

## Competing designs

University architecture students compete under deadline to create the housing designs of the future.

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## Stepping up

Mike McShane prepares to knock heads with the best of the Pac-10 in his second season as Oregon's point guard.

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## TODAY

The Outdoor Program will host an equipment swap in the ballroom, 7:30 p.m.

## WEATHER

Today

Showers  
High 65. Low 50.

Friday

Showers  
High 70. Low 50.

University of Oregon  
Eugene, Oregon

# Oregon Daily Emerald

An independent newspaper  
Volume 99, Issue 42

## ASUO CENTENNIAL



UNIVERSITY ARCHIVE

Much like today's Student Senate, the 1960 ASUO Student Senate voted on important issues affecting the University.

# Through the years

University student government has undergone many social and political changes since it began back in 1897

By Kristina Rudinskas  
Student Activities Reporter

In 1923, ASUO President Claude E. Robinson described the feeling of being at the University of Oregon in a pamphlet titled "Worth-While Messages to the Student Body."

"The Oregon spirit is irresistible," he wrote. "It will penetrate to every cell of your body and will thrill you through and through with the praises for Oregon."

The praises have continued as the student government on campus increased its role over the last century.

When it began in 1897, the student government's initial purpose was to serve as a booster club for University athletics and to regulate the student paper, said Charyl Hunter, ASUO executive coordinator.

The athletic program wasn't funded by the administration and student fees supported the teams. At that time, the student body could elect a board of managers for the athletic council, as well as the editors of the campus publications — The Oregon Weekly and The Oregon Monthly.

In 1907, the ASUO had few responsi-

bilities on campus. They allocated money for athletic teams and publications and determined what awards were given on campus. The official college emblem — a lemon colored "O" to be worn on a navy sweater or jersey — was given to star athletes and team managers.

By 1912, the Associated Students Executive Committee had officially become the Associated Students of the University of Oregon.

The student body could elect a president, vice president and secretary of the student body, along with an executive council made up of members from the senior and junior classes, administrators,

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## City keeps youth clinic open for now

Emergency funding will allow a local mental health clinic for teens to keep its doors open another eight months

By Michael Burnham  
Community Reporter

On Sept. 30, Jim Forbes, executive director of Looking Glass Youth and Family Services, Inc., informed the staff at the Youth Evaluation and Treatment Clinic that they had 30 days until their jobs would be terminated because of funding shortages.

Forbes promised them he would do all that he could to avoid job losses, including asking the City Council for emergency funding.

Wednesday morning, Forbes was able to buy them more time.

The City Council voted to give the clinic a one-time \$29,000 funding "life raft" from the city's contingency fund. The funding will enable the clinic to remain open for roughly another eight months.

Councilman Pat Farr said the request for funding is very unusual.

"It really is an emergency request that we have the power to keep this place from being closed," he said. "I've never really seen something so black and white before."

According to a Looking Glass fact sheet, the clinic was created about three years ago to respond to the emergency mental health needs of youth, ages 11 to 17, and their families. According to Looking Glass' application for funding, the agency serves about 125 youths and can house up to 13 residents a day. The program is licensed by the state of Oregon and is designed to provide "a safe environment to stabilize the behavior of young people who are considered an immediate risk to themselves and others."

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## ACLU says prayer amendment oversteps church-state boundary

The proposed amendment would overturn a Supreme Court ruling that bans teachers from leading prayer in schools

By Nicole Kristal  
Higher Education Reporter

An ACLU field director discussed his understanding of the difference between religious proponents' rhetoric and the reality of a proposed prayer amendment at the Gerlinger Hall Lounge on Wednesday.

Bob Kearney said proponents of the bill spread misinformation about prayer in public schools to tear down the wall separating church and state.

"We don't want that wall ripped down," he said.

If the bill passes, it would guarantee

people the right to pray and engage in other religious activities without government restriction, even in publicly owned facilities such as schools. This would differ from the current separation of church and state established in the First Amendment.

For the bill to pass, it must receive a two-thirds majority in the U.S. House of Representatives and in the Senate. In addition, three-fourths of the states must ratify the amendment for it to become law.

Kearney said students will be pitted against one another because of their conflicting convictions and beliefs.

"They try to talk about this debate in terms of believers versus non-believers," Kearney said. "You do not have to be a believer in any sort of religion to expect that your children can attend the public school and not have their own personal beliefs

and convictions violated by that school."

Polly Nelson, southern district coordinator for the ACLU, said the bill could return the cross to Skinner Butte.

"It would make it much more likely that the courts would say, 'Yes, that can be there,' and 'Yes, that can be considered a war memorial,'" she said, "and it loses its Christian identity as a spiritual relic."

Kearney said the ACLU opposes state-sponsored school prayer but does not intend to purge prayer from public schools.

The subcommittee on the Constitution voted 8-4 Tuesday to approve this amendment and send it to the House Judiciary Committee. If the bill passes that committee, it will move onto the House.

According to Kearney, the bill already has 140 co-sponsors — including Oregon Congressman Bob Smith.

The author of the bill, former talk radio host turned Oklahoma Representative Ernest Istook, said the bill will overturn 35 years of bad case law by allowing public prayer.

Since a 1962 Supreme Court ruling, teachers have been banned from leading prayer in public schools. The bill would override this ruling.

"The misinformation that can get out there can rule the day if we don't take the opportunity to make noise," Kearney said. "We're very concerned about this amendment because it moves like a submarine — it shows up for a day in the press and goes away again."

Kearney made no predictions about whether the bill will pass.

"One thing is very clear," Kearney said. "They're playing to win."