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TODAY

Today is the last day to add or drop a class, or change grading options without paying a \$10 fee.



INSIDE

Guilty or innocent? The verdict in the O.J. Simpson case is expected this morning

7A

The Seattle Mariners beat the California Angels in a playoff to clinch the AL West

9A



WEATHER

Partly cloudy, high of 65 and a chance of rain.

University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

Oregon Daily Emerald

An independent newspaper
Volume 97, Issue 24

Walk the walk



MELODY CONROY/Emerald

Sandy Kadash and Shannon Lynch complete the 15K Walktoberfest race to support a cure for diabetes. The two were members of the Monaco Miracles team from the Monaco Coach Corporation. See story, Page 5A.

Student leaves University after attempted rape

■ **CRIME:** A limited description of the suspect makes an arrest difficult, police say

By Samantha Martin
Community Reporter

An attempted rape on campus last week has left the Eugene Police Department looking for a suspect and the University minus one student.

Last Thursday at approximately 9:30 p.m., a female student was attacked from behind as she was locking her bike on the north bike rack in front of Watson Hall, facing East 13th Avenue.

According to Sgt. Dave Poppe of the Eugene police, the victim was approached from behind as she was bending over to lock her bike. The assailant reached from behind and grabbed her breasts, knocked her to the ground then lay partially on top of her.

After the assailant licked the victim's neck and chin, the victim screamed and broke away from the attacker after hitting him in the face with her elbow.

According to police reports, the suspect smelled of alcohol and extreme body odor. The suspect is described as having a dark complexion, a dirty, ragged appearance, a beard and matted hair of unknown color. He is about 5 feet, 6 inches tall and weighs about 180 pounds. The suspect was wearing a dark blue shirt with an elbow patch on the left elbow at the time of the attack.

"It's a logical assumption that this man is a transient, but we can't assume this," Poppe said.

Efforts to find the suspect are underway, he said, but

Turn to RAPE, Page 6A

Gay and lesbian history honored during October

■ **AWARD:** John Kitzhaber makes Oregon the third state to recognize gay and lesbian achievements

By Samantha Martin
Community Reporter

Oregon becomes the third state to officially acknowledge the achievements of gays and lesbians this month, as the state celebrates its first Gay and Lesbian History Month.

Gov. John Kitzhaber designated October for the history month on July 11, following the lead of Massachusetts and Connecticut in placing a monthlong focus on the achievements of gays and lesbians.

John Coney, news aide for Kitzhaber, said a request for a proclamation of Gay and Lesbian History Month had been dropped off at the governor's office a few months prior to the signing by the governor.

Coney said the governor's office has received hundreds of requests for proclamations for various groups.

"Proclamations are general

statements of goodwill," Coney said. "Once a proclamation is issued, we have no control over how it is promoted. Proclamations are a dime a dozen, but some people really value it."

The proclamation states that the Kitzhaber administration "is committed to fairness and the recognition of the full rights and responsibilities of ... contributions of all Oregonians."

Although the state won't sponsor any official events as part of the history month, some still applaud the proclamation.

Elise Self, president of PFLAG, Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, a national organization that advocates for equal rights for gays and lesbians, said she was "thrilled" with what the governor has done.

Self, who has a lesbian daughter, said, "It's not that I think sexual orientation is the most important aspect about a person, but certain orientations have been so forbidden by society that our young people have no role models who are gay or lesbian."

Student groups provide niche for all

■ **ASUO:** Join a ready-made organization or customize a new one

By Amy Columbo
Student Activities Editor

From campus radio to the women's law forum, more than 90 ASUO-acknowledged student groups are on campus to choose from. And if students don't find a group or organization that interests them, they can start a new one.

Student groups provide a forum in which interested students can participate in activities in addition to studying. From groups that focus on social work to groups that unite ethnic minorities, the student groups on campus serve many different purposes.

Subir Dutta, a co-director of the International Student Association, said the association provides resources for international students and helps demonstrate the population diversity of the University.

"There are lots of stereotypes that go with international students; one of our goals is to

break down those stereotypes," he said.

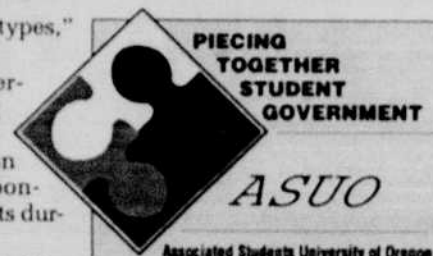
ISA organizes an International Week during the course of the year to encourage diversity on campus, and also co-sponsors several cultural nights during the year.

It's these type of activities that attract students to student groups. Undergraduate Teren Robbins, for example, became interested in the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group, after an announcement in one of his lecture classes last week.

As a recent high school graduate, Robbins said he wanted to get involved on campus right away. "I was involved in high school and I want to get involved in college," he said.

Monday afternoon he was staffing an OSPIRG table and asking students to fill out a survey. He said he's involved for the volunteer experience and the chance to help save the environment.

Robbins is interested in starting a model United Nations at the University. He already has



■ **MONDAY:** ASUO Executive
■ **TODAY:** ASUO Programs
■ **WEDNESDAY:** Constitutional Court & ASPAC
■ **THURSDAY:** Student Senate
■ **FRIDAY:** EMU Board & Student Health Advisory Committee

DENNIS BOLT/Emerald

a meeting set up with a professor who has expressed interest in advising the group.

Students can apply to start a group on campus through the ASUO. New groups can apply for either registered or recognized status. Registered status allows student groups to schedule rooms in the ASUO and recognized status allows groups to apply for incidental fees.