

No-sweat

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shirt made?"

Dreiling said some of his students designed the class project after hearing about Occidental's campaign, and they formed a group called the Campus Coalition for Fair Labor. The students have gathered signatures for support of the no-sweat zone. He said the project is in line with the University's mission statement, which is dedicated to making students "think critically, act creatively, and live ethically."

He said it is hard for students to live by the University's mission when they do not even know

where the bookstore's products are made. The no-sweat zone will make students think about the issue when purchasing merchandise, he said.

"Consumers can begin to understand that some products are made under certain conditions and some are not," Dreiling said.

Dreiling also expressed concern about the State Board of Higher Education's decision to pass a policy governing business agreements last February. The "business practice policy" says the seven Oregon University System institutions cannot "adopt limits" on business agreements unless based on the "ability to perform, evidence of illegal activities" or other criteria.

This prevents universities from being members of labor monitoring groups such as the Worker Rights Consortium and Fair Labor Association.

"That policy made it difficult for the University to uphold its mission," he said. "Which ethic do we stand by ... The free flow of commerce or the right of humanity?"

Erik Amos, a senior sociology major working on the campaign, said he is excited for the no-sweat clothing to be available.

"Most of the clothing we're wearing was made under sweatshop conditions," he said. "The no-sweat zone is a place where all products are union-made so we know conditions are decent."

Medication

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people's allergies.

"Allergies are a tough thing to predict," she said. "You can't tell from one day to the next if it's going to be rainy or sunny."

Dewsnup said Eugene's grass pollen count was very high last week. "The weather and the grass pollen just soared last week," she said.

Pat McCormick, the health center's medical records supervisor, said about 275 patients suffering from allergies visited the health

center last week. She said this is a higher number of patients than the health center has had in past weeks, but overall she does not think it is unusual for this time of year.

McCormick also said weather is a significant factor in making people sick.

"This week the numbers will probably drop off because we've had the rain," she said.

Dr. Gerald Fleischli, the director of the health center, said running out of allergy medicine is not that serious a problem for the health center because it can reorder deliveries every day. He said this is nothing like last winter's shortage of the flu vaccine.

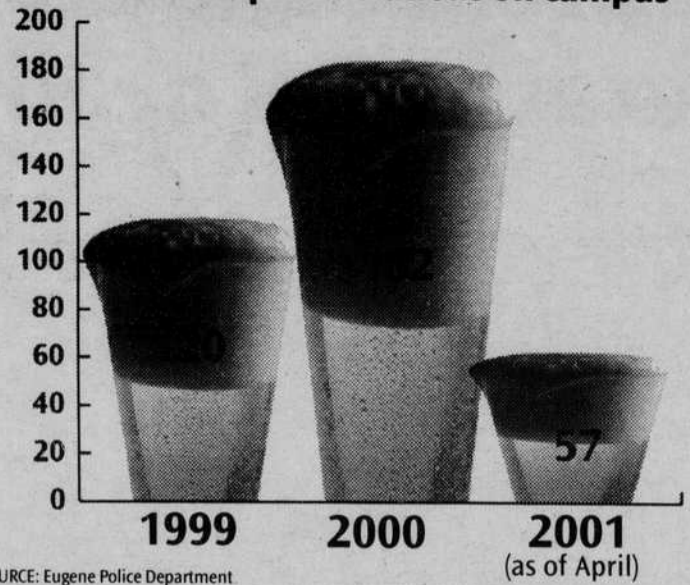
"With allergies it's a very short-term thing," he said. "Last week was a really bad week for allergies."

« Last week was a really bad week for allergies.

Gerald Fleischli
director,
University Health Center

» "I don't think this number is different from past years," she said.

Number of liquor violations on campus



SOURCE: Eugene Police Department

Katie Miller Emerald

BUSTED

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been referred to the second level of the program for repeat offenders.

"It has worked pretty well," Mace said.

Next year, Mace said, the course will continue to be held as often as demand is high enough to fill the class. And beginning in the fall, students who receive University Housing alcohol citations will be required to go through the BUSTED program as well.

Mace said she believes part of the reason why the program has been successful is that it focuses on raising awareness of alcohol-related issues without being judgmental of those who choose to drink.

Because the EPD is not directly involved with the BUSTED program, police spokeswoman Pam Alejandre said she could not comment on the effectiveness of the course.

But, she said, "The Eugene Police Department is very supportive of any program whose goal is to reduce alcohol use among minors."

The ten-hour course is open to anyone cited for being a minor in possession of alcohol, for furnishing or selling alcohol to a minor, or for contributing to the alcohol consumption of a minor.

In return, participants can earn University credit, and their fine is reduced to a court fee of about \$50. If it is a first offense, the violation will not appear on a criminal record.

Although students must also pay a

class registration fee of \$35, the cost is still lower than the fines they would pay in court. The fine for an MIP can be up to \$250 — and for violations such as furnishing alcohol to minors, offenders can pay up to \$5,000.

Mace, who teaches the class, said she tries to dispel many popular myths about drinking. For example, she said, many people believe that when a person "passes out" after drinking too much, they have simply fallen asleep. In fact, she said, it is an alcohol-induced coma.

The point of the class is not to discourage people from drinking, Mace said, but to tell them "if you choose to drink, these are the ways in which you can be safe."

Kristen Grbac, a junior exercise and movement science major, attended the class winter term and said because much of the class focused on alcoholism, many of the issues discussed did not seem to apply to her own life.

But she said she is appreciative that the program allowed her to pay a lower fine and to avoid having the citation on her criminal record.

"I'm glad it was there because it kind of made the whole thing go away," she said. "It wasn't painful or anything."

Abby Kment, a junior education major who received an MIP citation last year, said the BUSTED program seems to be a fairer and more effective way to deal with students cited for alcohol violations.

"Being a poor college student," she said, "I wish that option was available to me at the time."

Allergy

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few weeks — people are ready to see the rain again," said Jean Jensen, a registered nurse with the Allergy and Asthma Research Group.

Much of the high concentration of pollen in Eugene and the Willamette Valley can be attributed to the climate, the "closed air shed" — so called because the area is sandwiched between mountain ranges — and the fact that the area grows about 90 percent of the world's grass seed, Jensen said.

Intensity differs every year based on the previous year's weather, current weather and other environmental factors. Most people in the profession who deal with allergies said this year is not any worse than others, but that the onslaught of pollen came quite suddenly.

The Sacred Heart Ask-A-Nurse hotline has seen a significant increase in the number of calls regarding allergies as well. "This is definitely the season," said one of the hotline nurses, who is required to remain anonymous. "We give people comfort measures they can take to help them feel better until they can take more permanent actions."

The hotline fields an estimated 75 calls a day regarding allergies, many pertaining to medications that are not working effectively or from callers

who have not been officially diagnosed but want to know what measures they can take to feel better.

During May, pollen levels increased from just 2 grains per cubic meter to 356, then peaking June 1 at 502 grains. The Allergy and Asthma Research Group in Eugene takes pollen counts three to five times per week, Jensen said.

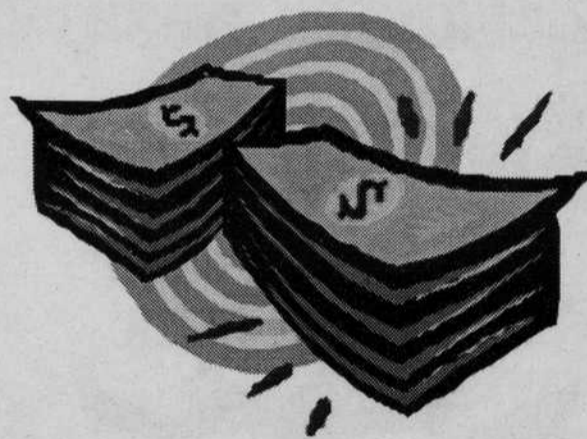
Depending on the cause of a person's allergies, the season of the country and the pollination periods, seasonal allergic rhinitis may occur in the spring, summer or fall and last until the first frost, according to the NAB.

When an allergen, such as pollen, is absorbed into an allergic person's body, that person's immune system views the allergen as an invader and a chain reaction starts. White blood cells produce antibodies, which attach themselves to special cells, called mast cells, causing a release of potent chemicals such as histamine, the NAB says in the "frequently asked questions" section of its Web site.

The NAB estimates that there are more than 18 million office visits to primary care physicians resulting in a diagnosis of sinusitis each year. Allergy specialists agree that over-the-counter medications can help sufferers, but they recommend anyone experiencing chronic symptoms see a physician.

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