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**TODAY**

Ballots may be cast at an official drop box in front of the EMU Ben  
Linder Room today and Tuesday before 8 p.m.



**INSIDE**

Kenya Wilkins and the Ducks played the Wildcats tough Saturday, but fell 70-65  
Dallas won its fifth Super Bowl Sunday as the Steelers' comeback bid fell short

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**WEATHER**

Rain or snow today.  
High 40. Low 30.

# Oregon Daily Emerald

University of Oregon  
Eugene, Oregon

An independent newspaper  
Volume 97, Issue 82



NATALIE MONTGOMERY/Emerald

YouthBuild construction instructor Wendy Stanley (right) helps participant Tracy Maltzberger, 17, measure plans for building a low-income house. The program gives at-risk youth a chance at life beyond the streets with a job and an education.

## Blueprint for success

By Colleen Pohlig  
Managing Editor

At age 11, Dennis Jones ran to safety. Fleeing years of his stepfather's brutal beatings, Jones has called the streets his home for the last nine years. He has slept in underground sewers, cardboard boxes, and on good nights, broken-into laundry rooms.

The safety he was longing for turned into a destructive cycle of stealing cars, selling crack and cocaine, abusing drugs and getting arrested.

Today, 20-year-old Jones is finally safe. And he can see a future beyond his next meal or his next fix. After being accepted to YouthBuild, a new job-training program for low-income youth funded by the national



NATALIE MONTGOMERY/Emerald

AmeriCorps program. Jones has a job, an apartment and is working on his GED.

"I know I'm going to make it through this program," Jones said. "For me, this is my last chance at life. This program can give me a lot and I'm going to earn all that it offers."

Like Jones, 30 other Lane County youth now have opportunities no one gave them

**YouthBuild participant Jeremy Wilson, 17, nails a board in place.**

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## Student groups financed for 1996

■ **BUDGET:** MEChA and ESCAPE among the groups to get increases

By Ashley Bach, Kristin Bailey and Doug Irving  
Student Activities Reporters

Several student groups presented their 1996-97 budgets to the ASUO Programs Finance Committee on Saturday, including ESCAPE, the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance (LGBA), and Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

ESCAPE, a student-run service group, received \$14,385, which

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## Frontlash whips up activism

■ **GROUP:** New student organization raises awareness about voting, human rights

By Kristin Bailey  
Student Activities Reporter

Worker solidarity, increasing the minimum wage, boycotting products made by human rights' abusers and voter education are the goals of Frontlash, a new student group at the University.

"We want this campus, its students and its organizers to be creative and determine where they want to spend their energies," said Frontlash campus organizer Sean O'Neal.

The members of Frontlash are currently working toward increasing voter turnout in this week's senatorial elections.

"It's really sad to talk to so many people who think they can't vote just because they don't have a ballot or they're not registered in Lane County," O'Neal said. "It's a state-wide election so if you're registered in Oregon, you can vote."

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