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Needles to help smokers quit

■ The Health Education Program offers acupuncture services to help smokers end their habits

By Brooke Ross
Oregon Daily Emerald

In an effort to help students quit smoking, the University's Health Education Program is offering acupuncture treatment during the Great American Smokeout, which is held today nationwide.

The American Cancer Society created the event 24 years ago to encourage people to stop smoking.

Licensed Eugene acupuncturist Tom Williams will treat 15 students this afternoon in the medical library of the University Health Center.

"Acupuncture helps establish balance in the body and reduces its imbalances, such as smoking," said Matthew Mixer, another Eugene acupuncturist.

Mixer said he is confident in the success of acupuncture treatments but added that no official explanation exists for how they work. He said there are specific points in the ears that, when pricked, are good for treating addictions. His treatment consists of inserting four needles into patients' ears.

"If people could live one day without smoking, then they could live the rest of their lives without smoking," said Lia Riger, media relations and marketing director of the Portland branch of the American Cancer Society.

She said the American Cancer So-

ciety is concerned with children and young adults smoking, so many of the society's programs are specifically targeted to prevent youths from starting to smoke.

"When students go off to college, they try new things, and they may pick up the habit," Riger said.

Annie Dochnahl, a University peer health education coordinator, said she believes smoking is a health risk for students. She added she is confident that acupuncture can help people quit smoking.

Dochnahl said more of an effort to help students quit smoking is needed. A University study conducted in May 2000 showed that 20 percent of University students smoke.

"We want to keep the awareness in smokers that quitting is a viable option," she said.

Donations

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In addition to the donations, McDonald said season ticket sales and Duck merchandise sales also significantly increase after a good season.

But McDonald stressed that the Rose Bowl doesn't just mean donations - it also provides an excellent opportunity to market the academic opportunities at the University.

"If you look at the focus of where the Rose Bowl is," he said, "California is one of our largest recruitment areas."

James Buch, the associate vice president of student academic affairs, said the attention from this season's winning football team is believed to

have had a small impact already. He said that in comparison to last year, inquiries about the University have increased 13 percent, and attendance at a recent open house had risen by more than 50 percent.

"There may be just a higher interest in college in general," he said. "But I think having a successful football team has had a positive effect on the number of applicants."

Though Buch doesn't yet know how much impact the football season has had on admissions, he said just getting the University's name in the national spotlight will boost admissions.

Associate Vice President of the Office of Development Kathryn Owen said it is too early to count on any possible Rose Bowl-inspired donations.

Owen said a Rose Bowl game for the Ducks would likely increase donations, but there are too many factors involved in fundraising to expect a large boost from the game.

"We don't hang our hats on a lot of 'ifs,'" she said, "and we don't want to hang everything on a football game."

Alumni Association Director of Marketing and Membership Tom Clotter said a Rose Bowl appearance would likely mean Ducks coming back to the flock.

"There's no doubt that when UO athletics do well, our membership goes up," he said. "Membership goes up when it's hip to be a Duck."

Funds from Alumni Association memberships support scholarships and recruitment programs, Clotter said.

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Wyden

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the University of Oregon and Oregon State University football teams.

"This is a complicated issue. I have certain obligations as a Duck, and certain obligations as a United States senator to represent my state," Wyden said. "I'm looking at the possibility of wearing a green jacket and an orange scarf."

On a more serious note, Wyden addressed the complications surrounding the unsettled presidential election and said the public will not allow the election to go on "forever and ever."

"The founding fathers knew democracy would not always be completely tidy," Wyden said. "One

thing I've learned over the past few days is that no vote is too small."

Voicing the question on many American minds, freshman Patrick Smith asked about the discrepancy between the Electoral College and popular vote.

"In the possible event Al Gore wins the popular vote and Bush wins the Electoral College, would you support a constitutional amendment that would do away with the Electoral College?" Smith asked.

In response, Wyden said there will be Senate hearings about the Electoral College and reminded the crowd that the Electoral College ensures that small states such as Oregon are heard. If the United States gets rid of the Electoral College, we may never see a presidential candidate in Oregon again be-

cause they'll go where the big media markets are, Wyden said.

"We saw a lot of Gore and Bush during this election because they were competing heavily for Oregon's electoral votes," Wyden said. "Our seven votes are a big deal. I spoke to the vice president this morning, and they're still a big deal."

Wyden, who is filibustering in the Senate to protect Oregon's one-of-a-kind physician-assisted suicide law, continued to advocate his fight.

"When Congress comes back Dec. 5, we're going to continue to filibuster [on the issue of physician-assisted suicide]," he said. "It's going to be an uphill battle, but I'm going to fight with all my strength to protect Oregon's rights."

President

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said. His scenario would ignore the hand counts under way.

Some 6 million ballots were cast in Florida's 67 counties, and Bush holds a 300-vote lead, the secretary of state said. Lawsuits from both sides are pending in state and federal court with no swift end in sight.

Bush accepted Gore's offer to meet together after Florida's contentious election outcome is resolved.

"Not for Vice President Gore or me, but for America this process must have a point of conclusion. America and the world must know who will be the next president," Bush said.

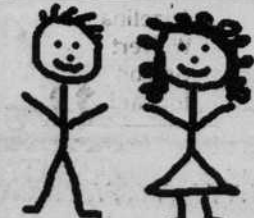
The Florida Supreme Court earlier rejected a request from Secretary

of State Katherine Harris to block any manual re-counts "pending final resolution" of whether the process was proper under Florida law. Bush's camp had intervened in the case, which sought to consolidate the tangle of legal petitions under one state court. The court's ruling, though not the final word, gave Democrats new vigor in their ballot-by-ballot bid to trim Bush's lead in the state.

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