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UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

EUGENE, OREGON

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Authorities respond to campus anthrax scare

■ Although the FBI continues to investigate a suspicious letter, all tests on the powder are negative

By Eric Martin
Oregon Daily Emerald

Tests on a sample of the suspicious white powder found in a threatening letter addressed to a University physics professor continue to show negative results for anthrax.

The Oregon State Public Health Laboratory in Portland found no evidence of the deadly bacteria Saturday during a test of the powder found in an envelope addressed to Emeritus Professor Bernd Crasemann.

The results came a day after a preliminary test of the powder showed negative results for weaponized anthrax. Weaponized anthrax is a high concentration of the anthrax organism in small amounts of a substance

such as powder or liquid, health officials said.

"There is no evidence at this time that the contents (of the letter) contain anthrax bacteria," Lane County public health program manager Karen Gillette said in a news release. "Nevertheless, this incident has been a good exercise for everyone involved."

In Saturday's test, attempts to grow an anthrax culture were unsuccessful, confirming for now that

the sample doesn't contain anthrax.

The FBI is continuing its investigation of Thursday's incident, and a spokeswoman said the agency was awaiting results of another test of the powder today.

A University employee admitted himself to McKenzie-Willamette Hospital on Thursday afternoon because he feared he'd been exposed to the substance while handling the letter. He was treated and released Thursday evening.

Nasal swabs taken from five Eugene hazardous materials workers are being held until final results are available from the Portland lab. The workers admitted themselves to the hospital Thursday evening after working to decontaminate the professor's office in 251 Willamette Hall.

Eric Martin is a higher education reporter for the Oregon Daily Emerald. He can be reached at ericmartin@dailyemerald.com.

Civil War ticket pickup brings out diehard fans

■ Ticket offices at the EMU and the Casanova Center open at 9 a.m. and could run out today

By Beata Mostafavi
Oregon Daily Emerald

Standing in line to get tickets for the Arizona State University game a few weeks ago, sophomore Leo Kreider anxiously looked over the several heads in front of him in the EMU.

"Almost," he said.

Slowly shuffling forward, he breathed a small sigh.

"I don't like waiting in line," he said. "I'm not very patient."

The line for the battle against Arizona State didn't quite wrap all the way around the skylight as it had for previous games, but it was still at least a 20-30 minute wait. Kreider admitted to skipping class and waiting in line for an hour to get tickets for the Stanford homecoming game the week before.

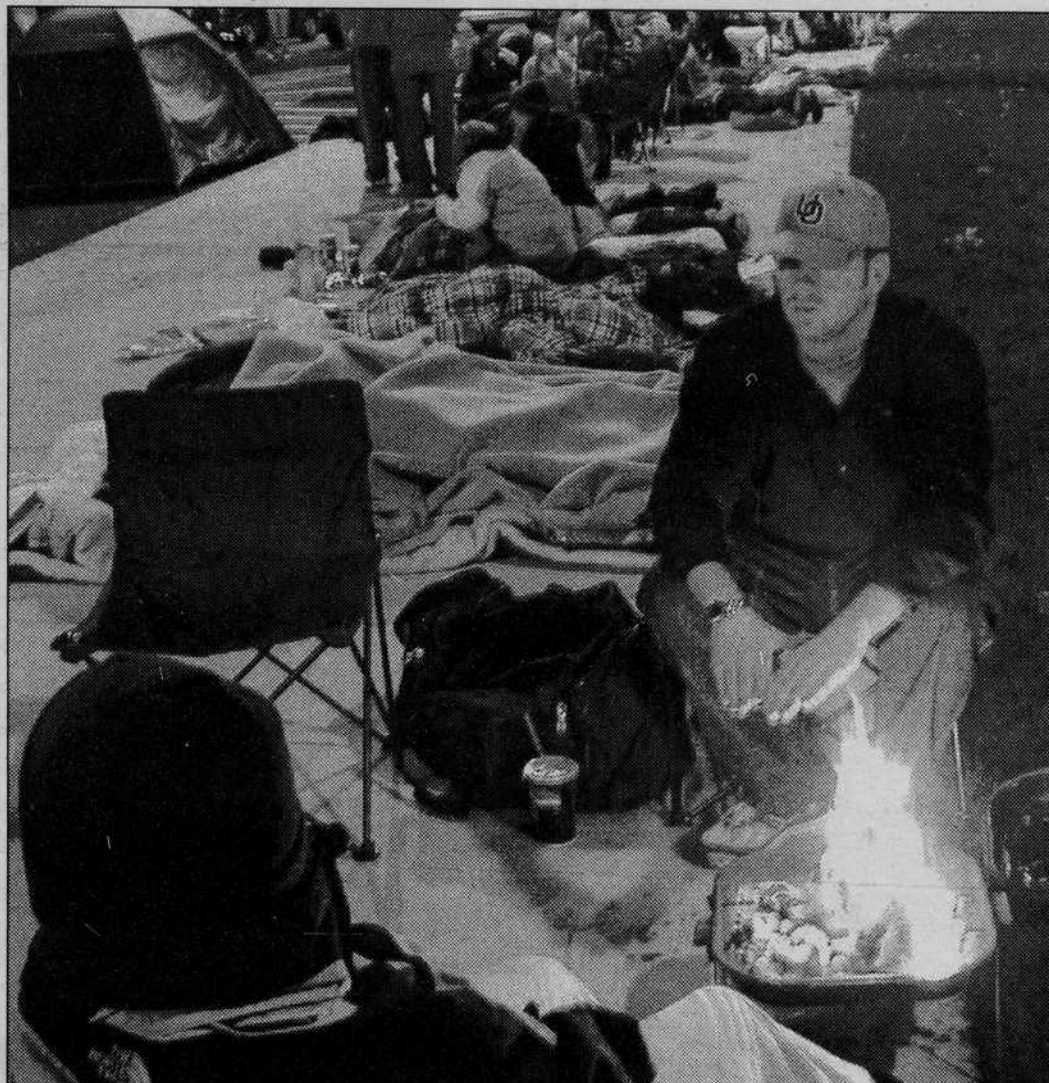
"This actually wasn't that bad," he said.

But students who want to have a ticket to the Civil War game against Oregon State University in their hands by the end of today should not expect a small line. They may also not want to risk waiting until Tuesday.

The 6,098 student tickets have never gone out in one day, due to lack of computer capacity. But with added windows at the Athletic Ticket Office at the Len Casanova Center this year, tickets could all be taken today, assistant director of ticket sales Ben Havn said.

"I would say it's possible. We could get all 6,098 tickets out in one day," he said.

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Adam Amato Emerald

Brother and sister Tim and Laura Winter brave the cold outside Autzen Stadium while in line for tickets to the Civil War game. They arrived at 7 p.m. Sunday. Some Duck fans have been camping in the the line since 9 p.m. Friday.

Mail incident generates mixed feelings on campus

■ A number of students believe the suspicious letter held no threat, while others are still in shock about the events

By Sue Ryan
Oregon Daily Emerald

Student reactions to the shutdown of Willamette Hall following the report of a suspicious letter on Thursday varied from shock to skepticism across the University campus.

"You think it's all centered on the East Coast, and suddenly it happens here," junior Katie Plein said. "And then it's all so much closer than we think it is."

Emeritus Professor Bernd Crasemann reported to DPS that he had received a brown envelope containing a suspicious substance Thursday morning. The Eugene Police Department, which was notified by DPS, shut down Willamette Hall and called in the FBI and a hazardous material team. After the police collected evidence, HazMat workers decontaminated the hall.

Senior anthropology major Kevin Crosman said he felt surprised that Eugene, because of its location in the mid-Willamette Valley, would be the

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■ An Emerald reporter tells about her recent experiences with New York City's tragedies

By Erin Cooney
for the Emerald

I seem to have a knack for choosing bad times to travel to New York City. I've flown to the Big Apple four times since Aug. 3, and twice something tragic has happened.

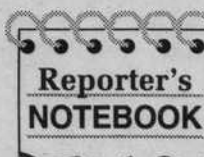
I went to New York for the first time my sophomore year of high school with my mom and my sister. I remember feeling like quite

TOO CLOSE TO HOME

the little tourist, scared of the subway, scared of crime, generally intimidated by the enormity of Manhattan island. However, after my boyfriend, Peyton Horn, graduated from the University in June and moved to New York, I was forced to face the overwhelming city.

My first two visits this year, both in August, were wonderful. Eating fantastic food, drinking fantastic drinks — pure hedonism. We took a walk across the Brooklyn Bridge, went dancing at "Windows on the

World," a bar at the top of the World Trade Center, and took an evening boat cruise around Manhattan. My eyes were opened to a New York I had not imagined.



I went for my last trip of the summer on Sept. 6.

We spent the weekend doing New York-y things: shopping, eat-

ing and sightseeing. Then came Tuesday, Sept. 11, and it was time for me to head back to Oregon. My flight was scheduled to depart at 8:15 a.m. It didn't leave until about 8:40. As I'm sure most people recall, that was about eight minutes before the first plane hit the WTC.

We had been flying for about an hour when the pilot informed us we would land in Chicago (instead of Denver, where we were scheduled to land) and that every plane in America had been ordered to the ground.

We were given no explanation.

We landed shortly afterward, and as soon as the plane hit the runway, I called my mom. She told me everything she knew about the attack, and I repeated the information to the other passengers sitting around me on the plane. People sat quietly, shocked and uncertain about what to say or how to react.

I spent the next two hours (sitting on the tarmac at Chicago O'Hare International Airport) calling Peyton, calling his family, and trying to keep myself distracted from the fear that was creeping

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