

Oregon Daily Emerald

Weather forecast

Today Rain
High 52, Low 41

Friday Rain
High 55, Low 45

Student Senate

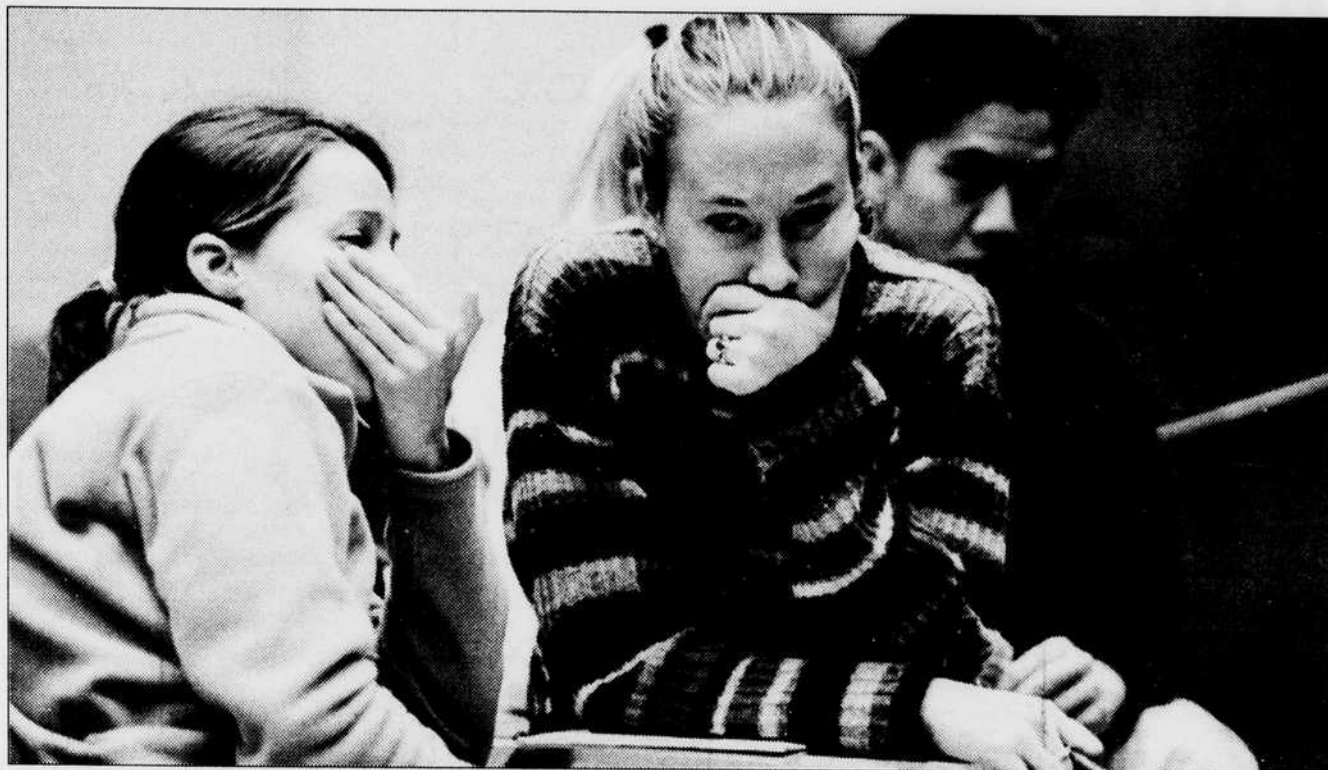
The Senate approved a new committee member and a funding request for the JSO Sushi Night/PAGE 6

Women's basketball

The team hopes for a sixth straight trip to the NCAA Tournament and spot in the Sweet 16/PAGE 7

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Nick Medley/Emerald

Seniors Cristi Craveiro and Kelli McCartan react to racial comments recounted by a panelist during a town hall meeting on race held Wednesday night in 100 Willamette.

City Council votes to hold public forum

The council decided to get community feedback before proceeding with plans to develop a police review commission

By David Ryan
Oregon Daily Emerald

When it comes to police accountability, there is an ancient Roman saying: "Who guards the guardians?"

On Wednesday the City Council voted to send their answer to a public forum to be held November 23.

The council wants to create a 12-member police commission to review the actions of the police. The commission would provide a public forum to air the concerns of the community about police actions and provide ideas on where to get needed police funding. Members would have to be nominated by the mayor and approved by the city council.

To point out the commission's usefulness, Councilman Pat Farr mentioned the example of the June 1997 tree-cutting protest that resulted in several law suits against the city.

Farr believed a police commission would help to sort out confusion about police actions. He said there was a need for a commission to be able to analyze controversial issues like the tree-cutting protest, as the city council was able to do — and vindicate the police.

However, Councilwoman Nancy Nathanson felt voters would experience déjà-vu unless the differences between the commission the council wanted to create and the failed 20-99 citizen review board measure were not made clear. City measure 20-99 failed by less than 1 percent of the vote on Nov. 3.

"What I'm concerned about right now is

Turn to **COMMISSION**, Page 4

Panel discusses race on campus

By Kristina Rudinskas
Oregon Daily Emerald

Affirmative Action, racial discrimination, faculty and student recruitment and retention were all issues of concern at the first town hall meeting called "Campus Climate on Race: A Dialogue Between Students and Faculty" in 100 Willamette, Wednesday night.

The panel discussion and open dialogue afterward featured presentations from faculty of color, students and an administrator.

"I want to address some of the issues that center around race and counteract some of the things that divide us instead of bringing us together," said Robin Morris Collin, the only tenured black female law

professor at the University.

We ought to mourn every single day the loss of creativity and beauty more diversity could bring to this campus, she said.

She challenged the 75 people in the audience to engage in an honest self-assessment of racism.

Morris Collin pointed out women's groups have failed to advocate strongly for affirmative action when they have been the primary benefactors.

"White, non-minority women need to work on their issues of racism," Collin said. "What it is and what it is about."

Glen Banfield, a law student, viewed the progress of the recommendations made by the Task Force for Racial Diversity. The

task force formed in 1996 to address issues of race and diversity at the University and make recommendations for changes. After two years of work, Banfield said he felt the administration had not done enough.

"We came forth with some serious solutions and as a result got some minimal results," Banfield said.

He said the Multicultural Center was expanded an extra 400 square feet and an assistant dean of student life, Troy Franklin, was hired to help with the MCC and ethnic student unions.

"It is really just a beginning, a small dent in the work we thought this University had to do," Banfield said.

Turn to **PANEL**, Page 3

Community task force searches for alternatives to prevent riots

The group, composed of the police, University administrators and the ASUO, considered possible solutions to avoid future conflicts between students and police

By Felicity Ayles
Oregon Daily Emerald

Next year, Oct. 31 marks not only Halloween weekend but Homecoming and Parent's weekend. With all this happening, can the University expect another riot-repeat?

The Campus Community Relations Task Force is meeting already to think of solutions and plan activities for students before next fall and Halloween roll around.

The task force, composed of members of the University administration, the Eugene Police Department and the ASUO, met Wednesday evening to brainstorm about possible solutions to avoid another Halloween riot.

The meeting began with praise to the Office of Student Life for the many programs it planned for this year's Halloween, and mentioned the national teleconference addressing the riot problem at campuses around the country.

The University already has a lot of the programs suggested at the teleconference, Byron McCrae, assistant dean of student life,

said. "That's encouraging. It means we're on the right track."

Eugene Police Captain Roy Brown said prevention is the key to avoiding future riots. Brown said there was not one person to blame for the events on Halloween, but he chastised the media's coverage.

Either the police or students are usually blamed for this kind of riot, he said. "There is not balanced reporting for these kinds of events."

McCrae seconded Brown's suggestion and said the media should cover not only the bad events on campus, but also the positive events designed toward prevention.

ASUO outreach associate Tifani Jagodnik said one possible solution would be to hold a large main event, bigger than the events held this Halloween. Jagodnik suggested a concert at either McArthur Court or the Moshofsky Center.

A concert on campus would stop people from having parties and get them off the street, Jagodnik said.

But Sandy Walton, senior associate athlet-

ic director, said planning for such an event would be difficult.

"The Moshofsky Center will not be available," Watson said. "Mac Court would be the better choice."

A major concert would take down McArthur Court for at least two days, she said. That is not fair to teams in season that are trying to practice.

"Anything can be done, but there is a cost," Watson said.

Jagodnik said she still believes more programming is the key to riot prevention. "With more programming, there will be less people on the street," she said.

"This is a campus problem because students were involved, but it's a community problem too. With some intervention we can help it," Jagodnik said.

As far as intervention goes, Roy Brown said he thinks the Eugene Police Department has done an outstanding job with early intervention. He said the alcohol-free activities offered

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"This is a campus problem because students were involved, but it's a community problem too."

Tifani Jagodnik
ASUO outreach associate