



UO vote could test war opinion, senate power

Some faculty members are pushing for the University Senate to vote on a resolution opposing war in Iraq

Brook Reinhard
News Editor

Professors at the University stand poised to vote Wednesday on a resolution condemning the U.S. government's steady march toward war in Iraq if the University Senate decides it can even discuss the issue.

If passed, the non-binding resolution proposed by biology Professor Emeritus Frank Stahl opposing aggression in Iraq would be the senate's first official stance on war since May 6, 1970, when the Faculty Senate voted to condemn the Vietnam War. A resolution would also position the senate as the first governing body at any U.S. college to take a stand against war efforts, according to a newspaper database search.

The issue will be discussed at the senate's 3 p.m. meeting in the EMU Fir Room only if the

group decides the resolution is relevant to the University or its interests. University President Dave Frohnmayer, who was unavailable for comment this week, wrote in an e-mail to Stahl that he doesn't think the senate should take a stance on the issue.

"It is not the place of this University to be captured by any one political voice; instead, this University should be the place of open exploration," he said of Stahl's proposed resolution.

Stahl said whether or not the senate consid-

ers the resolution will clearly show if the group has any real power.

"At the very least, it should be an educational exercise — and it may set a precedent that limits the power of the (University) Senate," he said.

Senate President Greg McLauchlan said while he would not predict an outcome of the Wednesday meeting, some members have indicated that they don't feel a vote on this issue

Turn to **Faculty**, page 8

Caution: children at play



The national Public Interest Research Group warns parents and consumers to beware of toys sold in stores that may be dangerous for young children.
Adam Amato Emerald

Protecting the future

Watchdogs and local merchants alike are concerned about the perennial troubles of toy safety

Jody Burruss

Environment/Science/Technology Reporter

As the holiday season approaches, many shoppers will buy children's toys as gifts. The national Public In-

terest Research Group's 17th annual Trouble in Toyland report, however, again warns consumers of hazardous toys that are being sold in stores despite safety laws.

PIRG, the national parent organization of the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group, has published yearly reports, resulting in

more than 100 recalls. Locally, OS-PIRG is bolstering the campaign by helping to raise public awareness.

The report focuses on toys that may cause hearing loss or choking and toys that contain phthalates, chemicals in some plastics that cause health problems. The report

Turn to **Toys**, page 8

'Adversarial' radio hosts draw critics, supporters

Right-leaning talk radio hosts draw criticism from many, but their defenders say radio is the only real media outlet for conservatives

Jennifer Bear

Campus/City Culture Reporter

The broadcasting of Michael Savage and Michael Medved's shows on KUGN-AM has rankled several University groups over the past few weeks, but the two hosts are only a small part of the swarm of right-leaning, adversarial air jockeys who dominate national talk radio, broadcasting experts say.

The top five talk radio hosts in the nation are right-of-center and well-known for their controversial shows. According to TALKERS, a trade publication for the talk radio industry, Rush Limbaugh ranks first, followed by Sean Hannity, with Dr. Laura Schlessinger and Howard Stern tied for third. In fifth place is Michael Savage.

"There's definitely a tilt toward conservatives in talk radio," said John Dinges, director of radio at the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University.

Al Stavitsky, associate dean of the School of Journalism and Communication at the University, said the right-leaning slant isn't new.

"This is the way talk radio has been since it took hold," Stavitsky said. "It's a fairly conservative industry overall."

He added that talk radio encourages hosts to be outrageous and adversarial in order to focus attention on themselves and reach national syndication.

"Calm, collected discourse is less likely to attract big ratings in commercial radio," Stavitsky said.

There was a time, however, when radio stations were required to give equal time and attention to controversial matters from different political viewpoints. The Federal Communications Commission used the Fairness Doctrine to ensure that broadcasters fulfilled their obligations to serve

Turn to **Radio**, page 12

ASUO shifts voting focus to Measure 28

ASUO's Get Out the Vote campaign is set to inform students about a new education funding measure

Jan Montry

Campus/Federal Politics Reporter

After running a successful voter registration campaign for the November elections, the ASUO continues its program to educate students about political issues. In the Jan. 28 special election, voters will decide the fate of Measure 28 — an income tax increase — that was referred from the Oregon Legislature's summer sessions.

ASUO officials plan to meet this week to discuss the continuation of their Get Out the Vote campaign and decide how to best educate students about both sides of the issue.

"We really want to let students know how the measure will affect them," said Adam Petkun, the ASUO state affairs coordinator. "No matter what the outcome, this is an opportunity for (students) at the statewide level to show we care about tuition."

ASUO Legislative Associate Stefan Myers concurred.

"Whether we vote yes or

whether we vote no, it's terribly important that students turn out for the election," Myers said

Both Petkun and Myers, who have been leading the ASUO's Get Out the Vote campaign this year, also stressed that high student turnout is vital for lobbying in Salem because legislators pay attention to student concerns when they see that students vote.

If passed, Measure 28 would increase income taxes for three years, generating a total of \$725 million through 2005.

Specifically, taxes for personal and joint filings would increase

one half of one percent, resulting in an increase of \$114 for the average personal income taxpayer in 2002. Corporate taxes would increase by 0.33 percent.

The Oregon Student Association estimates that students falling into the "\$10,000 or less" income bracket — most of whom work part time — would see "little to no" change in state income taxes.

If the measure fails, a tuition surcharge of \$10 per credit for winter and spring terms would be instituted to help abate the result-

Turn to **ASUO**, page 12

WEATHER

Today: High 50, Low 33
morning fog, partly sunny

Wednesday: High 47, Low 35
cloudy, chance of light rain

LOOKING AHEAD

Wednesday

Ducks react to postseason chaos while waiting for word on bowl

Thursday

ASUO works to secure a housing code for the city of Eugene