

Oregon Daily Emerald

An independent newspaper



Saving the day

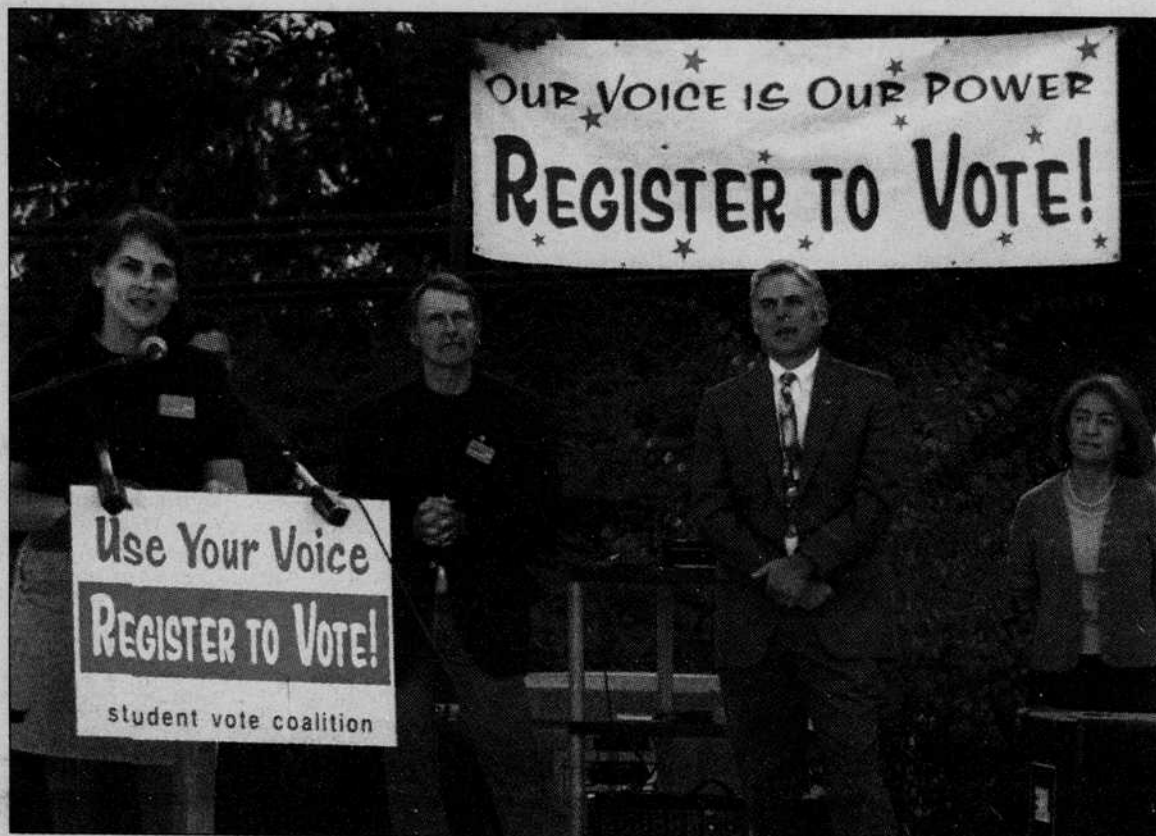
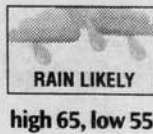
Sarah Peters and Jeanine Norstad have stepped up and given UO a dual threat at goal. **PAGE 11A**

The search for meaning

40 Jewish students learned about their heritage and their faith on a 10-day trip to Israel. **PAGE 4A**

SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON

WEATHER
TODAY



(From left to right) Rep. Vicki Walker, Gov. John Kitzhaber, Administrator Dave Hubin, and State Sen. Susan Castillo. The officials took turns addressing a crowd of about 60 in the EMU amphitheater Wednesday as part of a "get out and vote" aimed at college students.

Politicians urge students to vote

Gov. Kitzhaber and several state officials visited campus Wednesday to stress the importance of students making their voices heard in the upcoming election

By Eric Martin
For the Emerald
His speech lasted no more than five minutes, but the "get out and vote" message Gov. John Kitzhaber imparted to a crowd of about 60 students, faculty and administrators in the EMU amphitheater Wednesday morning could resonate for years to come.
"Each of you has the opportunity to weigh in on issues this year that are important to students," Kitzhaber said as he opened his speech. "Don't give your political power to someone else."
Kitzhaber said it is especially important for students to exercise their electoral voice during this election year, which is rife with ballot measures that will directly affect students — such as Measures 8, 88, 91 and

93. Issues on the table for this election year include affordable student health care and how higher education will be funded for years to come.
Though he said "this is not the forum" to share his vehement personal opinions on those measures, he encouraged students to study them carefully and make informed decisions at the polls.
"Definite power rests with student voters," Kitzhaber said. "Use it."
State Sen. Susan Castillo (D-Lane County), who spoke after Kitzhaber, echoed the sentiment, saying, "Voting is the heart of our democracy. It belongs to all of us."
She said many students feel the Legislature overlooks their needs, while accommodating the public policy wishes of

seniors. This is because a much higher percentage of seniors vote, she said. In fact, in the 1996 presidential elections, 67 percent of eligible seniors voted, while only 32.4 percent of eligible students voted, according to a US Census Bureau report. Castillo also spoke of
"Definite power rests with student voters. Use it."
John Kitzhaber
Oregon Governor
her colleague, state Senate Minority Leader Kate Brown (D-Portland), who was elected to the Oregon Legislature in 1996 by a mere seven votes.
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OCA's measure divides Oregon

Measure 9, which would prevent schools from condoning homosexuality, is generating debate



By Darren Freeman
Oregon Daily Emerald

Both supporters and opponents of state Ballot Measure 9, which would bar schools from encouraging or sanctioning homosexuality, are casting worst-case scenarios about the outcome of the Nov. 7 general election.
José Solano, a Portland high school teacher who supports Measure 9, worries that if the measure fails, schools will continue encouraging acceptance of homosexuality and ignore the possibility that gay students could change and become heterosexual through counseling or spiritual guidance.
"We have students who are swearing that they're born that way, that they can't change, that we can't help them," Solano said. "They'll believe it, they won't want to change and they'll face the health hazards of the gay lifestyle."
Opponents of the measure, however, counter that its passage would brand non-heterosexual students as targets and could lead to higher rates of depression and teen suicide.

University senior Gabrielle Hendel, co-director of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual Alliance, declined to give an opinion of the measure but recalled how it felt to attend a school she said was unsupportive of non-heterosexual students.
"I didn't come out during high school because I felt so isolated — I went to a strict Catholic high school," she said. "There was one outwardly gay man, and he was completely ostracized by the students, teachers, faculty and the board. I didn't want to go through what he went through. Had there been some support, it would have been easier."

OCA BACK IN BUSINESS

Not since 1994, when the Oregon Citizens Alliance last placed an initiative on the ballot, has Oregon's political scene been the battleground for gay rights. After years of lacking funding, the OCA is back in the fray, and the organization's supporters are expecting
Turn to **Measure 9**, page 6A

There was one outwardly gay man [at my high school], and he was completely ostracized by the students, teachers, faculty, and the board. I didn't want to go through what he went through.
Gabrielle Hendel
co-director
LGBTA

Senators will decide fund transfers on case-by-case basis

In their first official meeting of the new year, the ASUO Student Senate grandfathered the issues of group allocations

By Emily Gust
Oregon Daily Emerald
The ASUO Student Senate kicked off the new year Wednesday night by resolving an issue left over from the summer: Whether to allow student groups to transfer money from leadership to work study accounts so that eligible employees may benefit from the federal work study program.
In the end, the Senate decided to "grandfather" the issue, thus taking each request on a case-by-case basis while determining specific details and stipulations.

Stemming from a special request made by the ASUO Women's Center at last week's meeting, the issue of transferring money from leadership to work study remained the focal point for much of the meeting. Last week, the Women's Center's asked that funds from its leadership account, which contains payments for stipend positions, be transferred to its work study account. Doing this, one of the center's student employees would be able to take advantage of the work study program for which she is eligible.
Transfers generally are not a problem, Sen.

Peter Watts explained. However, he said, "with this one it's a little bit different."
The difference rested upon two main hitches.
The first dealt with the amount of money a student with work study receives as opposed to the amount received by one paid with a stipend. Through work study, the federal government is able to give qualifying students more money on top of what they are paid through the organization, depending on their need. This, Watts said, could theoretically re-
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