following

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Hill Walker
Institute on Violence and Destructive Behavior co-director

directions, and turn this behavior around before it become problematic, Walker said.

There has been a higher success rate with younger children in the programs initiated by the institute, he said.

There are three reasons the program is more successful, he said.

One, it starts early when children are just entering school and forming attitudes about

teachers, fellow classmates and themselves in the learning process, he said.

Second, the program involves parents. Third, at five or six years old it is easier to learn good behavior patterns than at age 16.

At the end of the program students feel better about themselves and they get along with teachers and peers better, Walker said. The initial results from the program in Eugene schools showed students retained 60 to 80 percent of the positive gains they made during the program.

Annemieke Golly, program coordinator who works with teachers and educators to implement the program, explained that it involves the entire class and is presented as a fun activity.

For example, "Johnny has volunteered to help and try very hard to do his work ... Then Johnny becomes the star for appropriate behavior where before he was known for inappropriate behavior," she said.

The teacher will use a flashcard that is green on one side for good behavior and

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Frohnmayr recovering after cardiac surgery



FROHNMAYER

University President Dave Frohnmayr is recovering after surgery Monday at Suburban Health Care Systems in Bethesda, Md.

"The procedure to implant a defibrillator went well and Dave Frohnmayr continues to improve," according to a hospital statement. A cardio-defibrillator was implanted in the president's chest and will monitor his heart's rhythm.

Frohnmayr suffered a sudden heart arrhythmia while attending a National Institutes of Health conference in Bethesda on Oct. 22. The defibrillator will deliver an electric shock to Frohnmayr's heart if another arrhythmia occurs.

It is still unclear when Frohnmayr will leave the hospital or return to the University.

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