

Oregon Daily Emerald

Ducks secure win No. 3 against Gonzaga **Page 5**

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LUNCHTIME LAUGHTER



Marc Weiss (center), a sports marketing and management student, works at the EMU's Subway and even has the e-mail handle "subway-dude." He hangs out with his co-workers, history major Dan Chinnock (right) and theater arts major Tedra Engle (left), during a lull in the Monday evening flow of customers.

Tim Bobosky
Photographer

Serving up a smile

By using humor in their workplace, EMU Subway employees raise the spirits of stressed students

By Jared Paben
News Reporter

When a spontaneous food fight broke out at Subway on Monday afternoon, two-year employee Marc Weiss went straight for the vinegar. With Linkin Park's "Faint" blaring in the background, a battle ensued, with both sides firing vinegar and oil at each other. Then, Weiss landed one decisive squirt of vinegar in co-worker Dan Chinnock's mouth and ended it.

While Weiss went for the vinegar without hesitation, it isn't usually his weapon of choice. Usually he lobs tomato slices at his co-workers.

"Sometimes we just start throwing food at each other, when nobody's looking so we don't get into trouble," said Weiss, a junior studying sports marketing and management. "Tomatoes are the best to throw. The tomatoes stick and leave juice all over you. We just pick whatever veggies are there. We don't pick the meat, just the veggies, because they fly easier."

The EMU Subway employees may be a bunch of jokers, but on the positive side, that makes them a regular therapy session for grumpy, stressed-out students, Weiss said.

A line of hungry people forms at Subway between noon and 3 p.m. every weekday that often extends all the way to the elevator in the EMU. But, even then, the Subway employees manage to keep their cool. With the efficiency of a well-oiled machine, or a "per-

fect assembly line" as Weiss puts it, they each take their positions at the line. One person greets customers and cuts the bread, the next lays down the cheese and so on. But, unlike a machine, they manage to keep the personality in their work, cracking jokes and teasing each other and their customers.

"Students are students, man," Weiss said. "They come and they think they need their food right away and they hate waiting in line. But once they get there you just joke around with them and make them laugh and make them feel like they're welcome. We like joking around with people. I'm a joker. I'm the biggest goof-off there. I laugh with everybody."

His co-worker Shanna Brower agreed, calling Weiss the "loudest, most obnoxious" of any of

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Officials convey flu shot benefits

The University Health Center offers flu shots to students, and medical professionals expect a severe flu season

By Ali Shaughnessy
Senior News Reporter

Runny noses, coughing fits and high fevers have been taking over students as the influenza rages through Eugene.

The University Health Center has administered more than 2,000 flu shots during fall term, Assistant Director of Nursing Sharon Harbert said.

"It's going to be quite a severe flu season," she said, adding that in her 24 years at the health center, she has never seen a flu epidemic hit as early as it has this year.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site, the flu is a highly infectious disease of the lungs that can lead to pneumonia.

Every year in the United States, approximately 114,000 people are hospitalized, and around 36,000 people die because of the flu. The majority of people who die are more than 65 years old, but children younger than 2 years old can also be hit hard.

Harbert said getting a flu shot is one solution to keeping students and staff as healthy as possible.

University junior Sonja Greene hasn't had a flu shot since she moved out of her parents' house, but said she is debating getting one this year because of the amount of people getting sick.

"Everywhere I turn, someone new has the flu," she said. "At work, in class, at home. It's almost frightening."

There is no reason for the rapid onset of

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Course evaluations provide useful measuring tool

Students and faculty find evaluations helpful for improving the quality of education and teaching methods

By Chuck Slothower
News Reporter

Each term, students apply their pencils to multiple-choice bubble forms to evaluate their instructors. These course evaluations help professors and graduate teaching fellows improve their teaching and provide a basis for others to review their performance, faculty and GTFs said.

"I find them quite helpful," said English Professor

Warren Ginsberg, who also directs the English department. "Everybody I've talked to, which is just about everybody in the department, pays a good deal of attention to them."

Many students also take course evaluations seriously. "It's just nice to have the knowledge of what students think," senior Ricky Chen said.

The Office of the Registrar offers results from course evaluations on its Web site at <http://courseevals.uoregon.edu/evals.cfm>.

The results of four questions listed on course evaluations — which evaluate the course, instructor, efficiency or lack of efficiency in the use of class time and availability of the instructor outside of class time —

are rated on a numerical scale.

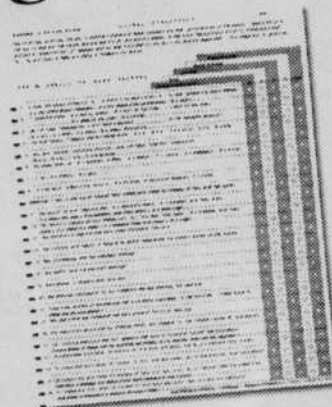
Several faculty members said course evaluations are routinely used to assess the performance of professors when considering raises, tenure and promotions.

"Teaching is always taken into account, and course evaluations are part of that," Ginsberg said.

Sociology GTF Nick Lougee said course evaluations are particularly important for graduate students who want to become professors because they weigh more in a hiring decision if a school doesn't have a graduate school of its own.

"Most of the jobs are in schools without graduate

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