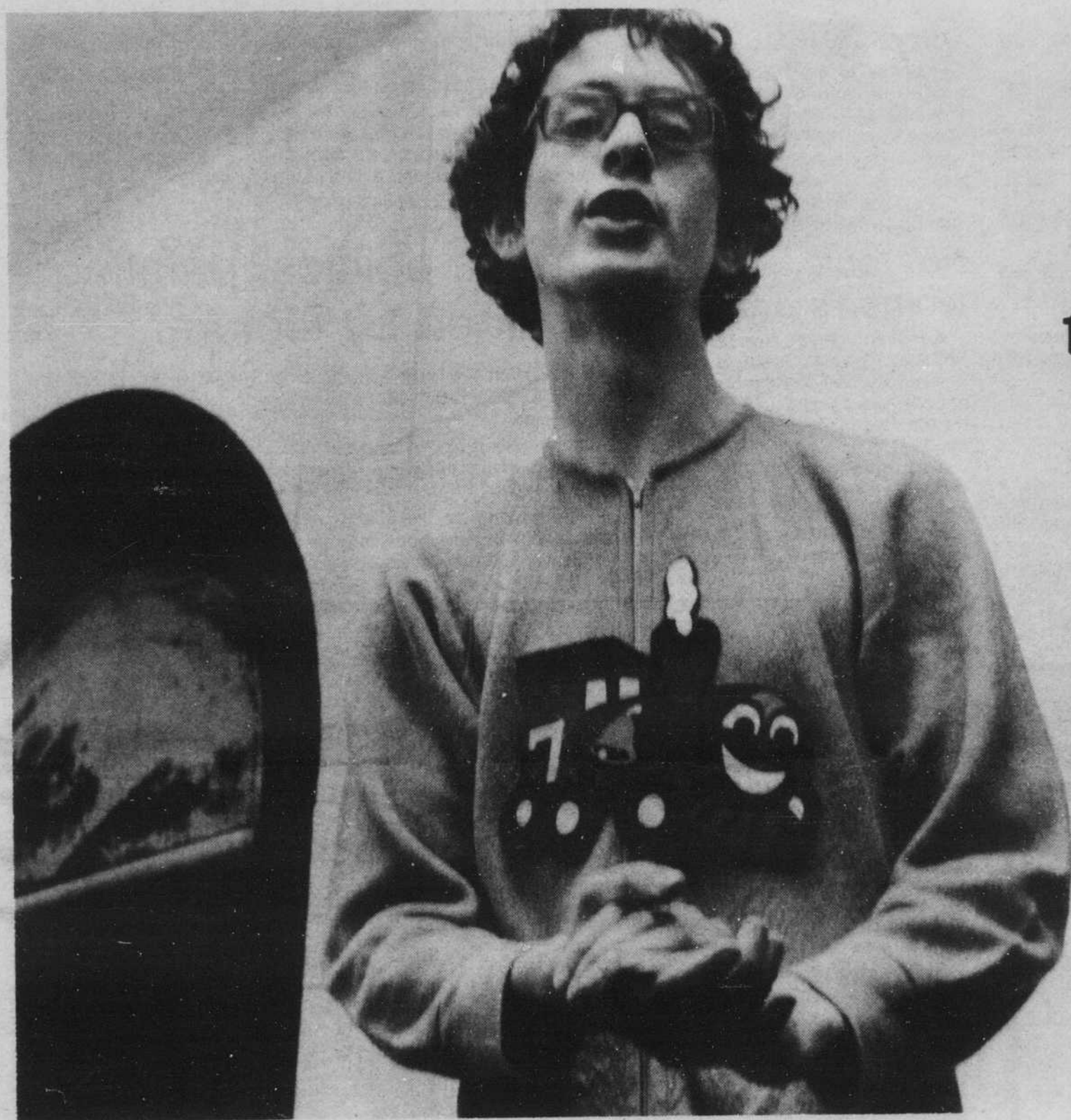


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Pied Piper to woo kids with words

Jon Dickman, a Eugene man who dramatically recites stories for children, will be performing for kids of all ages at the Community Center for the Performing Arts Saturday at 2:30. Here he is enthraling his audience with a rendition of the children's tale, "Anthony's No Good, Terrible, Horrible, Very Bad, Rotten Day." Maybe Dickman's act will help make Saturday a very good, wonderful, marvelous day.

Photo by Dennis Hickok

ASUO to fight minimum wage ruling

By KEVIN HACKETT
Of The Emerald

The University's decision not to follow its policy of complying with federal minimum wage scales for unclassified student employees will be challenged by the ASUO.

The federal minimum wage rose to \$2.65 an hour January 1. The Fair Labor Standards Act exempts state universities from meeting the minimum wage for part-time student employees. The act requires that state universities pay at least 85 percent of

the minimum wage.

But last August the University Personnel Office issued a memorandum to all deans, directors and department heads, stating that a rise in the minimum wage was anticipated and that the "University will continue to comply with the federal minimum wage, and rates below that wage will not be used."

The memo states further that "As soon as the rates and effective dates are known, student rates paid, which are below the federal minimum wage, will be adjusted to the minimum wage, effective concurrently

with the effective date of the federal minimum wage change."

When the new wage standard went into effect at the first of the year, University Pres. William Boyd and Ray Hawk, vice-president for administration and finance, decided not to comply with the federal rate. They said there was enough available funding to pay all student workers the minimum wage.

The University's decision drew the fire of ASUO Pres. Gary Feldman. Feldman requested that the Office of Student Advo-

cacy investigate whether the University could be forced to comply with the policy outlined in the personnel memo, since a revision of that policy was never officially issued.

OSA Director Don Chalmers says his staff has researched policy memorandums and their application according to Administrative Rules of the Oregon State Board of Higher Education. He believes the University can be forced to comply with the present student wage policy in accordance with the administrative rules.

University personnel director Jack Steward, says a four percent pay increase for student employees will go into effect April 1. A new memorandum on student pay rates will be issued then, Steward says. Of the approximately 60 student employee positions, only nine currently pay less than the minimum wage.

Chalmers says until a new student wage policy is adopted, the University must comply with the existing policy. He says his office will attempt to force the University to comply with the minimum wage provisions since that is the present policy. If the OSA is successful, the University would be forced to make up the difference in wages paid to student employees who have been paid less than the minimum wage since Jan. 1.

OSA sees rise in cases handled

The Office of Student Advocacy's (OSA) three divisions had dramatic increases of people seen during fall term, especially in the director's office where students using the office went up 110 percent.

Director's office figures were compiled from July 1 to Dec. 9, 1977 and compared with figures for the same period in 1976. The types of problems heard by the director's office increased, also. Consumer complaints rose sharply, by 650 percent, closely followed by residency arguments, up 625 percent. The number of Buckley Amendment complaints was up 500 per-

cent, immigration hassles up 400 percent, housing problems up 350 percent and both academic grievances and admissions difficulties were up 250 percent.

The only type of complaint handled by the OSA that decreased was discrimination cases, down 300 percent. The total number of persons seen was 548.

In the OSA's legal service division, both the number of people seen and the amount of appointment hours rose last fall. Comparing the period Sept. 1 to Dec. 9, 1977, to 1976, the legal service division saw 53 percent more people (a total of 603 people)

and had 66 percent more appointment hours (241 total hours).

The largest number of conferences dealt with landlord/tenant problems, but the highest increase (up 150 percent) was in expungements of criminal records, or having them "sealed and set aside so they can't be used against you," says OSA Director Don Chalmers.

Chalmers thinks the statistics jumped because more students "are aware of the office and that we're successful in our efforts to get student problems solved."