

An independent newspaper Oregon Daily Emerald



Giant slayers

The Ducks kept their March Madness hopes alive by beating Pac-10 leader Arizona State. **PAGE 9**

Discover Africa

The 'Engaging Africa' symposium began Thursday with a talk by anthropologist Alma Gottlieb. **PAGE 6**

WEATHER
TODAY



high 50, low 35

SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON

After board decision, it's Brooklyn and Bailey



Executive candidate Eric Bailey and his friend Curtis Buell read the primary election vote tally posted on the ASUO office door. Bailey advanced after the elections board disqualified candidates Bret Jacobson and Matt Cook.

■ Despite the extended voting period of this year's ASUO primary election, voter turnout was lower than in recent years

By Beata Mostafavi
Oregon Daily Emerald

Almost two hours after the voting deadline passed Thursday, the ASUO Elections Board finally unlocked the office doors to a mob of anxious people waiting outside and posted election results, which revealed Nilda Brooklyn and Joy Nair will battle Eric Bailey and Jeff Oliver in next week's general election.

Although this year's primary election period was extended to four days to help increase voter turnout, only 9 percent of the student body voted, even less than the 10- to 15-percent marks of previous years.

But the results and lower voter turnout weren't the only significant outcomes of the night.

The elections board also revealed its decision to disqualify candidates Bret Jacobson and Matt Cook, although the pair technically placed second, beating Bailey and Oliver by more than 100 votes. The board decided to remove Ja-

Turn to Elections, page 6

INSIDE:

Bret Jacobson reacts to his disqualification, and the candidates discuss campaign plans for next week's general election. **Page 7**

Options exist for renters seeking information, aid

Struggling tenants can seek guidance from ASUO Legal Services, and a housing code may be forthcoming

By Aaron K. Breniman
Oregon Daily Emerald

As one candidate for ASUO Executive said during last week's debate: "Housing is good, because without housing, students wouldn't have a home."

But just having a home is not nearly enough. The condition of housing in Eugene often fails to make the grade, and many landlords resist performing basic maintenance and repairs. Some people believe that a housing code would provide a financial incentive for landlords to properly maintain their rentals, while oth-

ers believe that a code would only raise the already excessive rent prices and drive out private ownership of rentals.

Sometimes the frustration and excitement can be too much to handle, causing students to settle for rundown and poorly maintained property.

Heaters that don't work, bad plumbing, leaking roofs and poor insulation are all common complaints of tenants in Eugene. Tenants sometimes think there is nowhere they can turn to get help, but there are options available.

This year's ASUO Executive candi-

dates have addressed the issue of renters' rights. Some candidates feel the implementation of a housing code should be on the horizon, while others feel that the responsibility lies with the City Council, not students.

ASUO Executive tickets Nilda Brooklyn and Joy Nair, and Eric Bailey and Jeff Oliver believe that a housing code will soon be implemented. On the other hand, candidate Bret Jacobson and running mate Matt Cook are against such a code. Candidates Eric Qualheim, Shokeda and Brad Schatzel haven't taken a

position on the issue.

Bailey and Oliver both served in the Residence Hall Association and have made renters' rights one of the main issues of their platform. Oliver is currently the ASUO housing advocate.

"The student voice needs to be heard to have an effective code," Bailey said. "A code of substance that can benefit the students." Bailey said that he and Oliver advocate a housing code, but their potential staff would look into the feasibility of price controls.

Turn to Renters' rights, page 6

Northwest region digs out, grateful but not unscathed

INSIDE:

The quake didn't rock President Dave Frohnmayer's plan to meet prospective students. **PAGE 5**

By Gene Johnson
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — The Northwest lucked out, surviving the region's strongest earthquake in a half-century with limited injuries and no permanent scars. But damage estimates hit \$2 billion Thursday as experts examined buildings, bridges, dams and roads.

Washington Gov. Gary Locke praised the "can-do spirit we've seen all over the state."

"Now it's important we get back to normal," he said at a Thursday news conference in the state capital of Olympia, just 11 miles from the epicenter of Wednesday's 6.8-magnitude earthquake.

The state Emergency Management Division tallied 272 injuries directly linked to the quake, but most were minor and none were critical.

The earthquake was centered about 35 miles southwest of Seattle and 33 miles underground. The depth helped ease the impact, as the Earth's crust ab-

sorbed much of the shock, scientists said.

"The biggest news is there is no news. There aren't any fatalities ... The damage, while serious, is not anything like what people would have expected," Seattle Mayor Paul Schell said at a Thursday news conference.

Two minor aftershocks were recorded early Thursday at the same location — a magnitude-3.4 quake at 1:10 a.m. PST and a magnitude-2.7 at 6:23 a.m., said University of Washington seismologist Bob Norris.

Neither was widely felt and no additional damage was reported.

Federal Emergency Management Agency Director Joe Allbaugh joined members of Washington's congressional delegation in checking out quake damage throughout the region.

Roads and bridges also were being double-checked. The Alaskan Way Viaduct, which carries U.S. 99 through downtown Seattle, remained closed for

Turn to Seattle quake, page 5



R. Ashley Smith for the Emerald

An ABC radio reporter discusses the damage to the Fenix bar with construction worker Ed Billings. On Wednesday morning, a magnitude-6.8 earthquake caused considerable damage to older buildings in Seattle.