

Subcommittee approves stabilization plan

By MARY BETH BOWEN
Of the Emerald

SALEM—A \$1.8 million stabilization plan that would cushion the effect of declining enrollments — and consequently income — on Oregon's state colleges and universities was approved Wednesday by the Joint Ways and Means Education Subcommittee.

The plan would limit reductions in each school's instructional budget to no more than one per cent a year, thus protecting the schools from major program and faculty cutbacks.

The biggest recipient of the stabilization plan is the University, which will receive \$1.3 million. But even with the state aid, the University will still be required to cut one million out of its budget.

According to the most recent enrollment projections, the University is expected to lose 1,726 Full-Time Equivalent students (FTE) over the 1977-79 biennium. The stabilization plan would provide funding for 959 of those FTE's, or in other words, would fund 959 FTE's that really aren't there.

Sen. Ed Fadeley, D-Eugene, chair of the subcommittee, said he thought the stabilization funds would reduce some of the pressure on the state system to increase tuition.

In another area of projected enrollment declines, the subcommittee heard two proposed solutions to the estimated \$1.4 million tuition shortfall the state system predicts will occur if Gov. Bob Straub's proposed tuition policies for non-resident graduates and undergraduates are implemented.

Bernie Saalfeld, Straub's budget analyst, said an emergency fund of \$1 million would probably cover the shortfall, while Bill Barrows, the subcommittee's fiscal analyst, said \$678,018 would suffice. Both analysts indicated they thought the state system's enrollment loss projections for non-resident graduates and undergraduates were too high.

Speaking on Straub's recommendation, Saalfeld said that in addition to earmarking \$1 million for a tuition shortfall fund, the gov-

ernor is recommending placing \$100,000 in reserves, and spending \$1.2 million to begin making state system buildings accessible to the handicapped, as is now required by federal law.

Failure to do so, he added, could result in the loss in all federal funds received by the state system.

Saalfeld said Straub's recommendations could be financed by spending \$2.3 million of unspent money located in the higher education budget. The \$2.3 million consists of \$1.2 million in extra tuition money (which sometimes accrues when the state system underestimates their student enrollments) and \$1.3 million in reserves.

Barrows' recommendation also included the \$2.3 million of unspent funds plus another \$1.3 million he said would be generated through federal grant payments during the 1977-79 biennium, but which isn't listed in the higher education budget.

As Barrows explained the fund is a small percentage of federal money that is kept in reserve in



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case federal budget auditors discover a discrepancy and ask for part of their money back.

So, according to Barrows' proposal, the total sum of unspent money in the higher education budget is \$3.6 million. He suggested placing \$678,018 in a fund to be used in case of a tuition shortfall. The other \$3 million, he said, could be spent on the higher education budget or put back in the state coffers and spent on other programs.

Speaking to the state system's request for money to make up the projected enrollment losses of

non-resident graduates and undergraduates, Barrows said the \$1.8 million appropriation for stabilization may be the most the state should contribute.

"The state system is pleading for funds for the graduate tuition shortfall," he told the subcommittee members. "You should ask yourself the question, 'Is the \$1.8 million already provided a sufficient plug in behalf of the total shortfall the state system faces?'"

Barrows added the shortfall situation may be a temporary cashflow problem, one that could be solved by the state system borrowing money.

Tip-top tomatoes require good soil, fertilizers

By MICHELE PEEPLES
Of the Emerald

If you're planning a vegetable garden this summer you have probably included the tomato plant as one of the first on your list. Although one of the most popular and easily grown fruit-bearing plants in the home garden, the tomato plant has certain requirements as all other plants and vegetables do.

One question you may have is whether tomatoes should be transplanted as soon as the spring weather arrives. Since the tomato plant grows best in warm weather, setting plants out in the garden should not take place until danger of frost is past and nights are beginning to become consistently warmer.

Plants may fail to set fruit in both too hot and too cool weather, so a careful watch of both day and night temperatures is recommended.

Young tomato plants grow well in a sandy soil, yet as they mature organic material is necessary to the soil. It will help in retaining water, especially during the hotter summer months, and adds some fertility to the soil as well.

But above all, make sure the soil has been dug deep enough so adequate space is available for the growth of strong and deep root systems. Good drainage will cut down on the problem of disease in the soil.

Different tomatoes require various fertilizers, yet the need for a high level of phosphorus is one point which can be considered when growing tomatoes in general.

Some of this may be spread throughout the entire soil by broadcasting and the remainder of it may be applied in bands next to the plant.

Beware of heavy doses of nit-

rogen to the soil, as it may cause excessive vegetative growth thus reducing the chance of plants to set fruits. Heavy doses also will produce very long stigmas on tomato blossoms, causing the stigma to extend outside of the blossom which makes self-pollination difficult, if not impossible.

Once tomato plants have been set out into the ground they may be allowed to grow in two ways — on a trellis, or prostrate, (lying and trailing on the ground).

The advantages of the trellis method are that fruits will remain cleaner, plants will produce earlier fruits, disease from insects is less of a problem, the picking of mature fruits is easier to handle later on and space is saved due to the upward growth of plants. Disadvantages include extra time consumed in tying plants to the trellis and sunscald of the fruits.

Plants growing prostrate may be a little more subject to insect attack and a little less convenient to harvest, but the chance of sunscald is reduced. Either method is acceptable and up to the gardener entirely.

Insects, as in all gardens, will have to be controlled. They include the nematodes, which attack the roots of tomatoes, the tomato horn worm, the fruit worm, the flea beetle found on young

plants and the rust mite. All pests can be checked and controlled immediately with the proper insecticides.

One of the largest advantages in growing your own tomato plants can be seen and tasted in the fruits that you pick. Since they are allowed to ripen on the plant, fruits usually have a sweeter taste to them than tomatoes bought in stores and you can always be sure that all of their nutrients are intact. This alone is one reason to include this easy and heavily producing plant in your garden every year.

the Plant Plumber



Sasquatch to 'come out of the closet' at conference

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — The University of British Columbia, convinced that "it's time the academic community came out of the closet and seriously addressed the question of the Sasquatch," has scheduled the world's first academic meeting on monsters.

Dr. Marjorie Halpin, curator of the university's museum of anthropology, says the museum will sponsor the conference to be held in March, 1978.

Canada Council financing will provide transportation for Canadian scholars, Halpin said, but more money is needed to bring in experts from the United States and the Soviet Union.

The three-day conference — exact dates have not been set — will consist of a series of academic papers on "the question of Sasquatch and other monsters," Dr. Halpin said Tuesday.

"It will be the first time that such a conference has been held and to me it's significant that people are finally willing to discuss this question," she said.

"The belief in the Sasquatch is too widespread now for the Oregon Daily Emerald

academic community to say there is nothing there."

The conference, which will be open to the public, will range from discussions of mythological West Coast Indian monsters to the ecological requirements of marine beasts.

Dr. Louise Jilek Aall of the psychiatry department at Vancouver General Hospital will lecture on the psychological aspects of Sasquatch belief and Dr. Richard Preston of McMaster University in Hamilton, Ont., will discuss Wiitiko, a spooky creature seen by Cree Indians.

Dr. Frederick Aldrich of Memorial University in St. John's Nfld., will describe the Newfoundland giant squid, the existence of which was denied by zoologists until several were found.

American and Soviet scientists, many of whom have studied films of alleged Sasquatch sightings, will be on hand to describe their research.

The conference "will force us to stretch our minds," said Halpin, by focussing serious academic attention on research that, until now, has been carried on only by amateurs.

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