

City budget meets voters again, after \$509,200 cut

The Eugene city budget comes before voters next Tuesday, July 25. Since its first defeat by 16 per cent of Eugene's registered voters on June 20, the budget has been cut and revised by the city budget committee.

The committee is asking voters to approve a levy of \$2,264,625 outside the 6 per cent limitation, a decrease of \$509,200 from the amount asked June 20.

Barbara Shellenbarger, a Eugene community relations officer, believes that the budget was defeated on June 20 "because people are very unhappy with increased costs in many areas of their lives. They can't do much about other areas, but they can do something about public agencies." Voting down a budget she said, becomes the only people feel they can talk back to government.

A group called the Lane Political Action Committee has announced it will hold a town meeting on the Eugene city budget this Thursday. The meeting will be at Harris Hall at 7:30 p.m. Town meeting organizers have said that all members of the Eugene budget committee have been personally invited to attend.

The cuts made by the Eugene budget committee occurred in:

—Individual department budgets, where \$150,000 has been cut;

—The capital projects fund, cut to \$1.1 million, less than half the amount originally submitted;

—In the return of \$100,000 in equipment rental receipts to the general fund. This means that some of the equipment requested by departments will not be purchased.

Since the June 20 election, several events have made it possible to lower the tax rate without severe

departmental cuts. New construction raised the amount of assessed valuation; a new federal planning grant has funded programs that would otherwise have been cut; and a projected rise in the interest rate on investments has produced new revenue.

In addition, the city has realized departmental savings of \$150,000 by restricting the level of spending during the latter part of the year so that the cash balance as of June 30 is higher than predicted when the budget was drafted last winter.

The city budget includes funds for bicycle facilities required by state law. \$12,270 is provided for bicycle safety and education programs and \$57,200 in public works and parks capital projects. Revenue from the increased bicycle license fee is expected to offset the cost of bicycle programs.

The tax rate resulting from the levy of \$2,264,625 will be \$8.90-\$1000 true cash value, compared to \$8.68-\$1000 this year. This is an increase of 22 cents or 2.6 per cent. A year ago, voters approved an increase of 37 cents or 4.4 per cent.

The city is operating on a tax base adopted ten years ago. Keeping the budget within the 6 per cent limitation would require a tax rate restricted to \$6.02-\$1000.

Should the city budget go down to defeat again, more cuts will mean that the level of service provided by the city of Eugene would be lowered, Shellenbarger said. She said cuts would probably come in the number of employees and the number of hours the facilities of the city would be open. "This budget that is being offered now is a budget to maintain," she said, "to hold the line, not to do anything new or different."

Journalists granted awards

Eleven University journalism students have been announced as winners of scholarships and awards for the 1972-73 year.

Three of the scholarships are from the Eugene Register-Guard. These include two \$500 Eric Allen Scholarships, which have been awarded to Gregory Howard of Clackamas and Victoria Miller of Portland. The third scholarship from the 20 Year Club of the Eugene Register-Guard, has been awarded to Steve Smith of Eugene, a junior in journalism.

Six scholarships of \$250 each have been given by the Oregon Newspaper Publishers' Association. They were awarded to Ann McGill, junior from Merrill; Susan Saul, junior from Springfield; Shelley Justus, junior from Eugene; Rita Thomas, junior from Redmond; Phil Ottum, junior from Salem; and Shelley (Nan) Henderson, sophomore from Corvallis.

Judith Sly, junior from Creswell, has received the \$250 Theta Sigma Phi Scholarship given by the Portland chapter of the National Journalistic Society.

The Warren Price Award of \$75 for the best historical paper submitted by a student in journalism has been won by Mark Lifsher of Fall Creek for his work on "War Reporting—A Most Dangerous Business."

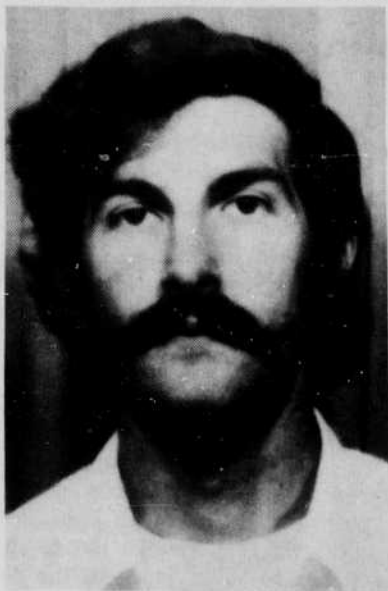
Trial date set on first of 'felony riot' charges

The first of 14 University students arrested in the spring of 1970 for "felony riot" will come to trial July 25th. Mike Dolan was arrested in the confrontation with police which took place while 60 anti-war, sit-in demonstrators were being arrested at Johnson Hall.

Dolan faces a penalty of 20 years if convicted of the "felony riot" charge. The charge of "felony riot" stems from a police allegation that someone threw an EMU coffee cup at police lines during the confrontation. This incident was named assault "with a dangerous weapon" and meant that anyone arrested would be charged with "felony riot." Dolan is not charged with throwing the cup.

Dolan said he was near the back of Johnson Hall on the side away from 13th Street during the 5 p.m. April 23, 1970 confrontation and arrests.

Dolan's lawyer, Robert Ackerman, is seeking witnesses.



Mike Dolan

He asked that all those who were in the area at the time to contact him.

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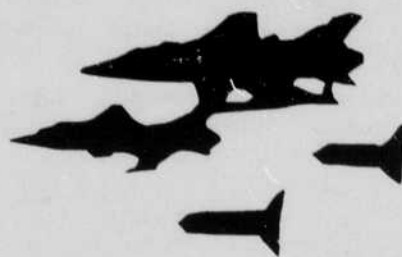


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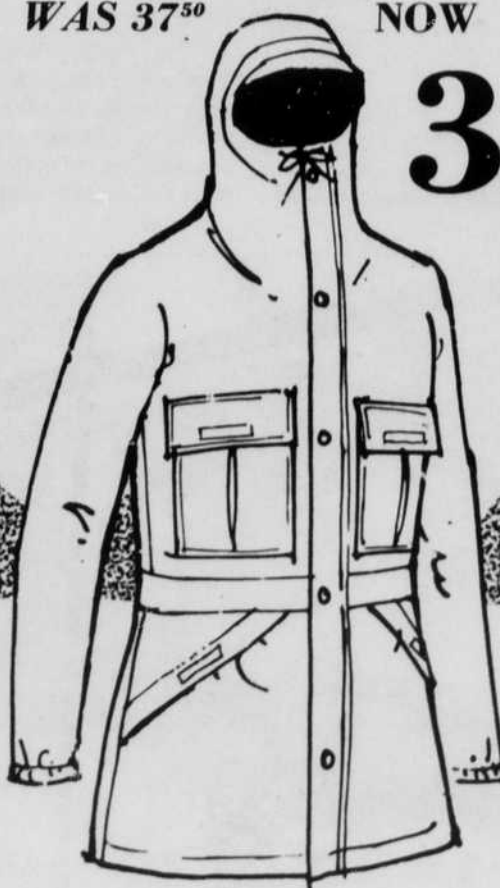
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