

# Oregon Daily Emerald



## Weather forecast

Today Shows High 56, Low 43  
 Thursday Mostly cloudy High 52, Low 40

## Pac-10 at a glance

Former walk-on Freshman Jonathan Smith takes over as quarterback for the Beavers / PAGE 5

## Homegrown talent

T.J. Johnson, a native of Eugene, adds depth to the women's soccer team / PAGE 5

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### RIDING THE WIND

## Student's business sails to success

*A business school program to help student entrepreneurs helped Robert Maris's company catch some wind and take off*

By James Scripps  
 Oregon Daily Emerald

Growing up on windsurfing and skating, business student Robert Maris could not have imagined that he would one day own a business that would combine these two sports into one.

Three years ago, Maris, 22, made his first skateboard in his parents' garage in Eugene. Thus was born Orca Designs, a company that would gain national recognition both as a longboard (long skateboard) manufacturer and later for the Landsailor, a hybrid of a sailboard and a longboard. The Landsailor is basically a longboard with a sail.

After tinkering with design ideas and adapting his experience with windsurfing and skateboarding, Maris was encouraged to attend the American Windsurfing Industry Association trade show. The Landsailor was a huge success, winning best of show, and gaining the attention of two of windsurfing's top professionals, Andy Brandt and Dana Miller.

"Brandt and Miller came up to me and offered to be spokespeople for the product," Maris said. "This is like having the Michael Jordans of windsurfing promoting your product."

Maris has also gained the attention of the University's business school. Last spring, Orca Designs was a principal part of the curriculum for an upper-division and graduate course. The class used Maris's experiences in the real world to give students an idea about what it takes to get a company started.

At the end of the term, in a cooperative project with the business school, several University MBA students started working with Maris.

"For the last four months they have

Turn to **LANDSAILOR**, Page 3



Orca Designs, business major Robert Maris's company, has developed a hybrid skateboard/sailboard. *Courtesy photo*

## Measure 64 starts battle over forests

*Proponents want to eliminate clearcutting in state forests while opponents say the measure would hurt the economy*

By G. Jaros  
 for the Emerald

The latest battle over the management of Oregon's forests has come out of the woods and into the voter's booth in the form of state Ballot Measure 64.

Measure 64 would amend Oregon law by imposing new restrictions on the management of private, state and federal forest lands. The measure is on ballot for the Nov. 3 election.

It redefines clearcuts in western Oregon as any harvest unit that leaves fewer than 70 well-distributed trees per acre. The trees must measure at least 11 inches in diameter. The measure would also require that all trees 30 inches or larger in diameter be left standing.

Current law requires any acre on a harvest unit to have at least two snags or two green trees 11 inches in diameter.

Measure 64 would also ban the use of chemical herbicides and pesticides in state forests. And it would allow citizens to sue in court to enforce the law.

Students are divided over the measure, which could affect private landowners and the economy.

"If Measure 64 passes, I could end up applying for more financial aid," said Brent Moszer, a junior in journalism. "My dad works in a lumber mill, and I don't know if 64 would shut off his company's land or not."

But Amy Fowler, a senior in international studies, believes Measure 64 should cover private land because big corporations own the majority of that land.

"Big timber corporations will choose whether to leave the area by their profit margin, not whether or not Measure 64 is

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## Pacific Party candidate Bobier hopes to bolster minor parties

*Campaign finance reform and reallocating funds from prisons to education are also among the reasons behind Bobier's bid*

By David Ryan  
 Oregon Daily Emerald

The Pacific Party, a minor political party in Oregon, will not be a minor party much longer, according to its candidate for governor.

Pacific Party gubernatorial candidate Blair Bobier said a new political demographic is opening in Oregon — voters who are not registered with the Democratic or Republican parties.

Many of them are students, he says.

Bobier, who was on campus Tuesday

promoting the Pacific Party, said the new political demographic is a part of the reason the Pacific Party went from having 200 members in the 1996 presidential election to having 2,000 members today.

"I suspect that number will double with the next election," Bobier said. "The trend is minor parties."

Bobier said his primary reason for running is to build the Pacific Party to give a chance to "vote their conscience" to voters who are not officially Democrats or Republicans.

Bobier said his second reason for run-

ning is "putting issues on the table that we believe in so that we can expand the debate."

One of the issues Bobier is concerned about is education.

"I think that education of all kinds is key and that we have misinformed priorities," he said. "I think we need to divert the resources we're using to build prisons and use that to educate people."

Bobier said he is concerned about campaign finance reform and wants to rid elections of private campaign donations.

"Our [electoral] system is corrupted by money," he said. "Peoples' voices are drowned out with cash. Money has access, not the people."

Bobier said he believed a publicly funded election process like the one in Ger-

many would end the corruption he saw. He also felt voters would be willing to pay for it.

"We foot [the cost] one way or another," he said.

Along with campaign finance reform, Bobier wants to enlarge the political arena to include more access by minor parties.

"This is really my Clark Kent role," he said. "My real job is that I'm the executive director of the Northwest Democracy Institute."

The institute works to open up political debates to minor party candidates and make it easier for minor parties to get on the voting ballot.

"I'm not as concerned with getting the Pacific Party out there as much as I am fairness [in elections]," he said.

