

Oregon Daily Emerald

An independent newspaper

A lesson for all seasons

Students celebrate Kwanzaa by honoring the past as they look hopefully toward the future. **PAGE 5**

New horizons

Northwest Christian College makes expansion plans with the help of a new fundraising drive. **PAGE 3**

WEATHER
TODAY



RAIN LIKELY
high 55, low 45

SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON

Gore insists vote count is not yet complete

Despite Bush's Florida win, Gore continues to look for more votes declaring him the winner

By Terence Hunt
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After nearly three weeks of uncertainty, Americans are growing restless. Al Gore faces the tough challenge of persuading the court of public opinion, as well as the legal courts, that his presidential quest is still legitimate.

"I don't think there's any question but that he's got an uphill fight," former White House chief of staff Leon Panetta, a Democrat, said Monday.

"Everything is operating against him now," presidential historian Henry Graff said.

Time is running out as court cases stack up. Gore is on the defense, searching for more votes and voters' patience, while Republican George W. Bush tries to act presidential, reaching for the keys to the White House and beginning to assemble a Cabinet.

A day after Bush was certified the winner in Florida, Gore sought to counter the impression that the contest was over. "If every vote is counted," Gore said in a phone call with De-

mocratic allies, "there are easily more than enough to change the outcome and decide the election in our favor."

Gore's court filings went a step further, saying not only that all the votes should be counted but that the vice president already should be declared the winner. Gore's lawyers asked a Tallahassee court to "certify that the true and accurate results of the 2000 presidential election in Florida" show Gore and running mate Joseph Lieberman as the winners.

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Drinking around the world

International student drinking statistics VS. domestic students

67 percent of international students had not had a binge drinking episode in the past two weeks

54 percent of domestic students had not had a binge drinking episode in the past two weeks

7 percent of international students had five or more drinks twice a week in the past two weeks.

12 percent of domestic students had five or more drinks twice in a week in the past two weeks.

0 percent of international students were injured from drinking.

5 percent of domestic students were injured from drinking.

Source: Oregon Survey Research Laboratory, May 2000 survey

Katie Miller Emerald

International Drinking Age Limits

A brief sampling of alcohol laws from around the world

Country

Minimum Drinking Age

China

No minimum drinking age

Germany

MDA and minimum purchasing age (MPA) is 16 for beer and wine, 18 for spirits

Netherlands

MPA for beer and wine is 16, MPA for spirits is 18, 16 if accompanied by an adult.

South Africa

MDA is 18. This applies to drinking in public places such as bars.

Spain

MDA is 16, younger than 16 may purchase beer and wine if accompanied by their parents.

United States

MDA is 21. In the United States, 90 percent of U.S. high school students have consumed alcoholic beverages in bars and off-licensed premises. The MDA and MPA are 18. The MPA for beer and cider is 16 when purchased for consumption with meals (except in a bar). Children over five may consume alcoholic beverages with parent's consent.

United Kingdom

Source: International Center for Alcohol Policies

UO Health Center short on vaccines

The Student Health Advisory decides who gets flu-shot priority, leaving some students and faculty members out in the cold

By Jeremy Lang
Oregon Daily Emerald

The first recorded case of influenza in Oregon struck a University student last week, but the first shipment of flu vaccinations for healthy students and faculty won't arrive at the Student Health Center until today or Wednesday.

Drug manufacturer Wyeth sent two 300-dose shipments to the health center on Nov. 6 and Nov. 13 and were administered to students and faculty deemed "at-risk" because of diseases like diabetes — and to the athletic department.

The men's and women's basketball teams and reserve players on the football team received 50 of the health center's first 300 vaccinations, a decision based on a long-standing relationship between the health center and the athletic department, according to Medical Director Gerald Fleischli.

The other 250 flu shots went to at-risk students with diabetes, asthma, a weak immune system or other ailments that can make a case of the flu life-threatening.

Fleischli said the decision was safe and there have been enough doses to avoid any shortages, even though the health center normally gets 3,000 vaccinations in the first shipment.

"We kept enough in reserve that there were no problems," he said.

Fleischli and the Student Health Advisory Council decided that at-risk faculty and staff should have preference over healthy students for the second 300-dose shipment, which arrived a week later. He also denied a request by the athletic department for 50 more from that shipment.

"If one faculty member is sick, 100 to 200 students could be missing out on their education," Fleischli said. "The next priority after that is healthy students and faculty."

One of those healthy students, ASUO Vice President Holly Magner, said she is disappointed that sports players were vaccinated before at-risk faculty members, and she called the decision an example of how athletes

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Gerald Fleischli
Medical Director

The Age of Reason

Some international students feel the strict drinking age enforcement in this country is ineffective

By Lisa Toth
Oregon Daily Emerald

Santiago Ruiz, a junior journalism major, said his hometown of Quito, Ecuador has no restrictions on who can buy alcohol. Ruiz is one of many international students at the University who thinks American regulations of the consumption of alcohol and drugs should be changed.

Peer Health Education Coordinator Annie Dochnahl, who works at the University Health Center, said a recent survey conducted by the Oregon Survey Research Laboratory shows international students are drinking less than domestic students, and domestic students are injured more from drinking than international students.

Seven percent of international students had five or more drinks twice a week in the past two weeks, while 12 percent of domestic students had five or more drinks twice a week in the past two weeks.

"Given that international students may be

more challenged than domestic students to feel a sense of belonging, there could be a sense of using alcohol to fit in or belong, but the study doesn't pan that out," Dochnahl said.

Dochnahl said University students tend to drink to be socially accepted and to manage stress.

"Even though our drinking age is 21 in the U.S., we are bombarded by the alcohol industry messages that associate alcohol with the good life," Dochnahl said. "That may have a greater impact on drinking choices than the drinking ages."

Ruiz said he remembers buying alcohol at age 13 for his family reunions. But despite the lack of regulations, he said the percentage of alcoholics in the South American country is much lower than in the U.S.

"In my country, you have the opportunity to get alcohol anytime, but you also have morals, values and religion that tell you what is the limit," Ruiz said.

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