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Executive tickets gear up for general election

■ Pilliod and Buzbee say they'll be up to the challenge of changing how ASUO is perceived, if elected

By Diane Huber
Oregon Daily Emerald

Between campaigning, helping at the international student orientation, practicing Swedish and working at an ear,

nose and throat clinic, ASUO presidential candidate Rachel Pilliod somehow finds time to volunteer in the emergency room at Sacred Heart Medical Center on Saturday nights.

In fact, if there's one weakness Pilliod has, it is trying to take on too much, her roommate Megan Hughes said.

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■ Ritchie and Babkes say they hope to spice up ASUO a bit with personality and leadership

By Kara Cogswell
Oregon Daily Emerald

Friends since their days together at Eugene's Roosevelt Middle School, ASUO executive candidates Sean

Ritchie and Jason Babkes said the values that have kept them close to their families and high school friends will translate to loyalty to the student body if they are elected.

"We're very loyal to our family, very loyal to our friends, to all our relationships," said Ritchie, who is running for

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Juggling Act

Student parents face difficulties balancing school schedules with their kids' childcare requirements

By Katie Ellis
Oregon Daily Emerald

Renee Brobst, like many University nontraditional students, struggles to balance the demands of being a student with the demands of being a parent. A mother of three, Brobst depends on a University Child Care and Development Center program to look after her children while she attends school and her husband works.

The University's proposal to offer tuition discounts for students who take classes later in the day is appealing to many on campus, but for nontraditional students like Brobst, the proposed tuition model is a double-edged sword.

In order to enroll in the later classes, many student-parents would need extended hours at one of CCDC's seven programs for toddlers, pre-schoolers, kindergartners and first graders. "It's a great idea in theory, but it does raise concern as far as child care," Brobst said. "I don't know if the University is going to accommodate my needs as far as child care goes."

Brobst, an education major, has

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Adam Amato Emerald

University student and mother of three Renee Brobst corrals her kids, Ryan (front), Jason (held) and Haley (not pictured), on their way out of the Westmoreland toddler program.

EPD says trespassers weren't charged with attempted rape

■ The female resident of Spiller Hall said she did not feel threatened by the unwanted sexual advances

By Marty Toohey
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Eugene Police Department said that two men who entered a University woman's residence hall room and made unwanted sexual advances during the weekend are not being charged with attempted rape.

Officers arrested two men who are not University students in Spiller Hall early Saturday morning after one entered a female student's room and made unwelcome sexual advances.

Eugene police arrested 18-year-old Micah Angelo Murphy, of Salem, and 18-year-old Jaray Tyrone Ceasar, of Keizer, who were accompanied by two other men.

Law enforcement officials stressed the incident was not an attempted rape and the student was not threatened.

Eugene police arrested Murphy and Ceasar at about 3 a.m. and charged them with criminal trespassing, interfering with police and disorderly conduct. EPD spokeswoman Pam Alejandre said.

Police also charged Murphy with sexual abuse and indecent exposure. Earlier in the evening, he had knocked on the door of the female resident, who said he could come in. Murphy asked whether a different student than the resident lived in the room, talked with the resident and began making sexual advances. He soon forced himself on her, but she eventually persuaded him to leave the room, locking the door as he left.

The student was not fearful Murphy would rape her, Alejandre said. Shortly after Murphy left the room, another student complained of the four people's noise and called the University's Department of Public Safety. Officers arrived and detained the four, citing them for trespassing, DPS associate director Tom Hicks said.

A student then told DPS of a possible rape attempt, which forced DPS to call EPD. Eugene police soon arrived, arresting Murphy and Ceasar after they refused to answer questions, belittled officers and said police actions were racially motivated.

The pair were extremely agitated, Alejandre said. Murphy kicked out the rear window of a police cruiser, resulting in minor cuts and bruises for one officer. DPS cited the two men with Murphy and Ceasar for trespassing. One of them also received a citation for minor in possession of alcohol, Hicks said.

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State Board member from SOU has found a place in government

TUESDAY

Tim Young, University student and State Board member, was profiled.

TODAY

Erin Watari, Southern Oregon University and State Board member, is profiled.

■ Erin Watari, a student member of the higher education board, shows a passion for her job

By Eric Martin
Oregon Daily Emerald

Erin Watari is becoming a political force as she approaches the halfway mark of her term as a student member of the State Board of Higher Education, the governing body for the seven public universities in the Oregon University System.

But many students wouldn't know it if they met her at a party. The easy-going 21-year-old might mention the time she and her best friend, Whitney Wong, hit The Big Easy for a night of revelry during Mardi Gras. Or about the time she and Wong packed skis into her 1984 Honda Civic and headed to Colorado for some champagne powder on the slopes of Breckenridge and Aspen.

But once the Southern Oregon University political science senior starts talking politics, there's no question she's not a typical college student. Four

years in student government have left their mark.

"Erin makes issues relevant to students," said Sidney Simas, who worked with Watari for three years in SOU student government and now is spokeswoman for the Associated Students of SOU. "She can turn an issue into something you feel passionate about. She makes students care."

As vice president for ASSOU, Watari helped fuel an effort to register a record number of student voters and beseech them to vote in the 2000 election. She

marched in Washington, D.C., with 300 other student leaders to lobby lawmakers for legislation that would eradicate racial profiling by police. It was a professional and personal vindication for Watari because the racial profiling issue became especially dear to her heart while she was a freshman at Gresham High School.

The Gresham, Ore., native said police officers detained her and a group of her friends who met at Jefferson

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