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Nun's talk concludes conference

■ Sister Helen Prejean's speech closes a death penalty conference that detractors say was biased

By Katie Ellis and Leon Tovey
Oregon Daily Emerald

After walking out of a Louisiana prison following the execution of Patrick Sonnier in April 1984, Sister Helen Prejean realized that if people really knew what executions were like they would reject the death penalty. So she made it her mission to tell that story.

Prejean, author of "Dead Man Walking," was one of two closing speakers at the "Law and Politics of the Death Penalty: Abolition, Moratorium or Reform" conference.

The conference, which started Friday, was sponsored by the Wayne Morse Center for Law and Politics at the University law school, and featured 35 capital punishment experts, including Illinois Gov. George Ryan, and former Oregon Sen. and Gov. Mark Hatfield. The conference offered 13 sessions that ranged from discussions on race, gender and capital punishment to international perspectives on the death penalty.

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Oregon OKs liquor sales on Sundays

■ Store owners doubt that an additional day of business will bring in enough increased revenue to justify added operating costs

By Marty Toohey
Oregon Daily Emerald

A soon-to-pass law will let liquor stores stay open on Sundays, but a survey suggests most stores are choosing not to mix Sunday spirit with Sunday spirits.

An informal poll conducted by the Oregon Liquor License Commission

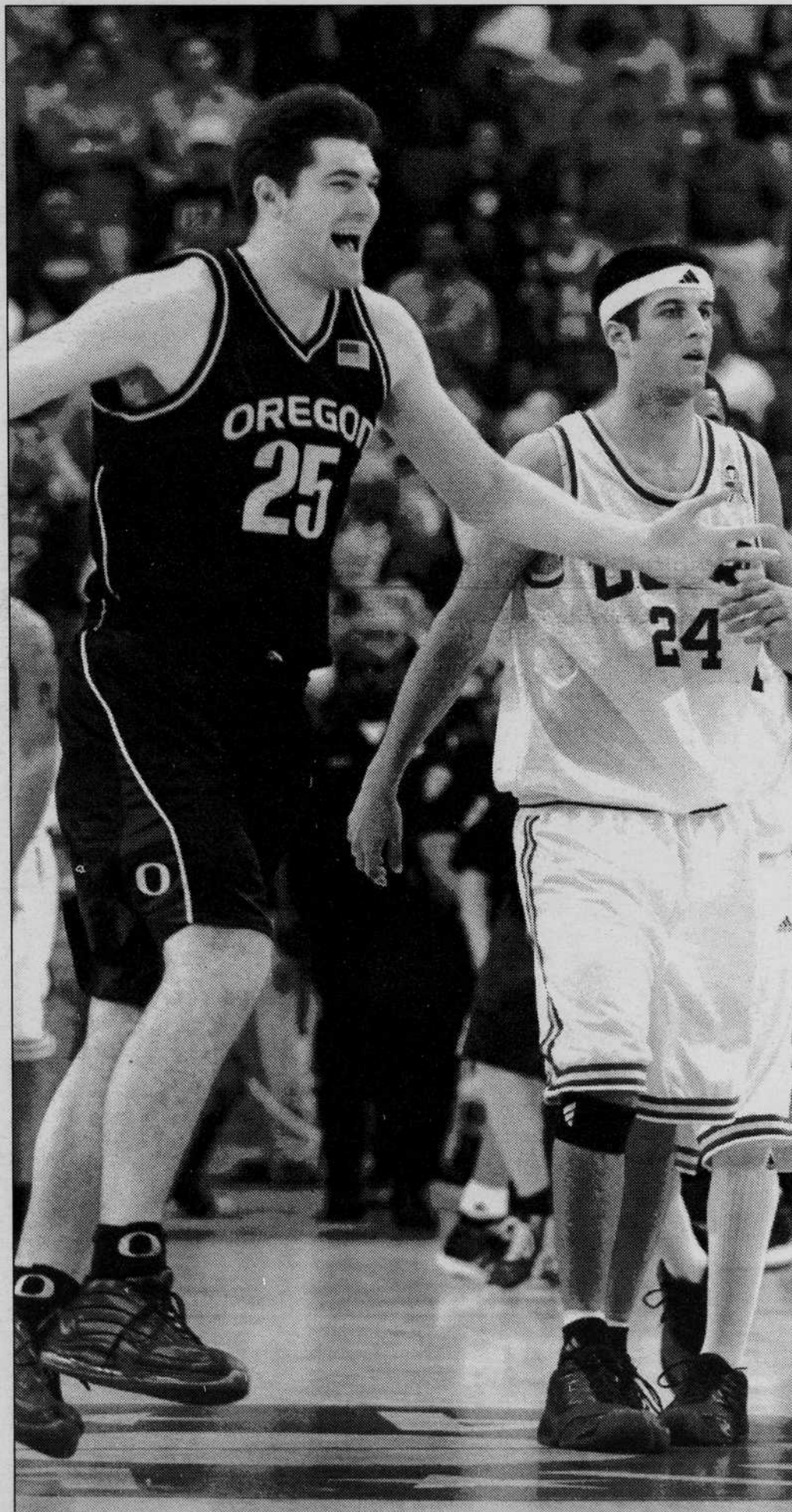
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State legislators finish up the second special budget session — with less cuts to Oregon universities. **PAGE 3**

shows that store owners in urban areas, like those near the University, think customers will simply change the day they purchase alcohol instead of spending more money. Most

non-rural store owners said they will choose to stay closed on Sundays. Owners also indicated that potential profits won't overcome the costs of keeping the store open, OLCC spokesman Tom Erwin said.

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Beginning the dance



Courtesy of The Orange County Register (KRT)

It was a weekend to remember in Los Angeles for the Oregon men's basketball program, and it began a month that will end with the Ducks playing in the Big Dance. Oregon capped off its regular season Saturday with a 65-62 victory against UCLA that helped the Ducks celebrate their first outright Pac-10 championship since 1939. The Ducks had already won at least a share of the league title thanks to their 67-65 victory against the Trojans on Thursday. Senior center Chris Christoffersen (25) played well in both games, and the Ducks' defense helped limit players such as UCLA star Jason Kapono (24). After winning at UCLA's Pauley Pavilion for the first time since 1984, the Ducks flew to Portland and took a bus home to Eugene, where they were surprised by a late-night rally. For full coverage, turn to Page 7.

ASUO win comes via landslide

■ Rachel Pilliod and Ben Buzbee win the race for ASUO Executive, but voter turnout remains low

By Robin Weber
Oregon Daily Emerald

Months of work and hundreds of dollars invested paid off for the new ASUO Executive Rachel Pilliod and Ben Buzbee, who won the general election in a landslide victory Friday.

The duo captured 1,056 of the 1,659 ballots cast for executive, or 64 percent. Opponents Sean Ritchie and Jason Babkes received 603 votes, or 36 percent of the total.

"We couldn't be more excited," President-elect Pilliod said. "We're pleased by the margin we won by, and so excited and appreciative of all the voters," she said.

Pilliod also thanked the students who organized their campaign.

"It was hard work and grassroots organization," she said.

Buzbee said he plans to take a breather for a few days, then jump right into examining his fiscal responsibilities as vice president.

"I'm looking forward to presenting the ASUO in a good light and letting students know what ASUO does," he said.

Ritchie and Babkes outspent Pilliod and Buzbee more than two-fold. The second-place pair launched a KNRQ radio campaign earlier this week and ran a full-page advertisement in the Emerald during the primary.

Expenditure forms for the last week of the race will be available Monday.

But Ritchie defended his and Babkes' campaigning, blaming their "outsider" position and student apathy for their loss.

"We wouldn't have run our campaign any differently," he said. "Students are bombarded for three weeks with elections. It turns them off to voting and is hard to combat."

He added that they were playing catchup from the beginning against a ticket that had previous experience in student government.

"We were at a disadvantage from the start with not being in ASUO, and it was just a little too much to compete with," he said.

Turnout hit 10.5 percent this year, down from last week's primary election peak of 15.3 percent and far off the ASUO Elections Board's goal of 20 percent.

Current ASUO President Nilda Brooklyn and Vice President Joy Nair won last year's election with 9 percent voter turnout.

ASUO Elections Coordinator Courtney Hight blamed the drop this year

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