

# An independent newspaper Oregon Daily Emerald



## Dancing once again

The women's hoops team faces a tough field in its eighth straight NCAA tourney. **Inside**

## Mixed results

While men's tennis took care of business at home, the women had a tough time up north. **PAGE 5A**

## WEATHER TODAY



**MOSTLY CLOUDY**  
high 55, low 30

SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON

## Finding pills for the 'morning after'

### Organizations that will prescribe emergency contraceptives

#### In Eugene:

University of Oregon Student Health Center (services restricted to students)

Virginia A. Oram, N.D.

Women's Care Fertility Center: Jeannie Merrick, R.N., N.P.

Lane County Public Health Family Planning

Pacific Women's Center LLC

All Women's Health Services

Women's Care

Planned Parenthood

Lane Community College: K. Mona Arbuckle, F.N.P. and Dr. John Schlessinger (services restricted to students)

#### In Springfield:

Center for Women's Health (services restricted to established clients)

plan B™  
(LEVONORGESTREL)

■ Emergency contraceptives are controversial, and some stores and hospitals refuse to carry them

By Lindsay Buchele

Oregon Daily Emerald  
Though emergency contraceptive pills have been around since the 1970s, they are still not available over the counter in the United States, and in Eugene, they can be difficult to obtain.

Wal-Mart, for example, will not carry a certain brand of emergency contraceptive, and Sacred Heart

Medical Center will only give emergency contraceptives to rape and incest victims who visit the emergency room.

Often known as the "morning-after pill," these drugs are still not accepted by anti-abortion groups, which say the drugs are aborting a fetus. That claim is debated by some health-care providers and pro-choice advocates, who say these drugs actually prevent abortions.

Emergency contraceptives have not been approved to be sold over the counter yet and are only available through a prescription. Though women can now obtain emergency

contraceptives even before they have engaged in unprotected sexual intercourse, there are some situations where the drugs cannot be obtained for cases other than rape or incest.

Organizations such as Planned Parenthood continue to work toward making the pills available to the masses, while other groups, such as Right to Life, continue to fight it.

At the center of the decades-long controversy are two issues: whether all pharmacies and hospitals should have to fill the prescriptions for emergency contraceptives, and whether taking an emergency contra-

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## Professors say ASUO election lacks interest

■ Voting via Duck Web may also have contributed to low voter turnout in the primary

By Hank Hager  
Oregon Daily Emerald

This year's ASUO elections, marred by grievances and low voter turnout, are nothing new, many political science professors say, blaming a lack of student interest and not enough time.

"Students are too distracted by being students," said Jerry Medler, an associate professor of political science.

He said students usually vote less than the general population, and this year's ASUO election is no different than in years past.

This year's election was geared to get students voting, with an expanded four-day primary instead of the usual one-day primary. But this year's voter turnout indicates many students failed to notice the change, as roughly only 9 percent voted during the four-day span.

Mikhail Myagkov, an associate professor of political science, said he has never seen an election run this way before, with so many days to vote.

He said he would expect voter turnout to increase when the amount of time students had to vote expanded, and was surprised to hear the percentage was so low.

This year's voting also took place exclusively on Duck Web, the online resource for students that is normally used for class registration and transcript orders.

Max Brown, a political science graduate teaching fellow, said the voting follows the nationwide trend. He said he has not followed the ASUO election as well as he should. But, he said, the

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“Voters don't think the issues are important to them.”

Mikhail Myagkov  
associate professor,  
political science

## University hopes sunlight can brighten energy outlook

The Solar Energy Center is planning installation of photovoltaics to reduce dependence on traditional power sources

By Hank Hager  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Posters and banners have started to dot the EMU Amphitheater informing students and faculty of the need to conserve and create energy. In response, the University has begun to look into alternative forms of energy to help alleviate the power crunch on the West Coast.

Frank Vignola, director of the Solar Energy Center, helps monitor the solar resources on campus. He said the campus is researching solar energy as one form of alternative energy.

Photovoltaics, which take the

sun's light and convert it into energy, are tentatively planned to be placed on the roof and southwest side of Gilbert Hall.

Vignola said many people do not realize that two-thirds of the state receives as much solar radiation as the state of Florida. But "it's really hard to make use of solar energy unless the building is made for it," he said.

He added that the University should look into what solar heating can do to lower the costs of heating Leighton Pool, located in the Student Recreation Center.

Steve Still, an energy management specialist for the Eugene

Water and Electric Board, said EWEB has been working closely with architects to plan the possible installation of the new technology. He said nine-kilowatt photovoltaic cells would be placed on the southwest corner of Gilbert Hall, while 15-kilowatt photovoltaics would be on the roof of the building. But the main issue, he said, is money.

"The only way it would happen is if we could get some sort of funding," he said.

George Hecht, the campus operations director for Facilities Services, said the University has been using a co-generation plant since the 1930s to get some of its

energy. The plant generates steam and electricity, which improves efficiency, he said.

"Efficiency will go up to 75 or 80 percent because you are doubling the use," he said.

He said steam is an important source of energy on the campus. The steam is run through an electric turbine and represents one-third of the campus energy use. This does have a drawback, he said — during the winter months, steam efficiency is high, but during the summer, the efficiency drops. Hecht said when the energy system was built, the Universi-

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“It's really hard to make use of solar energy unless the building is made for it.”

Frank Vignola  
director,  
Solar Energy Center