An independent newspaper

on Daily Emeral

Enjoy the break!

This is the last issue of winter term. The Emerald will resume publication March 31.

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SINCE 1900

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ASUO candidate finds her home vandalized

Presidential candidate Maddy Melton says her apartment may have been vandalized because of her sexual orientation and recent political activity

Brook Reinhard

An ASUO Executive candidate's room was ransacked sometime Thursday afternoon in a crime that may have been politically motivated.

Maddy Melton, a contender for ASUO president in the April primary election, returned to her apartment near 29th Avenue and Willamette Street at about 7 p.m. to find her room vandalized.

"Every drawer was dumped out and turned

over," she said, adding that pillows were ripped open and her clothing was scattered. "Just anything and everything was messed up.

Melton, who is an out lesbian and is currently an ASUO multicultural advocate, was co-director of the LGBTOA nearly nine months ago when one morning she unlocked the office to find that a hole had been punched in the wall and a poster was burned.

Melton said she believes Thursday's crime may have occurred because of her sexual orientation or because of her increased political activity.

"It could be both," she said. "It's a definite possibility.'

Turn to Candidate, page 9A

Precautions can make vacations go smoothly

Whether planning a road trip or traveling abroad, a few cautionary measures can protect one's well-being while away from home

Ayisha Yahya reelance Editor

With spring break in sight, thoughts on challenging projects and exams intermingle with sweet ruminations of the relief a vacation will bring. During the break, many students may travel. To make sure the break is not only fun but safe, there are a few tips to keep in mind.

Home and personal safety

Before students leave for paradise, they

must secure their homes, according to Department of Public Safety Associate Director Tom Hicks. Hicks said burglaries are likely in the dorms and off-campus if people ob-

serve the occupants are away for a long time. He said students should remove valuables like laptops from easily accessible areas.

Take a break at the beach PAGE 12A

INSIDE

"Close and lock all windows," he said.

"Don't leave any message on your phone indicating that you'll be away for a long time." Hicks said it's important for students to inform someone that they are going to be away.

Turn to Safety, page 14A

'No war' Thousands of people took to the streets in Eugene and

Portland on Saturday to express their feelings and show support for peace.

Page 3A



Bounce and kick

Giant trampolines and 'extreme' kicks, redefine traditional martial arts by allowing for aerial maneuvers

Page 7A



Champs The Ducks head to the

NCAA Tournament in Nashville after winning the Pac-10 **Tournament** title Saturday in Los Angeles Special section

