

OREGON DAILY EMERALD

An independent newspaper

www.dailyemerald.com

SINCE 1900 | Volume 106, Issue 149 | Thursday, May 5, 2005

Protesters rally against COE's discriminatory acts

The crowd gathered amidst allegations that the College of Education has created or ignored a hostile environment for minority students

BY MORIAH BALINGIT
NEWS REPORTER

"What do we want? Equity! When do we want it? Now!"

The voices of more than 200 students, faculty and community members echoed throughout Johnson Hall on Wednesday as they marched through the building in protest of discriminatory treatment in the College of Education.

The protesters assembled in the COE's quad before marching around campus. They delivered demand letters to COE Dean Marty Kaufman and headed to Johnson Hall to deliver letters to Vice President for Academic Affairs Lorraine Davis and Vice Provost for Institutional Equity and Diversity Greg Vincent.

The protesters alleged the college has violated its own policies regarding the infusion of diversity in the curriculum and that professors have subjected students to discriminatory treatment. Graduate student Shadiin Garcia, one of the rally's organizers, delivered an impassioned

speech to the enthusiastic crowd.

"The Office of Affirmative Action has ruled that the College of Education is guilty of creating a hostile learning environment," Garcia said. "We will not be lied to anymore."

Graduate student Johnny Lake said at the rally that the COE has continually failed to prepare its graduates to teach in increasingly diverse classrooms.

"Each one of you deserves a full and complete education that's going to prepare you for a diverse and a growingly more diverse community around you," he said. "You should be a world citizen when you leave this university."

A recent graduate of the COE, who asked not to be identified, said the college failed to prepare him to deal with increasingly diverse classroom environments. The graduate is currently a substitute teacher in the area.

"For the real situations that teachers are

RALLY, page 16



TIM BOBOSKY | PHOTOGRAPHER

Educational leadership graduate student Shadiin Garcia challenged the more than 200 participants at Wednesday's rally at the College of Education to bring five friends to another rally in one week.

Celebration pays tribute to Mexico's war victory

Cinco de Mayo commemorates the Mexican defeat of the French in the 1862 Battle of Puebla

BY BRITTNI MCCLLENAHAN
NEWS REPORTER

This Cinco de Mayo many students are turning to tequila and cerveza, Spanish for beer, to celebrate another holiday that for some means nothing more than another excuse to drink exorbitant amounts of alcohol.

Commonly misinterpreted as Mexico's Independence Day, Cinco de Mayo's meaning has been clouded by partying.

Cinco de Mayo, or May 5, commemorates the Mexican victory over the French army at The Battle Of Puebla in 1862. It is not, as many people think, Mexico's Independence Day, which is actually Sept. 16.

Victor Bostida, a vendor at JR's Taqueria at this week's ASUO Spring Street Faire from Michoacán, Mexico, said Cinco de Mayo is more about the memory and culture of Mexico.

"The culture is still in my mind, but I don't have the time to celebrate," Bostida said. "It's a festival for the whole country. People don't usually celebrate with just their families and friends. It's a time for the whole country to remember Cinco de Mayo."

While he said he doesn't have time to observe Cinco de Mayo this year, Bostida laughed at the American "style" of celebrating the holiday.

"It's not the main theme of Cinco de Mayo, but it's a fun party," he said.

Taylor's Bar and Grill predicts a large crowd, but nothing as wild as last year's "Shot Heard Round the World" party in which the bar attempted to break the Guinness World Records' count for the world's largest tequila smash.

HOLIDAY, page 16

HITTING THE STREETS



Interior architecture graduate student Gina Livingston searches for a strawberry plant at the Fox Hollow Creek Nursery booth at the ASUO Spring Street Faire on Wednesday afternoon.

LAUREN WIMER | SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Biology professor's legacy celebrated

Friends and family joined University veteran Frank Stahl to honor the researcher's long career and imminent retirement

BY EVA SYLWESTER
NEWS REPORTER

A surprise party after a speech on genetic recombination Wednesday afternoon celebrated the career of Frank Stahl, who has been a professor in the University's Institute of Molecular Biology for 46 years and will close his laboratory and retire in June.

As introductory speaker of the 20th annual George Streisinger Memorial Lecture, Stahl honored the longtime tradition of the lecture series by presenting a seminar himself. He spoke about his students' research regarding chromosomes in yeast and how they worked hard to find a solution to a problem that seemed initially unsolvable.

"I'm very proud of them and I wanted the opportunity to display their accomplish-

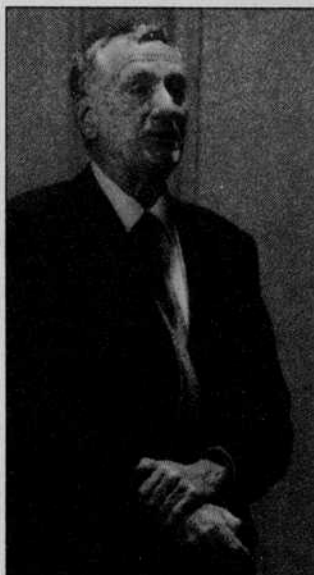
ment," Stahl said after the speech.

Stahl's primary research focus during his time at the University has been genetic recombination, which he described in an e-mail as "the trick whereby homologous chromosomes break and swap parts with each other" during cell division. The process allows two parent organisms to combine DNA to create an offspring that contains part of each parent.

The surprise reception in Streisinger Hall's Aaron Novick Conference Room followed the speech, where colleagues, students, friends and family gathered to celebrate Stahl's career.

"This is our last chance to celebrate someone that we admire tremendously, both as a

STAHL, page 3



Biology professor Frank Stahl speaks about his students' research Wednesday afternoon. He has been at the University 46 years, but he will close his laboratory in June.

NICOLE BARKER | PHOTOGRAPHER