

Drinking

continued from page 1

The 23-year-old said he stopped furnishing his underage friends with substances because he needs to follow the rules in America. But he said this isn't a problem in Ecuador because alcohol isn't a challenge to obtain, and a person is considered an adult at age 18, instead of age 21.

"I think the rules [in America] should be changed. When you forbid some people to do something, they want to do it more," Ruiz said.

Ruiz said it is not socially acceptable to drink to the point where a person passes out from alcohol consumption in Ecuador, because community members are

concerned with how they are perceived by their peers. He was surprised to find that college students in America are sometimes pressured to consume massive quantities of alcohol.

Duco Merkens, a freshman business major from the Netherlands, said alcohol can be obtained in his country at age 16, or even age 14, if the buyer looks old enough. The 18-year-old said alcohol is easier to acquire in the Netherlands, and it becomes part of the social experience in bars with friends, instead of an addiction.

He added he spends less money on alcohol in America. In the Netherlands, he can easily spend more than \$50 on alcohol at the bars in a night. International students have also said they noticed a difference in the use of drugs, such

as marijuana, in the U.S. and in foreign countries.

Merkens said he has observed more students smoking marijuana than drinking alcohol in the U.S., because marijuana is easy to obtain.

"The good thing about The Netherlands is that marijuana is basically not allowed, but you can get it if you want. You won't be punished," Merkens said. "A lot more people are doing it [in America] because it is sneaky. They want to do it because it is prohibited."

Office Manager for the International Student Association and sophomore architecture major Wanjiku Magua grew up on the border of Nairobi, Kenya. Magua said individuals have to be 18 to purchase alcohol, but the law is

not strictly enforced. She said clubs check for identification, but pubs usually don't.

Magua, who is part of the Gikuyu tribe, said traditional alcoholic beverages, such as mûratina, a blend of fermented sugar cane, are a part of certain ceremonies, such as weddings.

"From my perspective, [alcohol consumption] depends on religious beliefs, family background and traditional orientation," Magua said.

She said her Christian beliefs discourage her from consuming alcohol.

Magua said she has seen a higher rate of drug use, including hallucinogenics and cocaine, in the U.S. than in Kenya. She said American movies and programs promote drinking and smoking,

which causes people to mimic what they see on television.

Sophomore pre-business major and ISA Program Assistant Xiaoyu Fan, from China, said she finds other alternatives besides drinking to reduce stress and enjoy college life, including reading, eating and playing music.

Edel Davenport, an international counselor from Germany at the University Counseling Center, said international students could possibly consume alcohol because it alleviates loneliness, the transition to a new country and culture shock.

"Academic pressures and being far away from family, friends and a social support system might lead international students to find comfort in drinking and food," Davenport said.

Elections

continued from page 1

While battling on the legal front, Gore launched a public relations offensive, answering Bush's urging that he should quit. Gore recognizes that his cause would be lost if public sentiment turns against him.

Gore, in a nationally televised address Monday night, said he simply is seeking a complete count of all Florida votes. "Not recount after recount as some have

charged," the vice president said in a dig at Bush, "but a single, full and accurate count. We haven't had that yet."

He said Bush's lawyers have filed lawsuits to delay the count and stop the counting and "and this would be over long since except for those efforts to block the process at every turn."

Gore held a televised conference call with Democratic leaders of the House and Senate who assured him that Democrats "have been entirely supportive" of finding out how everyone voted — even

though there was some isolating grumbling within the party. At the White House, President Clinton joined Gore's unity chorus.

In Bush's camp, there was a determined effort to focus on White House planning as if all the confusing legal challenges really didn't matter. Of course, it was Bush's team that brought the election to the U.S. Supreme Court in a challenge to Florida recounts. That pivotal case will be heard Friday.

Panetta, a respected voice in the political world, said both candidates should stop at the Supreme

Court rather than take the battle to the House of Representatives.

"Once the Supreme Court makes a decision, by God, both candidates ought to abide by it," Panetta told The Associated Press. "Any candidate who tries to take it beyond that will be not only testing the patience of the American people but, I think, will be producing the kind of constitutional crisis we don't need. Up to this point we've had a political crisis. What we don't need is a constitutional crisis."

Panetta did not seem hopeful about Gore's prospects. "Harry Truman had to give in on seizing the steel mills," he said. "Richard Nixon had to give up his tapes. It may be that Gore may have to give up his effort at his presidency as a result of whatever the court says."

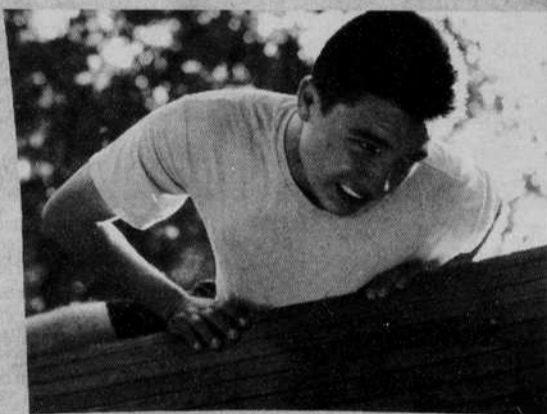
Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle acknowledged that Democrats are "working against the clock." Dec. 12 is the deadline for choosing Florida's electors. The Republican-controlled state legislature has

threatened to take over the job.

Polling immediately after Florida's certification of Bush as winner of Florida's 25 electoral votes found that six in 10 Americans say it is time for Gore to concede. The survey, by ABC News-Washington Post, also found that about six in 10 say they would accept Gore as legitimately elected if he were to emerge as the president.

While legal maneuvering churned in Florida and loomed in Washington, Bush met with Andy Card, the man he picked as White House chief of staff. Card said Bush "is getting ready to be a great president."

The Clinton administration wasn't following the Bush script, refusing to release \$5.3 million set aside for the presidential transition. Running mate Dick Cheney said Bush would finance his own transition operation with private contributions. He said it would be irresponsible if Bush did not move as quickly as possible, given the delay.



we throw all kinds of
[obstacles] at you.
 tuition isn't one of them.

Sure, we'll have you climbing walls. But if you qualify for a 2- or 3-year scholarship, tuition's one obstacle you won't have to worry about. Talk to an Army ROTC rep. And get a leg up on your future.



ARMY ROTC Unlike any other college course you can take.

Call LTC Elliott for details at 346-ROTC
 or email army@oregon.uoregon.edu

Flu

continued from page 1

money are the people who the University shines down on," Magner said.

But Fleischli said he agrees with the long-standing policy to supply vaccinations to the athletic department, because athletes can contract the virus and spread it through the University and the state when they travel to away games.

"It is less fatal to athletes, but they are just as susceptible to catching it," Fleischli said. "There are about 50 at-risk athletes."

But Bob Crist, team physician for the athletic department, said healthy athletes also received vaccinations because he expected part of each shipment to be available for the athletic department.

The health center and agencies nationwide have encountered flu vaccination shortages, as manufacturers struggled to develop the flu strain used to create the vaccine.

"I was not told there would be a problem," Crist said. "We didn't get enough vaccine to make a dent."

Fleischli said another 50 from the 300 vaccinations that should arrive in the next few days will be sent to the athletic department for more athletes.

Crist said the football starting

- Influenza vaccinations will be available to all students today or Wednesday.
- At-risk students and faculty should get a vaccination immediately at the Student Health Center.
- Call 346-4444 to find out when the vaccination is available.
- If people don't get a flu shot before winter break, they should still get one during the break or when they return to campus.

squad didn't get vaccinated because the athletic department didn't want the risk of starters having a reaction before the Civil War game last week.

"We need to get them covered [but] we do not force students to get a flu vaccine," Crist said.

If students don't find the time to get a flu shot before winter break, or if the current supply runs out, Fleischli said a larger shipment of more than 1,000 doses will arrive around Dec. 18 and students should get treated.

"It's not too late after the break. That's when we'll be seeing our outbreak," he said. "We don't believe we have all the at-risk students yet."

The health center has created a special system to handle questions about flu shots. Call 346-4444 to find out if shots are available and how to get one.

Oregon Daily Emerald

P.O. Box 3159, Eugene OR 97403

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published daily Monday through Friday during the school year and Tuesday and Thursday during the summer by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co. Inc., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon. A member of the Associated Press, the Emerald operates independently of the University with offices in Suite 300 of the Erb Memorial Union. The Emerald is private property. The unlawful removal or use of papers is prosecutable by law.

NEWSROOM — (541) 346-5511

Editor in chief: Jack Clifford
Managing editor: Jessica Blanchard
Community: Darren Freeman, editor. Lindsay Buchele, Rebecca Newell, reporters.
Freelance: Serena Markstrom, editor.
Higher education: Andrew Adams, editor. Eric Martin, Brooke Ross, reporters.
Student activities: Jeremy Lang, editor. Emily Gust, Beata Mostafavi, Lisa Toth, reporters.
In-depth: Ben Romano, reporter.
News aide: Suzanne O'Kelley.

Perspectives: Michael Kleckner, editor. Jayna Bergerson, Bret Jacobson, Pat Payne, Eric Pfeiffer, columnists.
Pulse: Monica Hande, editor. Josh Ryneal, Mason West, reporters.
Sports: Jeff Smith, editor. Scott Pesznecker, asst. editor. Peter Hockaday, Adam Jude, Robbie McCallum, reporters.
Copy: Sara Lieberth, Katie Mayer, copy chiefs. Jessica Davison, Lori Musicer, Tom Patterson, Jessica Richelderfer, Rebecca Wilson, copy editors.
Online: Carol Rink, editor. Timur Iusepov, webmaster.

Design: Katie Miller, editor. Azle Malinao-Alvarez, Brooke Mossefin, Russ Weller, designers. Bryan Dixon, Giovanni Salimena, illustrators.
Photo: Catharine Kendall, editor. Laura Smit, Tom Patterson photographers.
ADVERTISING — (541) 346-3712
 Becky Merchant, director. Doug Hentges, Nicole Hubbard, Trevor Kuhn, Jesse Long, Adam Rice, Hillary Schultz, Chad Verly, Lisa Wood, sales representatives. Erin O'Connell, Van Nguyen, assistants.

CLASSIFIEDS — (541) 346-4343

Trina Shanaman, manager. Katy Hagert, Amy Richman, Laura Staples, assistants.
BUSINESS — (541) 346-5512
 Judy Riedl, general manager. Kathy Carbone, business supervisor. Sarah Goracke, receptionist. Greg Gallo, Masahiro Kojima, John Long, Gretchen Simmons, distribution.
PRODUCTION — (541) 346-4381
 Michele Ross, manager. Tara Sloan, coordinator. Laura Chamberlain, Kara Fallini, Jillian Johnson, Melissa O'Connell, Laura Paz, Ross Ward, designers.