

Oregon Daily Emerald

TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 1994

EUGENE, OREGON

VOLUME 95, ISSUE 124

Student remembered as inspirational, caring

Memorial: 150 mourn tragic death of Leah Kirker Monday

By Tasha Eichenseher
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

Rev. Joan Pierson's voice hung in the air as she asked everyone present to "not remember Leah Kirker by grieving, but more by praising and by being thankful."

The speakers who followed did just as Pierson had asked. Through stories about Kirker, readings from poems and excerpts from some of her favorite books, and descriptions of her, everyone understood the immense loss.

"The sudden death of a young person leaves us with a sense of injustice," said Thomas Brady, Kirker's former adviser and a professor of history at the University of California at Berkeley.

Kirker, 28-year-old graduate student and teacher, died March 25 in a car accident. She was a discussion leader for Western Civilization and World History courses for seven years.

Nearly 150 colleagues, friends and students came to Kirker's memorial service Monday at Gerlinger Lounge.

"I came to have a chance to say good-bye," said Megan Munson, a freshman at the University.

Munson was a student in Kirker's World History class last term. She registered for the class this term in hopes of being able to work with Kirker again.

Pierson officiated the service and was followed by five faculty speakers. Professors Daniel Pope, Randall McGowen, Jennifer Rondeau and John Theibault, who all work in the history department at the University, said

Turn to **KIRKER**, Page 4



Keri Toma (left) and Aubrey Ardema, grieve the death of their former history instructor, Leah Kirker, Monday evening at Gerlinger Lounge.

UNIVERSITY

Court will give ruling on transfer of IFC seat

Election: Constitution Court to decide if some 2-year IFC and Student Senate posts are vacant

By Martin Fisher
Oregon Daily Emerald

What, exactly, did voters intend to do March 9 when they voted the Incidental Fee Committee out of existence in the special election? That question went before the Constitution Court Friday, as IFC member Joey Lyons asked the court to transfer his two-year IFC seat onto the newly created ASUO Programs Finance Committee, a subcommittee of the Student Senate.

Lyons said his experience on the IFC would prove valuable to the new committee and would ease the transition process. The ASUO Elections Board declared the seat vacant for the upcoming elections, but Lyons said failure to transfer him to the new committee could usurp the intent of students who voted him onto the IFC last year.

"The respect and integrity of student government," would suffer, Lyons said, if he were not allowed to transfer to the new committee.

"We must maintain continuity of leadership in student government," Lyons said in his petition to the court.

Four student senators who are in the middle of a two-year term also expressed concern that their seats may be eliminated. What had been 18 academic student senate seats has been reduced to nine, with the other nine going to the athletic department, EMU and ASUO programs finance committees.

Three student senators testified before the court and said that they would probably not run again if their seats were declared vacant. Jesse Bohrer-Clancy, in a written statement to the court, said failure to allow the members to retain their seats could cre-

Turn to **SEATS**, Page 4

Students remember Holocaust

Vigil: Jewish students, LGBA members show support, protest hate

By Stephanie Sisson
Oregon Daily Emerald

Twenty people participated in a candlelight vigil Monday to commemorate those who died

in the Holocaust of World War II and to support those whose human rights are in jeopardy today.

The vigil, sponsored by the Jewish Student Union and the Hillel Jewish center, was the kickoff event for Shoah Week. The Lesbian Gay Bisexual Alliance also participated in the

vigil at the EMU courtyard.

"It's important to remember that the Holocaust really did happen and there are people with doctorates ... who are trying to pretend it didn't," said LGBA co-director Jodi Mai.

Mai said although there is a

Turn to **SHOAH**, Page 4

IFC approves EMU budget increase

Budget: EMU receives 3 percent increase from last year's allocation

By Amy Columbo
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Incidental Fee Committee granted 100 percent of the EMU budget request for the 1994-95

year. The EMU received about \$2.03 million from the IFC, a 2.9 percent increase from last year's allocation.

The hearing lasted less than one hour.

The EMU is the largest budget that receives IFC money. Typically the hearing has lasted for hours.

"I was shocked because the EMU budget hearings usually go for hours, but it doesn't surprise me because the IFC was very well informed going into the budget hearing," said committee member Shannon Wall.

The IFC has had representa-

Turn to **EMU**, Page 5

GOOD MORNING

► (AP) — A California man accused of passing bad checks across the country before his arrest in Oregon for investigation of violating parole will travel back to his home state to face charges.

Alphonso Liston Bertrand, 53, was arrested in Eugene last week on warrants issued in Wyoming and California, where he was accused of violating parole on a grand theft conviction.

Bertrand had waived extradition back to California, said a custody referee at the Lane County Jail, where he remained jailed Monday.

Police Sgt. Jim Green, who investigates fraud cases, said it appears Bertrand's travels began in February, when he used a \$6,000 personal check to



buy a motor home in Rock Springs, Wyo. The check bounced.

Bertrand and his wife of six months, Suporia Maxwell, 62, of Folsom, Calif., then visited New York, Phoenix and Carson City, Nev., before reaching Eugene, Green said.

"He could have scammed hundreds of people along the way. I wish I could get inside his brain and see where's he's been," the detective said.

When the couple reached Eugene in late March, Bertrand made a cash offer on a five-acre estate worth \$300,000.