

An independent newspaper Oregon Daily Emerald

<http://www.dailymerald.com>


Tuesday, February 4, 2003

SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON

Volume 104, Issue 91

Frohnmayer speaks on recruited felon

President Frohnmayer responds to the football recruitment of convicted felon Rodney Woods Monday

Brad Schmidt
News Editor

University President Dave Frohnmayer met with Athletic Department personnel Monday to discuss the recruitment of convicted felon

Rodney Woods, saying later that while he would have liked to have been included earlier in the process, he was ultimately pleased with the department's efforts.

"Following a searching review of (athletic recruiting) policies and procedures ... I am confident that administrative review will occur in future recruiting cases that may affect the reputation of the program and the University," Frohnmayer said in a statement.

Woods, a two-time All-American junior cornerback, signed a letter of intent to join the University's football program. But because of a felony record stemming from an assault in 2000, the Athletic Department can not accept Woods.

Although there is not a written policy prohibiting a felon from receiving an athletic scholarship, Athletic Director Bill Moos intervened during Woods' recruitment, apparently

stating the policy for the first time. For Woods to be admitted to the University's athletic program, the charge would have to be erased.

"They can have a working policy, and quite frankly, I think it's an appropriate course of action to take," said Vice President for Administration Dan Williams, who oversees the Athletic Department. The University itself does not have a policy from barring felons from attending.

Turn to **Woods**, page 4

Affirmative re-action

Lawsuits against the University of Michigan's admission standards could possibly affect universities around the nation

Jennifer Bear
Campus/Federal Politics Reporter

The U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision to consider the affirmative action admissions policies at the University of Michigan could seriously impact many universities' ability to consider race when admitting students. But University of Oregon officials say any decision would probably have less impact here.

The current debate over the future of affirmative action stems from the lawsuits of three white students against the University of Michigan. The students claim that less qualified minority candidates were admitted instead because of the university's admissions policy that awards points based on a number of factors, including race.

President George W. Bush has further spurred the recent controversy by taking a firm stance against considering race as the driving force in university admissions. In a nationally televised address, the president denounced the University of Michigan's policies and said they amounted "to a quota system that unfairly rewards or penalizes prospective students based solely on their race."

Nicolas Centino, director of the Washington, D.C.-based Student of Color Campus Diversity Project, said that in the battle over affirmative action, opponents have boiled down the controversy to a race issue. Centino argued, however, that affirmative action aims to ensure equal access to all historically disadvantaged people, and as a result,

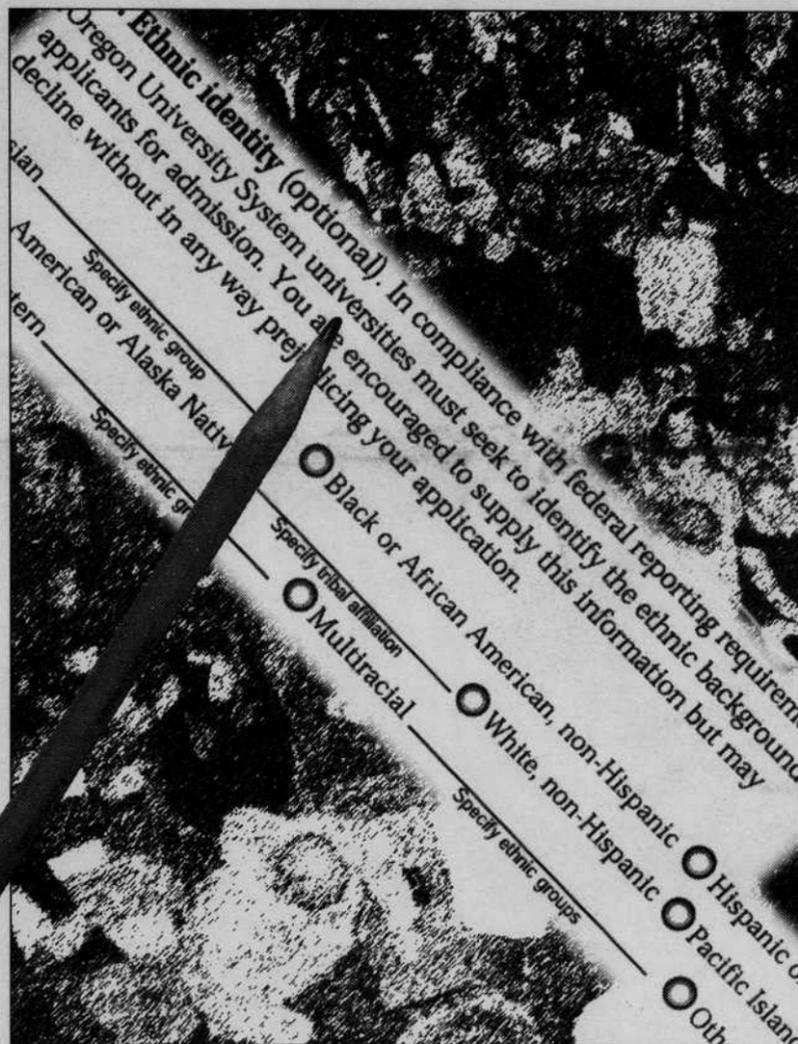


Photo illustration by Adam Amato and Scott Abts Emerald

creates opportunities for women, Latinos, Asian Americans, people with disabilities and other groups that have encountered societal barriers in receiving a higher education.

Affirmative action policies in college

admissions have come under fire numerous times over the years, but they continue to remain a part of many college admissions programs because of the Supreme Court's landmark ruling

Turn to **Affirmative**, page 12

Oregon adds lacrosse team to Duck roster

'It's finally here:' the Athletic Department will add a women's lacrosse squad in two short seasons

Peter Hockaday
Sports Editor

The Oregon Athletic Department will add a new sport for the 2004-05 season, Athletic Director Bill Moos announced Monday.

The new program will be women's lacrosse, meaning those who had hoped for a new crew, gymnastics or water polo team will have to wait for their sports to be added. Moos and Senior Associate Athletic Director Renee Baumgartner said the main reasons for the addition of the lacrosse team were support from the current club lacrosse team, low start-up costs and a recent explosion of the sport in the Northwest.

"Wow, it's finally here," said Baumgartner, who has been planning the addition of a new sport for two years. "We're the first university that's added lacrosse north of California, and our hope is to do it right and be a dominant team on the West Coast."

Turn to **New sport**, page 10

'Recycle Mania' hits University

UO will be among seven universities and colleges participating in the 10-week recycling contest

Andrew Black
Environment/Science/Technology Reporter

The University's "Green Giant," or Campus Recycling Program has enlisted the help of more than 3,000 students living in campus residence halls in a recycling competition that will pit the University's enviro-friendly image against some big names in academia.

Housing Recycling Coordinator Robyn Hathcock said the recycling program was asked to take part in the 10-week Recycle Mania contest against seven other college and university recycling programs, including Ohio State University and Harvard University.

"The University of Oregon has a strong reputation for having one of the top recycling programs in the nation," Hathcock said. "Bragging rights are on the table to be won, and Oregon is

Turn to **Recycle**, page 12

WEATHER

Today: High 45, Low 30, mostly cloudy with areas of fog

Wednesday: High 45, Low 27, foggy morning, patchy clouds

LOOKING AHEAD

Wednesday
Measure 28 cuts — and another tuition surcharge — take effect

Thursday
Who are the city councilors? The Emerald really will tell you

Businesses hope shame can stem shoplifting

Campus-area shops use many tactics to decrease the impact of theft, and one owner advocates 'public embarrassment'

Caron Alarab
Crime/Safety/Transportation Reporter

University students, middle school kids, seniors, drunkards and business people do it. People do it for profit, for thrills, because of addiction or out of habit.

In reality, shoplifting can be committed by anyone at any time. But the managers of locally owned businesses say people who think the crime is "no big deal" and proceed to snatch low-value products don't always know they are stealing from fellow community members. And while the Eugene Police Department and the municipal

court encourage the report of every case for more accurate statistics, some managers say more effective prevention and sanctioning alternatives should be explored.

"Due to the scarce resources we are dealing with, I think we should always be looking at offering alternatives to fines for shoplifters," Eugene City Prosecutor Liane Richardson said.

According to EPD preliminary statistics for 2002, shoplifting has decreased from 1,172 incidents citywide in 2001 to 1,107 in 2002. But community service officer Erik Humphrey said that shoplifting isn't decreasing, but rather that larger businesses are absorbing the loss and aren't filing reports. And while shoplifters cause smaller businesses to suffer financially, Humphrey said they also end up hurting honest shoppers by causing vendors to raise prices.

To help the businesses hardest hit by shoplifting, EPD offers the 3050 program — a partnership that allows businesses to apprehend suspects and file police reports without officer assistance. In allowing the business to take on more responsibility, EPD simplifies and quickens the procedure for merchants who are more active in loss prevention, like Hiron's Drug Stores.

"Shoplifting is a huge problem," manager Steve Hiron said of his family's 185 East 18th Ave. store, one of two locations in Eugene. "It's something that can put businesses out of business."

Hiron sees between \$20 to \$100 worth of merchandise recovered in each case at the 18th Avenue location, and said \$30,000 dollars is lost each year to the crime. Although Hiron has caught people with more than \$200 in merchandise, he

Turn to **Shoplift**, page 8