

MAI trouble

Community activists met with Representative Peter DeFazio to discuss the flaws in a proposed international agreement

PAGE 8

A flying leap

Freshman high jumper Damian Olson faces lofty heights and equally lofty expectations as he takes the field for the Ducks

PAGE 9

TODAY

It's Tax Day, so make sure your paperwork is on its way to the IRS by midnight tonight.

WEATHER

Today
Mostly cloudy
High 59. Low 36.
Thursday
Mostly cloudy
High 60. Low 38.

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THE CANDIDATES



LAURA GOSS/Emerald

ASUO Executive candidates Kelli McCartan, Tamir Kriegel, Greg Labavitch, Farrab Bostic, Mark Hemingway, Morgan Cowling and Geneva Wortman engage in a lively debate in Willamette Hall Tuesday evening.

ASUO elections begin today

Four polling locations are currently available on campus for the primary elections

By Kristina Rudinskas
Student Activities Reporter

The ASUO election process is well underway as students start voting today in the first round of primary run-offs.

Students can vote for their favorite ASUO Executive candidates, student senators, Associated Students President's Advisory Council members and Building Fee Committee members.

Four polling locations are available on campus today and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. They are placed in accessible areas in the EMU Amphitheater and in front of Gilbert, Carson and Chapman halls.

The ASUO Elections Committee will try to open a fifth location in front of the ASUO on Thursday if their budget and

staff allows.

Students who are enrolled at the University with a minimum of eight credits and have paid their student fees are allowed to vote in the primary election today and Thursday and in the final election Wednesday, April 22, and Thursday, April 23. All students have to do is bring their student IDs, or a photo ID, and their Social Security number. Absentee ballots are available in the ASUO office for students unable to make it to a polling station.

"It's our university and it's your higher education — you're proud to wear the sweatshirts, you're proud to go to the basketball games and the football games,"

Turn to **ASUO**, Page 3



EMU to redo search for coffee vendor

The criteria used to select an EMU coffee vendor were protested by three other companies

By Doug Irving
Student Activities Editor

The University solved the EMU's coffee question Tuesday by throwing out the entire coffee selection process.

The decision means EMU Food Services will have to start over.

That left a bitter taste in Caffe Orsini's mouth. It had protested that, under the criteria set forth in the EMU's selection plan, it should have been awarded the contract.

Owner Max Orsini said he wants to talk with University administrators about the decision. He also said he would look for legal council.

"We tried to make them recognize that we won the selection, and they didn't," he explained. "I'm upset. Now we start everything over."

The EMU had tentatively selected Seattle Coffee Co. for a three-year contract worth more than \$70,000 each year. The contract would make Seattle Coffee the only coffee served in the EMU and in cafes the EMU operates.

The EMU's selection committee judged the companies on several criteria, including price, coffee quality and a public taste test.

Three companies protested, saying the procedure that led to that decision was flawed. They based their cases on environmental concerns, inconsistencies in the selection criteria and questions about the rules the committee used.

All three agreed on two points: the selection committee had not given the public taste test enough weight and had not adequately figured coffee prices into its equation.

The University's Office of Business Af-

Turn to **COFFEE**, Page 3

Disabled students work in EMU for experience, not wages

A program provides students with work and social skills in exchange for low-cost labor

By Chris Kenning
Student Activities Reporter

Lee Thorne, a 15-year-old developmentally disabled Springfield High School student, works days in the EMU Skylight Cafeteria, scrubbing pots and pans, peeling carrots and hauling trash.

He said he likes his job, but shrugged when asked how much he makes and said he doesn't know.

Eighteen-year-old Jessica, another worker who cleans tables and does dishes, said the work she does is "boring," but estimated she makes about \$10 a week.

"Actually, it's more like \$3 a week," said Randy Haines, an instructional assistant who oversees the student workers.

Thorne and Jessica are two of many high school-aged developmentally disabled students working in the EMU whose payment averages less than a dollar a day. Most work between three and five days a week.

The students come from special education programs at Springfield High, Lane Educational Services District's Community Classroom and 4J schools. Created in 1980, the program aims to provide students with work experience and socialization skills in exchange for low-cost labor. The EMU is just one of several work sites around Eugene and Springfield.

"Not paying them definitely keeps costs down. If they weren't here, we'd

have to hire student employees," said Theresa Coleman-Kaiser, director of EMU Food Services. She said on any given day there are eight program workers at the EMU.

Teachers of the classes from which the students are picked say the lack of pay doesn't concern the students.

"Getting paid is not a big thing with them — they like to work and they might eventually end up with a paid job," said Diana Bartz, a teacher at the district Community Classroom.

Haines said how much of the state-funded, dollar-a-day maximum students get de-

Turn to **WAGES**, Page 3

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Diana Bartz
Teacher