

Today	Friday	Saturday
High: 53 Low: 41 Precip: 100%	High: 52 Low: 40 Precip: 90%	High: 53 Low: 40 Precip: 30%

IN BRIEF

Sponsors, Inc. to answer questions at area meeting

Representatives from Sponsors, Inc. will be at tonight's West University Neighbors meeting to answer questions about the program. Sponsors, Inc. is looking to buy a house in the West University neighborhood to provide a place where parolees and ex-convicts currently residing in the area can live together in a supervised environment.

The meeting is at 7 p.m. at the Central Presbyterian Church on the corner of East 15th Avenue and Patterson Street.

Eugene Police Chief Robert Lehner will discuss policing and crime-related issues in the neighborhood and answer questions for neighborhood residents at the meeting. West University Neighbors board member and University student Don Goldman has lambasted the police at past meetings for unfairly targeting college students and writing tickets without proper justification.

West University Neighbors Chair Drix Rixmann said Lehner will participate in a group discussion about how to throw safe parties in the neighborhood and how to party responsibly.

"I'm all for parties; it's just getting people to be aware that there's neighbors," Rixmann said.

There are two open spots on the group's board of directors, and Rixmann said members of the ASUO contacted him to express their interest in attending the meeting and seeking election to the board.

Rixmann said the ASUO representatives were not very friendly to him and left him feeling rather disheartened about the state of the University's student government.

"I just kept thinking, 'Man, what a shitty way to be,'" Rixmann said.

ASUO President Adam Petkun said he is not sure who spoke with Rixmann on the phone and said the ASUO has not decided which staff member will attend the meeting.

Rixmann said he has been bombarded with phone calls in the past month from people interested in talking with the neighborhood association, and he is excited about the responses.

"The bottom line is we have activity, and that's what we wanted," Rixmann said.

— Meghann M. Cuniff

House approves bill to adopt tax changes

SALEM — A bill to tie Oregon income taxes to recent changes in federal tax law won House approval Wednesday after Democrats failed to have two business tax breaks removed from it.

The Republican-run House passed the bill 37-23. The measure now goes to the Democrat-controlled Senate.

The Legislature regularly updates Oregon tax law to include most

federal changes in deductions and exemptions, which simplifies tax filing for the average Oregon tax payer by minimizing differences between state and federal tax forms.

The minority House Democrats argued that lawmakers shouldn't go along with two new corporate tax breaks that they said would reduce state revenue by an estimated \$27 million for the 2005-07 budget.

Their attempt to delete the breaks from the bill failed on a 33-27, party-line vote.

One of the breaks passed by Congress last year gives domestic manufacturers a tax deduction for part of their income from producing a wide variety of goods.

The other federal change gives a tax-free subsidy to employers who continue providing prescription coverage for workers after the new Medicare prescription drug plan takes effect next year.

Opponents of the breaks said they will enrich big companies but do little or nothing to help Oregon because they reduce tax revenue for education and other needs.

Rep. Larry Galizio, D-Tigard, said linking the state to federal tax breaks across-the-board "fully adopts the corporate subsidies purchased by high-powered lobbyists in Washington, D.C."

But supporters of the federal-state tax link said the tax breaks would help Oregon create jobs.

"This is about competitiveness," said Rep. Brian Boquist, R-Dallas. He said states that have adopted the federal changes would have an advantage over Oregon when competing for businesses.

— The Associated Press

ASUO: Candidates say stipends need review

Continued from page 1

attended a finance retreat two years ago when he was on the Athletic Department Finance Committee, adding that retreats will be "very beneficial."

"We will have a retreat with the ASUO Executive where president takes a hands-on role," he said.

Presidential candidate Anthony Caruso said the retreat will offer opportunities and a bonding experience.

"Once you have a well-bonded group of people, they feel more motivated to work together for a better cause," he said. "I feel like the retreat will be more well monitored this year, especially under the scope of the media eye; with transparency involving everyone and the media looking at us, it's not like it would happen again."

Vice presidential candidate Christopher Haak said student money should be spent on retreats, but they don't need to be held in Sunriver.

"It can be done there; it can be done here," he said. "Leadership can be done anywhere."

Vice presidential candidate David Goward said retreats are "extremely important" but proposed the retreat be held at a camp near Junction City, which would cost about one-third of the roughly \$3,200 of student money spent on this year's retreat.

Presidential candidate Adam Walsh said, "Instead of a retreat to Sunriver, our administration would have a bonding experience in the skylight of the EMU."

ASUO Student Senator Rona Yang asked the candidates why they hadn't attended controversial Programs Finance Committee meetings this year and what they would do to address the controversial pay model

formulated by the committee.

Daniels said the PFC "isn't working."

"The reason I haven't been at these meetings is that I don't feel welcomed, and that's why I'm running for this office," he said. "I tried to find information on the budget; I got the 2000-2001 budget. I have no idea what's going on because they won't let me, and the meetings are held up on the third floor in a dark room, and there's room for 17 senators and the vice president."

Hudson said he sat on the Senate during a special meeting Monday to approve the PFC budget.

"The stipend model has to be fixed," he said. "There are some budgets that 60 percent of their budgeting goes to the stipend, so it does need to be fixed."

Walsh said he attended the emergency PFC meeting last week, adding that the stipend model needs to be reevaluated.

Goward said he has been an administrative assistant for the PFC and his running-mate, Evan Geier, has attended multiple PFC meetings this year. Goward said pay for student leaders should be paid directly to those leaders.

"It's important to have the money going directly to the students because when you enter the real world, your employer will not pay your bills for you, so we won't be paying students' bills," he said.

Haak said it is important to pay student government leaders because they work long hours. He added that he did not attend the meetings.

"I can't say I've been to a meeting. I don't know where they're held; I don't know much about them," he said. "But I'd encourage that anyone who gets elected, we should sit in on all their meetings."

Caruso said he didn't learn about problems with the PFC budget until he was busy with finals, gone for spring break and involved with political campaigns.

PFC member Anker-Lagos said she as "learned so much" from her time on the committee.

"I find it very difficult to hear a bunch of students talk about PFC when they did not go through the process," she said. "It's very long process with many variables."

Online voting through DuckWeb runs through Friday at 5 p.m.

parkerhowell@dailyemerald.com

How to vote

ASUO primary elections run through Friday. Students must log onto their DuckWeb accounts to vote at duckweb.uoregon.edu.

Students can vote for all general and at-large candidates but will only be able to vote for academic senators running for the seat related to their majors. Each student can vote only once.

Twenty seats are up for grabs in the primary elections, with 46 total candidates vying for positions. Eight of the races are uncontested, with only one candidate currently slated to run for those positions. However, students may write in candidates for all positions. Students must vote by 5 p.m. on Friday. The top two candidates from the primary elections move on to the general elections, which will be held from April 13-15. However, if any candidate gets more than 50 percent of the vote in the primaries, he or she gets the seat.

Students can vote from any computer with access to DuckWeb. Campus locations include:

- EMU Computer Lab
- Knight Library Information Technology Center
- McKenzie Hall Computer Lab

Where do you wanna go eat?

The Glenwood.

Our whole wheat bread is organic.

2588 Willamette St. 541-687-8201
340 Alder St. 541-687-0355

DINNER
LIGHT PLATES
DESSERTS
COCKTAILS
MICROBREWS
WINE BAR

TRIOMPHE BEL AMI MIDTOWN

541.485.6268
OPEN DAILY 5P
TRIOMPHE MIDTOWN
1591 WILLAMETTE
EUGENE

STUDENTTRAVEL

Discover Europe!

LET'S GO

Perfect trips for your European Adventure

The Big 3 10 nights London, Paris & Amsterdam From \$491	Mediterranean Explorer 10 nights Barcelona, Nice, Florence & Rome From \$551
UK & Beyond 10 nights London, Edinburgh & Dublin From \$561	Eastern Europe Experience 10 nights Prague, Vienna, Budapest From \$327

These packages do not include airfare. Taxes and other applicable fees are not included.

STA TRAVEL

877 1/2 East 13th St.
(541)344.2263

www.statravel.com

We've got sports

24/7

at www.dailyemerald.com