

Oregon Daily Emerald

An independent newspaper



So close ...

Oregon drops a heartbreaker to Washington, losing by one point in overtime. **PAGE 5**

Still increasing

The Programs Finance Committee approved eight budgets and referred one to committee. **PAGE 4**

WEATHER
TODAY



high 45, low 32

SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON



Chrystal McConnell Emerald

Kimberly Tucker and Aubrey Sipowicz, University law students, discuss an upcoming case at the Lane County Domestic Violence Clinic, where they assist in domestic violence protection programs for abused women.

State senators talk of Ashcroft

Neither Oregon senator publicly plans to oppose John Ashcroft's appointment to attorney general

By Darren Freeman
Oregon Daily Emerald

With John Ashcroft's contentious Senate confirmation hearings underway in the nation's Capitol, reactions among Oregon's political leaders and organizations range from anger to contentment.

Ashcroft's nomination has drawn the ire of abortion rights activists and civil rights leaders, but has received approval from many conservatives and anti-abortion activists.

Critics of Ashcroft claim his conservative voting record — including opposition to gun control, school desegregation and abortion rights bills — makes him too biased to serve as an objective law enforcement officer. But Ashcroft's supporters argue the former Missouri senator, who has also served as the state's governor and attorney general, is a man of honor and is committed to upholding the law.

Despite the clamor, neither of Oregon's senators publicly plans to block the confirmation of Ashcroft or any other of President-elect George W. Bush's Cabinet nominations.

"[Sen. Gordon Smith, R-Ore.] is going to vote for all of them, unless something significant and catastrophic comes up to lead him to do otherwise," Smith spokesman Joe Sheffo said.

Lisa Finkel, a spokeswoman for Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore.,

Turn to Ashcroft, page 3

Service to honor professor's life

The public can attend a memorial service and an informal gathering to remember biology professor Aaron Novick

By Andrew Adams
Oregon Daily Emerald

Campus and community members will come together this Sunday and Monday to remember the life and career of one of the University's most influential researchers, who passed away last month.

Professor Aaron Novick died Dec. 22 at the age of 81 after a long struggle with Parkinson's disease. A memorial service will be held at Temple Beth Israel, 2550 Portland St., from 3 to 4 p.m., and an informal gathering to remember Novick will be held in the Browsing Room of the Knight Library from 4 to 6 p.m. Monday. Both events are open to the public.

Novick established the Institute of Molecular Biology at the University in 1959. He then made several breakthroughs in



NOVICK

Turn to Novick, page 3

Law lessons in life

Law students get the chance to use what they learn in class by representing victims of abuse in court

By Brooke Ross
Oregon Daily Emerald

University law students are doing more than just earning their degrees; they're helping victims of domestic violence.

For the last two years, the law school has worked in concert with Lane County Legal Aid, Womenspace and Sexual Assault Support Services to protect women from their abusers by offering victims complete legal and support services through the Lane County Domestic Violence Clinic.

Margo Schaefer, the community outreach director of Womenspace, said many women find themselves in violent situations, and one out of every three women is in an abusive relationship during her lifetime.

"It can happen to any of us," she said. "If we are not a battered woman

ourselves, someone we know is."

The program offers court hearings to clients whose abusers are contesting restraining orders previously filed against them, and for the past two years, third-year University law students have represented them in court, said Marlene Drescher, supervising attorney and director of the Lane County Domestic Violence Clinic.

To further assist clients, Womenspace and SASS provide volunteer lay advocates who offer moral support to the women by attending their court cases.

"Confronting your abuser is terrifying, so it's pretty easy to melt down in the face of domestic violence," Schaefer said.

Matthew Hoff, a third-year University law student, worked in the clinic last fall and participated in three cases.

"It's a lesson in responsibility and a lesson in maturity that you experience as you benefit those women," he said.

Hoff said he was trained not to become emotionally involved with his

The Domestic Violence Clinic has worked to help victims of abusive relationships and as of June 2000:

594 victims have received services from the clinic.

Clinic staff attorneys provided legal services to 161 battered women, and students provided services to 77 women.

The clinic has won 88 percent of its cases.

cases, but said keeping their situations in mind made him work harder to help them.

"Had I lost, God only knows what kind of situation I would have put them in," he said.

Like all participating students, Hoff's training began at the University.

Before entering the clinic, students must take two courses at the law school. Merle Weiner, an associate professor at the law school, teaches a family law class and a domestic vio-

Turn to Violence, page 3

Inauguration protest to take place in downtown Eugene

The Saturday event will be part of a nationwide protest that will call for election reforms

By Darren Freeman
Oregon Daily Emerald

More than 100 people still steaming over the outcome of this year's nail-bitingly close presidential election are expected to protest President-elect George W. Bush's inauguration Saturday morning in downtown Eugene.

The event, to be held at the Wayne Morse Free Speech Plaza, is part of a national counter-inauguration protest, the hub of which will be in Washington,

D.C. Organizers expect thousands of protesters to convene in the nation's capital and call for election reforms, including campaign finance reform, the abolishment of the Electoral College and support for third parties.

Other Oregon protests will be in Portland and Corvallis. The nationwide protest was largely organized over the Internet via the Web site www.voters-march.com.

"We're holding a consolidation rally in

Eugene for what's happening in Washington, D.C.," said Ellen, a co-coordinator of the Oregon protests who declined to give her last name. "I still don't know what the true outcome of this election was. We're not just going to sit quietly and let them take everything from us."

Bush will be sworn in Saturday at 8:30 a.m. Pacific Standard Time.

Though Ellen didn't know if any protesters planned to destroy property or disobey police, she said many discus-

sions in Internet chatrooms have addressed civil disobedience.

Eugene Police Department spokeswoman Jan Power said the EPD is aware of the protest.

"Like any protest, we'll keep an eye on it, and if it looks like things will become unlawful, we'll react appropriately," she said. "The Wayne Morse Free Speech Plaza provides a place for the public to voice its concerns, and hopefully everything will be copasetic."