

Oregon Daily Emerald



Weather forecast

Today Mostly cloudy High 50, Low 37
 Tuesday Rain High 51, Low 39

Ducks dominate Dawgs

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Mishap keeps some students from voting

A misunderstanding causes the ASUO to accept voter registration cards past the deadline

By James Scripps
Oregon Daily Emerald

Due to a miscommunication between members of the ASUO Executive and Lane County Elections, some students who expected to be registered for the Nov. 3 election were turned away from polling places when they showed up to vote.

The problem stemmed from a meeting that members of the executive office attended when they were reviewing the rules for registration deadlines, said C.J. Gabbe, ASUO federal affairs coordinator.

"The impression that we got was that previously registered Lane County voter registration cards had to be turned in by 5 p.m. on Oct. 26, or postmarked by midnight. We just found out that all cards had to be in by 5 p.m.," he said.

The deadline for registration of new voters was Oct. 13.

Believing that they could register voters until midnight, the ASUO continued to accept voter registration cards past the 5 p.m. deadline. Lane County Elections officials estimate that 30 cards came in past 5 p.m..

The problem was brought to the attention of the ASUO Executive by student Robert Wasson. "When I went to vote, I was standing behind a young man in line that tried to vote but the poll workers could not find his name and told him that he couldn't vote," Wasson said. "He told [the poll workers] that he had registered through the ASUO."

ASUO Senator Tamir Kriegel was one victim of the mix-up. "The worst thing about it was that I didn't get to vote on local issues, the close races where my vote might have actually made a difference.

"It feels pretty stupid when I am out campaigning for these issues, and I don't even get to vote."

But even if previously registered voters' cards were not turned in to Lane County

Turn to **VOTING**, Page 4



The University's Gospel Choir belts out a tune during a performance at the Hult Center. Next year, the School of Music may lose funding for the choir.

Amanda Cowan/Emerald

SINGING PRAISE

The Gospel Choir receives rave reviews from students and staff alike but may not return next year

By Tricia Schwennesen
Oregon Daily Emerald

Twice a week 150 voices swell together until they burst forth singing songs of pure joy, pain and suffering.

Julia Neufeld, the daughter of a southern minister, likes to tell her students to just let go and lose themselves in the message of the music.

The message isn't necessarily religious either. For some, singing with the Gospel Choir is pure joy. For others it is a mental release, a connection with a higher power or even a chance at 15 minutes in the spotlight.

Next year, students may not get the same

chance. The School of Music is in danger of losing the funding needed to keep the choir "which hurts me a lot because I've invested a lot in the program," Neufeld said.

The School of Music currently offers students two opportunities to sing gospel music. The Gospel Choir, which is open to anyone who wants to enroll in the class, and the Gospel Ensemble, which students must audition for.

"We may be the only school with two groups," said Anne McLucas, dean of the School of Music. "The question is can we keep the two groups going."

Turn to **CHOIR**, Page 4

"It's just such a huge release no matter what's on your mind."

Sara Pavelich
 Senior

History professors nationwide speak out against impeachment

The professors argue that the proceedings will damage the Presidency

By David Weaver
for the Emerald

When it comes to the historical significance of current events, professors have a unique perspective. This was demonstrated recently when more than 400 history professors, including several from the University, signed a statement opposing the pending impeachment inquiry into President Clinton.

Four University history professors chose to sign the statement: Matthew Dennis, early American history; Ellen Herman, 20th century American history; Robert Has-

kett, Latin American history; and David M. Luebke.

Dennis said many other professors probably did not receive the statement but suspected that it would have "overwhelming support in the department."

The statement was the result of a conversation between Professor Sean Wilentz of Princeton and historian Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr. of City University of New York. After their conversation, Wilentz sent an e-mail to other professors he felt would identify with his sentiment. Within days, several hundred had replied.

The statement, released at an Oct. 28 news conference, urges the American people "to oppose this dangerous new theory of impeach-

ment" and warns that the proceedings "will leave the Presidency permanently disfigured and diminished."

Law professors across the nation released a similar statement Friday opposing the impeachment inquiry.

One concern the four University professors all shared was the misuse of impeachment powers as defined in the Constitution.

"It's important because the procedures seem to violate the constitutional system that we have," Dennis said. "I don't see a thing that Clinton did that is anywhere close to what Nixon was accused of doing."

Clinton joined Richard Nixon and Andrew Johnson as the only

American presidents in history to face impeachment hearings. Nixon resigned on Aug. 8, 1974, before formal impeachment proceedings could begin. Johnson was impeached but escaped conviction in 1868 by a single vote in the Senate.

"What's different about this case is the advent of the independent counsel and the way it's affecting the American government," Dennis said.

Many historians regard the impeachment of Johnson as a political trap on the part of the Republican Congress and one of the first serious tests of the powers and limits of impeachment. Many now believe that the impeachment process and the balance of power are once again being tested.

Herman said that "it just boggles my mind" that proceedings could be instigated by an extramarital affair and that "impeachment is not something you use to voice your disapproval."

Haskett said the president's actions were regrettable, but they do not fit the definition of high crimes and misdemeanors. He said he signed the document "from my own sense of fairness."

Herman said students should be concerned about the impeachment inquiry into the president and the impact on the Constitution.

"Students are all people who live in a constitutional democracy," she said. "They are all responsible for keeping the Constitution in good working order."