

Oregon Daily Emerald



A Duck's notes from New York City Page 13

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SINCE 1900 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON EUGENE, OREGON

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NEWS BRIEF

56 tickets register for 2004-05 ASUO spots

A total of 56 tickets are running for ASUO positions in the 2004-05 school year, leaving no empty races.

Seven different tickets are vying for the ASUO Executive president and vice president positions, making it the most highly contested race.

The total number of students running is down from last year's 90, but ASUO Elections Coordinator Stephanie Day said she is pleased with the number.

"We're excited that all the seats had been filled and there was a high level of interest, despite the bad timing," Day said. "Of course, over the next few days we'll have the resignation letters coming in."

The election office's goal is to have at least a 25 percent voter turnout, Day said, adding that the elections have never drawn more than 20 percent of students to the polls. Last year, 15.22 percent of students voted in the primary elections.

A candidate fair will be held April 12 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the lawn between Condon Hall and Chapman Hall. A debate for executive candidates will take place April 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the EMU Fir Room.

— Jared Paben

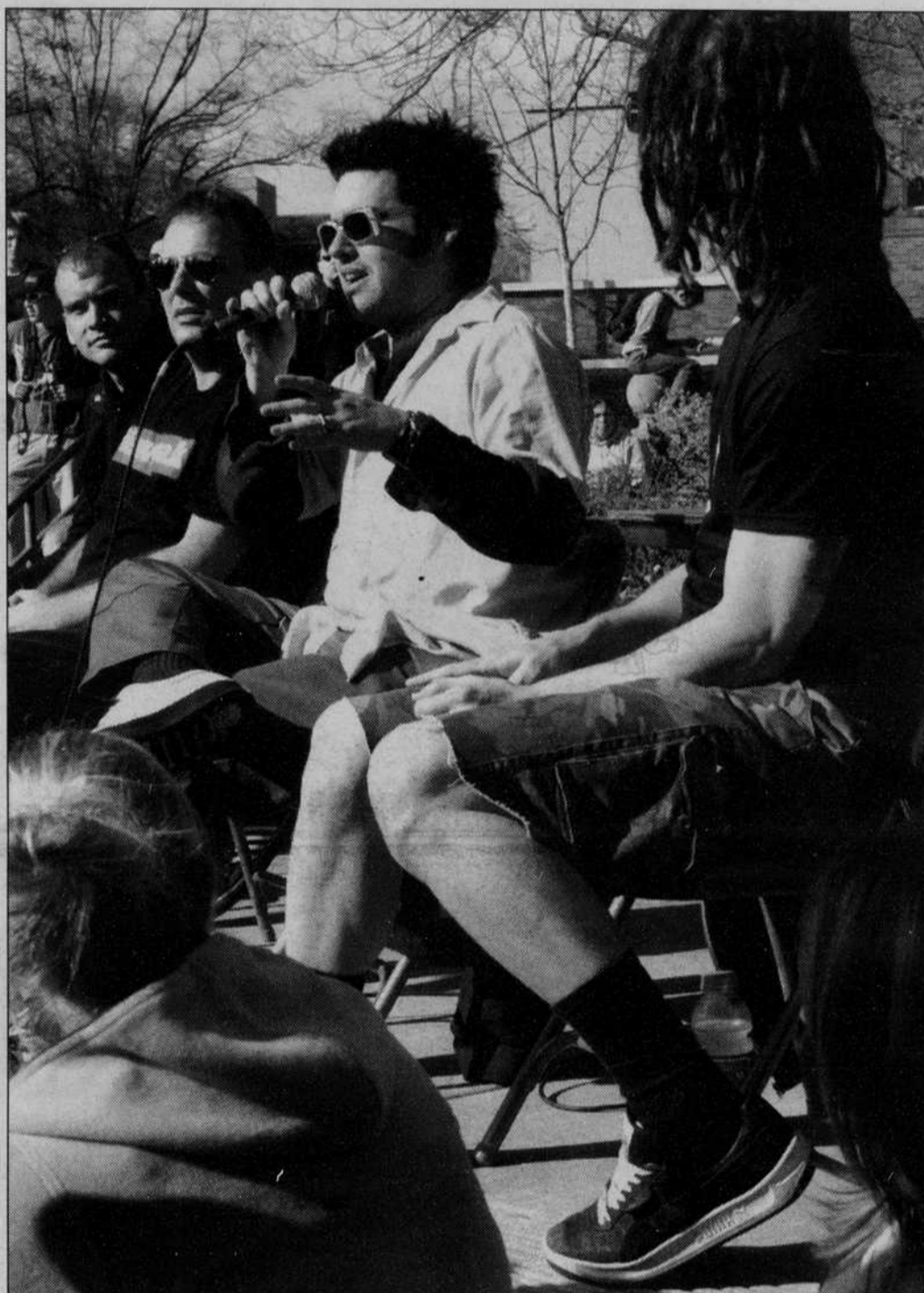
ASUO 2004-05 ELECTION CANDIDATES

The first name indicates the name that will appear on the ballot at the request of the candidate(s), and the name in parentheses indicates the full name as it appeared on the candidate application.

- President/Vice President
Adam Petkun/Mena Ravassipour
Ben and Diana (Ben Strawn/Diana Aguilar)
Adrian T. Gilmore
Nikia Gutman (Nathan Trotta)
Nicholas Popenuk/Joseph Giannetti
Tyler "The Crusher" Graf (Tyler Graf)
Ben Brown
- ASUO Programs Finance Senator, Seat 1
Kristen Clardy PSST
Eden Cortez PSST
- ASUO Programs Finance Senator, Seat 2
Khanh Le PSST
Koushi Sunder (Koushalah Sunder)

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PUNK THE VOTE



Danielle Hickey Photo Editor

NOFX member Fat Mike speaks to students in the EMU Amphitheatre Wednesday afternoon along with fellow band member Eric Melvin (right) and former Dead Kennedys member Jello Biafra (middle) and Alkaline Trio's Matt Skiba (left). The musicians were at the University to increase voter turnout among college students as part of the Punkvoter campaign. Punkvoter is a coalition of punk bands, labels and fans who oppose George W. Bush.

EWEB will raise rates to ensure reliability

EWEB customers will face a rate hike of about 4.6 percent for electricity and 5.6 percent for water, beginning this May

By Parker Howell
News Reporter

Eugene residents will see increases in their electric and water service bills starting in May after the Eugene Water and Electric Board's commissioners unanimously approved rate hikes March 16.

Electric bills will rise about 4.6 percent on average, but EWEB's 73,000 residential customers will experience a higher increase of 6.6 percent because they comprise the largest portion of the electric system, according to an EWEB press release. Other customers will see increases above or below the average.

A residential customer using about 1,000 kilowatt-hours a month will pay an additional \$4.41 per month after the rate hikes take effect, according to the statement.

The electric rate increases are expected to raise \$7 million in revenues to maintain and upgrade EWEB's network of power poles, wires and substations, along with the board's generating plants. Necessary maintenance and upgrades to the system were delayed after the 2001 energy crisis reduced operating budgets.

EWEB spokesman Lance Robertson said the maintenance is necessary to continue electric service reliability, adding that EWEB currently averages one outage every two years per customer. He indicated a lack of operating funds to maintain equipment has led to more problems.

"What we've been seeing over the last few years is a slight slippage in reliability," Robertson said.

Robertson said in a press release that

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Men's Center meetings cover health issues

The Men's Center aims to break down stereotypes and explore being a male

By Chelsea Duncan
Senior News Reporter

After nearly two years in operation, the University Men's Center is continuing to stress the importance of breaking down male stereotypes and challenging the "myths of masculinity."

Students have the opportunity

during weekly meetings to explore and discuss what it means to be male in what directors call a "safe place." From sex and relationships to stress and depression, the topics cover a variety of men's health aspects, Men's Center Director David Miller said.

"I think we're trying to raise awareness of the contextual nature of men's health," he said.

He explained that men learn through socialization, which often revolves around mainstream ideals of masculinity.

"There's a wide range of possibilities when it comes to being men," he said, adding that men should feel comfortable living "outside the masculine code."

Nontraditional Student Union Director Steven Burns said the discussions challenged stereotypes of men as insensitive and uncaring.

Miller said both men and women are encouraged to attend the weekly meetings Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the EMU's Nontraditional Student Union, beginning today in EMU 20.

"We really want to move away from the idea that there are men's issues and women's issues," he said.

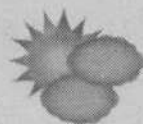
He said sexual assault, for example, is generally thought to be a "women's issue," but it affects men as well, which is why the center will hold its second annual "Men Against Sexual Assault" walk-a-thon April 28-29.

Jon Davies, a senior staff psychologist with the University Counseling and Testing Center, said the center

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Ralph Nader comes to Portland