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TODAY

Today is the last day to add a class, process initial registration, or change from audit to credit.



INSIDE

New Gospel Ensemble director Julia Neufeld adds new depth to the program

Major League Baseball playoff roundup: Braves, Indians, Reds and Yankees win

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WEATHER

Sunny after morning fog with a high of near 70.

University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

Oregon Daily Emerald

An independent newspaper
Volume 97, Issue 26

ASUO purse strings? Student Senate has control over those

■ **FINANCES:** The 19-member senate sets the incidental fee and decides how it is distributed

By Amy Columbo
Student Activities Editor

Each student pays \$123.50 a term to student groups, the student government, the athletic department and the EMU Board of Directors, and it is the ASUO Student Senate that sets this fee.

The 19-member senate also confirms members of the Constitutional Court and grants special requests to student groups that need extra money for a project or an event.

Eighteen members of the senate are elected by the student body; half of them serve as academic senators to represent an academic department or school, and the other half serve as finance senators who work to draft the annual budgets which determine the \$123.50 incidental fee.

The nineteenth member of the Senate, the vice president of the student government, gives recommendations from the ASUO Executive but does not have voting power in the Senate except in cases of a tie.

By Nov. 30 the Senate must set benchmarks — estimated yearly budgets — for the Programs Finance Committee, Athletic Department Committee and

PIECING TOGETHER STUDENT GOVERNMENT

ASUO
Associated Students University of Oregon

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

DENNIS BOLT/Emerald

EMU Board of Directors.

These three committees work to draft a budget and present it to the senate later in the year. Three finance senators sit on each of the committees and work along with other appointed and elected students to draft the budgets.

"The benchmarks aren't mandatory for anybody," said Martin Fisher, president of the senate.

Each committee will come before the full senate to present its budget, and if the senate passes it by a majority vote, the budget goes to the ASUO president for approval.

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NATALIE MONTGOMERY/Emerald

Chris McGinnis, a junior majoring in computer and information science, likes to study with a little company — a boa constrictor, which he keeps in his fraternity house.

Peculiar pets' popularity on the rise

■ **COMPANIONS:** They don't pay rent, but these roomies probably won't snore all night

By Samantha Martin
Community Reporter

Around campus, it appears that dogs and cats top the list for most students' pet of

choice. However, some University students opt to stray from the norm.

Lassie lovers and Morris aficionados, beware. There's a new breed of pet owner on the rise. From radical reptiles to stinging scorpions, non-traditional pets are taking their place in college homes.

Marcie McFadden, for

example, has some pretty wild roommates.

Two 3½-foot iguanas, one 12-foot python, four black emperor scorpions (one adult, three babies), and a red albino cornsnake claim McFadden's one-bedroom apartment as home.

One question, Marcie. Why?

Turn to **ANIMALS**, Page 7



MATHEW STIFFLER/Emerald

About 65 people gathered Wednesday for a candlelight vigil to remember Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman.

People gather at vigil to share reactions to O.J. verdict

■ **VIGIL:** The ASUO Women's Center provided candles, a megaphone and a forum to voice opinions about the Simpson trial

By Kari Hastings
Copy Editor

Of the many things the O.J. Simpson trial has come to symbolize, domestic violence is one of the most emotional.

It was this issue that drew more than 65 people to the steps of Eugene's Federal Building for a candlelight vigil Wednesday night to honor Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman.

The ASUO Women's Center organized the hour-long event, which was prompted by about 20 phone calls and one student's idea for a vigil.

"It was a safe place for people to channel their energy in a positive way," said Bonnie Kanter, Women's Center office coordinator.

Kanter said the vigil was not a state-

ment that O.J. is guilty, but a service provided for students who showed an interest in expressing their feelings on the case.

The center provided small, white candles for all who attended, and the crowd circled a megaphone used by those who wished to talk.

Many women who spoke had themselves been victims of domestic violence.

"I am a domestic violence survivor and I want to know what this is going to teach my child," said Lisa Davis of Eugene. "He's a little boy."

Susanne Boling, who teaches at a Eugene preschool primarily for low-income families, said there were two other victims in the Simpson case — his children.

"[O.J.'s children] lost the sense of home and family they once had," she said. "They will have a lifetime of living with this crime."

Many of those who spoke expressed sentiments of anger at the verdict.

"I think this whole case was a bunch of crap," said Morrigan Redhawk of Eugene. "Men who watched the case will believe they can beat their wives and get away with it."

Kelley Story of Deadwood, Ore., agreed, saying she felt betrayed by the legal system.

"I feel set up, just like women are set up by their abusers," she said. "The legal system set us up and then sent a clear message: Domestic violence will not be taken seriously."

Throughout the vigil, women also spoke of what good could come out of the Simpson trial.

Donna Oakes, of Springfield, said, "As women, we need to get into the system and try to change it."

Diane Rogers, a counselor in Eugene, said, "It's about healing and grieving. We need to keep domestic violence shelters alive, speak up, teach our children right and heal ourselves."