

Women's sport fund raises student fees

By MARTHA BLISS
Of the Emerald

Incidental fees will climb to \$28.50 this fall as a result of action taken last Tuesday by the Oregon State Board of Higher Education.

The board unanimously refused an appeal by the ASUO asking for a University administration budget increase of \$55,000 for Women's Intercollegiate Athletics (WIA). Consequently, incidental fees must supply a total of \$85,125.50 for WIA next year, much to the delight of some, and to the anger of others.

The ASUO was not pleased with the board's decision. ASUO Pres. Jan Oliver and ASUO Vice-Pres. Jamie Burns argued that incidental fees should not be responsible for such a large portion of WIA's budget since the program does not serve the general student population. Instead, WIA is open only to skilled woman athletes, of which Oliver figures there are only 210 at the University. In addition, she told the board, this figure of 210 "must be moderated with the fact that many of the women athletes on this campus participate in more than one sport and are thus double counted. The actual participation level may easily be half of what is projected."

In addition, WIA does not attract spectators, thereby remaining dissimilar to men's athletics and narrowing its student appeal even further.

Funding such a small percentage of the student population with so much money (\$85,125.50) is inconsistent with incidental fee guidelines, the ASUO leaders argued. Incidental fees are designed to fund only organizations and programs open to the majority of University students, not those open only to small segments.

Another argument advanced by

the ASUO leaders was the Title IX issue. Since this anti-discriminatory educational amendment went into effect in 1972, women-oriented programs like WIA have expanded at what Burns termed "super abnormal" rates. While the ASUO supports this expansion, it does not feel the general student population should carry the programs' weight in the form of increased incidental fees.

As reasonable as the ASUO says its arguments are, one hurdle remained which they could not overcome. During the 1975-76 academic year, incidental fees provided WIA with \$94,583.50. According to the incidental fee guidelines, any decrease in the level of incidental fee support of major budget activities cannot exceed 10 per cent of the preceding year's allocation. WIA is part of the EMU, which is considered a major budget activity. Consequently, the board, argued, ASUO had no right to cut incidental fee support for WIA from \$94,583.50 to \$30,000.

Thus, the \$1.25 incidental fee increase.

Despite their lost battle this year, ASUO leaders hope to shift WIA funding onto other sources in 1977-78. Included in Burns' list of possible sources are state funds, the grants-in-aid program, and the development fund.

Although he openly opposed the ASUO's appeal to the board, University Vice-Pres. Ray Hawk says he also is interested in alternate sources of WIA funding in 1976-77. One such alternative he deems "reasonable" would be a joint appropriation by the ASUO and the state since Title IX would fit in very easily with such a plan. He does not think that WIA would have much success with private money donations similar to those received by men's athletics, nor that WIA can rely on any sort of spectator support.

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Photo by Ken Shin

Stadium gets new floor

A workman prepares Autzen Stadium for its new "rug." The old turf, used for the last seven years, is being sold to the public to offset some of the \$130,000 purchase price of the new surface.

State Board:

Student participation in faculty ratings mandated in all state system schools

By KATHY CRAFT
Of the Emerald

Students scored a victory last week when the Oregon State Board of Higher Education voted to require student participation in faculty evaluation decisions at the seven state-supported colleges and universities in Oregon.

Two other student-initiated proposals — one for increased state funding for day care facilities for children of University students

and the other for student autonomy in developing incidental fee budget recommendations to institutional presidents — were referred to the board's finance committee for further study.

The faculty evaluation proposal was originally introduced by the ASUO and the Oregon Student Lobby (OSL) and stated appropriate student input into such decisions "shall include, at a minimum" letters from students, student evaluations of instructors and appointment of students to personnel committees.

But when the proposal was reviewed by members of the board's committee on Instruction, Research and Public Service Program last month, it was diluted in compromise motion to say that student input "may include, but not be limited to" student comments, evaluations and student participation on personnel committees.

That rewording was intended to provide each of the state-supported institutions more independence in determining the exact amount of student input it deemed "appropriate" for its

campus.

But students argued before the board in its Tuesday meeting at the University that the original phrasing of the proposal — with the use of the mandatory "shall" rather than the optional "may" — was necessary for it to have any substantial effect on the policies of the colleges and universities.

After numerous witnesses testified in behalf of both sides of the issue, the board voted 6-4 in favor of mandatory student participation.

According to Mark Cogan, ASUO vice-president for legislative affairs, the decision is a "substantial improvement" for students. He emphasizes the various student associations and the OSL plan to monitor actions of administrators at the institutions to insure they abide by the provisions of the new ruling. Cogan estimates it will require "a few months" before the policy is effectively implemented.

The day care proposal, also introduced by representatives of the ASUO and the OSL, calls for the state to match incidental fees and parents' payments on a three-to-one ratio in the funding of day

care facilities for students at universities.

According to the proposal, low income parents, particularly women, are often barred from the benefits of a college education due to lack of adequate child care programs.

At the University, the proposal would mean an increase in University funding up from this year's \$2,000 to \$133,000 per year. Incidental fees would drop by \$30,000 — from \$55,000 to \$25,000 — and the University day care services would expand considerably.

The other proposal introduced by the ASUO and the OSL is designed to provide student associations with self determination in developing incidental fee budget recommendations. Under the proposal, student organizations would be given the responsibility of determining the composition (membership) of student incidental fee budgeting committees without intervention from the presidents of the colleges and universities.

Currently, board policy authorizes student government representatives to meet with institu-

tional executives to determine guidelines for budgeting and allocating incidental fees. But, as the ASUO and the OSL pointed out, inclusion in the actual budgeting process doesn't necessarily follow.

In other board action, a recommendation made by the Committee on Instruction, Research and Public Service Programs to establish a state labor education and research center at the University was approved, 6-4. Actuality of this center is still tentative, however, pending approval by the 1977 Legislature of the \$247,278 required to establish and operate it during the next biennium.

The board also approved an \$11 million proposal for construction projects at the University. Heading the list of projects is a remodeling plan for the education college's facilities. The projects are all part of a larger, \$66 million construction plan which encompasses other state colleges and universities. The board will submit this plan to the 1977 Legislature.

The next full board meeting is scheduled for Aug. 24 at Portland State University.

Deadline near

Friday is the last day to withdraw from courses, to change grading options, and to change credit options in variable-credit courses.

Withdrawals will be recorded as a "W".

Students wishing to make any such changes should go to the Registrar's Office in Oregon Hall or call 686-3247 for further information.