

# Kwanzaa: Each day represents a key value

Continued from page 1

entertainment will begin at 7 p.m. "There is a huge conception that Kwanzaa is religious," Wheatfall said. She said she wants to dispel this myth and share the holiday with the University as a way of showing black culture in a positive light.

Seven different groups of BSU students will act out seven skits, each one a representation of the seven separate Kwanzaa principles.

The holiday is celebrated from Dec. 26 through Jan. 1, and every day one candle is lit to celebrate each key idea: Unity, self determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith.

These are key values in African-American culture and it is "important for the UO to see our culture in a positive light and acknowledge the values

we share," Wheatfall wrote an e-mail to the Emerald.

Although Kwanzaa's origins are ancient, the holiday was created in the United States in 1966. Maulana Karenga, a professor in the Department of Black Studies at California State University, Long Beach, established the holiday in effort to preserve and revitalize African-American culture. Kwanzaa is now a widely celebrated African-American and Pan-African holiday.

According to the official Kwanzaa Web site, the word "kwanzaa" is derived from the phrase "matunda ya kwanza," or "first fruits" in Swahili, the most widely spoken language in Africa.

Karenga states in a 2004 message on the Web site that Kwanzaa is a way for Pan-Africans and African-Americans to come together like their ancestors and elders before

them and "reinforce the bonds" between each other. It is a way to "give thanks for the harvest of good we have gathered from the fertile fields of lands, the fruitful fields of our lives, and the bruising and blood-stained battlefields of our struggles."

Kwanzaa is just one of many ways that Karenga has contributed to U.S. history. During the 1960s, he served on the founding and executive committee of the Black Power Conferences, and helped to organize and wrote the mission statement for the Million Man March/Day of Absence. He was also active in many other prominent organizations in the black liberation movement, and he has earned two doctorates and authored numerous scholarly articles and 12 books, according to [www.africanwithin.com](http://www.africanwithin.com).

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# BOWL PREVIEW

[ Bowl Preview on stands December 5, 2005 ]

OREGON DAILY EMERALD Friday, November 18, 2005 SECTION B

ALL OR NOTHING: Seasons are on the line when the Ducks host the Beavers Saturday | 2B

## GAME DAY

Long tackles record books, sets sights on hated Beavers | 5B

Several key games that will factor Ducks' bowl plans | 9B

Column face off: Forget the green and gold, black and orange—we see red | 16B

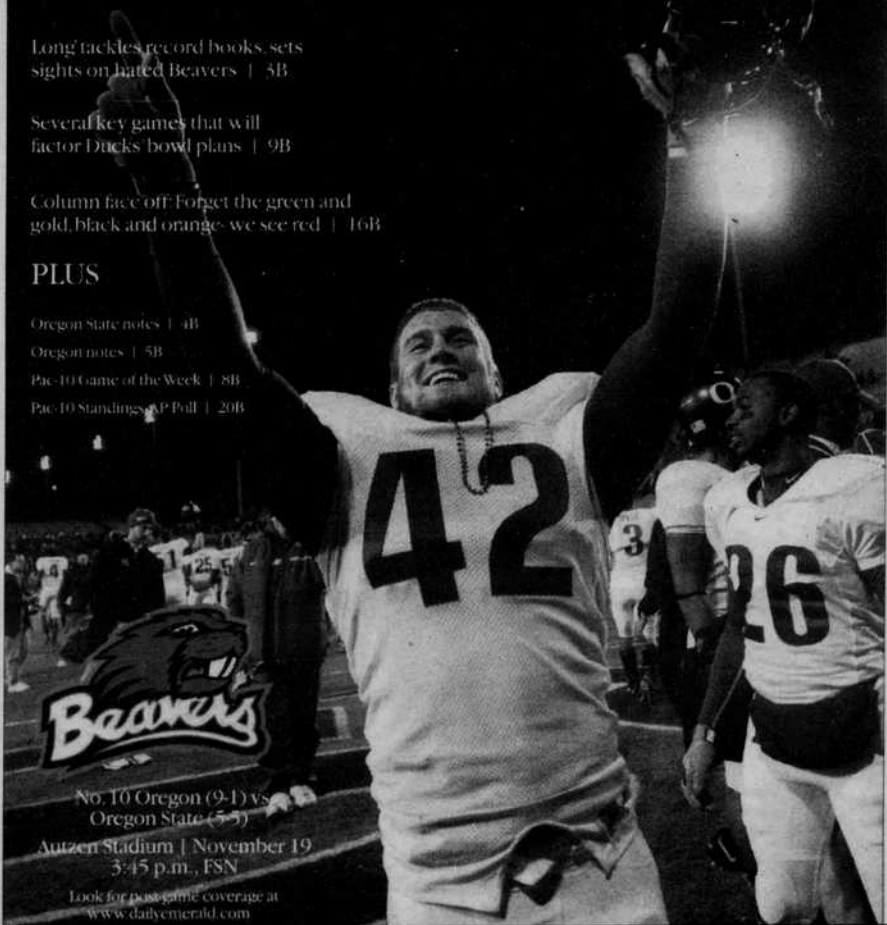
### PLUS

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Oregon notes | 5B

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Pac-10 Standings/AP Poll | 20B



No. 10 Oregon (9-1) vs. Oregon State (5-7)

Autzen Stadium | November 19, 5:45 p.m., FSN

Look for postgame coverage at [www.dailyemerald.com](http://www.dailyemerald.com)

# OREGON DAILY EMERALD

The independent campus newspaper for the University of Oregon

## IN BRIEF

### Bird flies into power lines, cutting-off area electricity

A bird that flew into power lines knocked out electricity west of campus Thursday night, cutting short an annual faculty, staff and graduate teaching fellows appreciation party at the University Bookstore that drew about 1,000 people over the course of the evening, according to a bookstore press release.

The bird flew into a set of electrical wires in the alley between East 12th and East 13th avenues near the bookstore at about 6 p.m., knocking out power for half the block and dimming lights in the other half, according to the release. The bookstore was fully evacuated by about 8 p.m. before Eugene Water & Electric Board crews fully shut down power to make repairs.

The annual party included live music and food.

— Jared Paben

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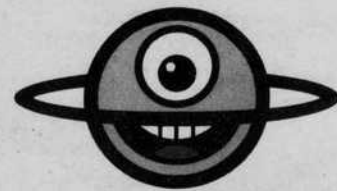
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