

University eases wage battle

By RICHARD SEVEN
Of the Emerald

But minimum rate won't last long

Well, student workers, here's some good news and some bad news.

The good news is the University will pay all of you the federal minimum wage of \$2.65 between January to April of this year.

The bad news is, starting April 1, the University will no longer maintain federal minimum wage standards.

"We will continue to relate student wage as best we can to the classified structure," says Jack Steward, University personnel director.

Steward says the two wage rates will be fairly similar with annual increases

scheduled for each. However, the classified rate will probably lag behind.

According to Steward, the University has to maintain the practice of employing as many students with a set amount of money allowed them by the Legislature through general appropriations. If students are paid more, it might mean fewer will be able to be employed by the University, Steward says.

"As long as the University can pay not-out-of-line rates and employ as many students as possible, it should Steward says.

ASUO Pres. Gary Feldman, however, is not satisfied.

"We plan to monitor changes in wage policy the University plans to make," says Feldman. "We're also going to try to persuade the University that student workers are like all other workers and deserve the same wage. But at least for right now, we got what we wanted."

Steward says the University is exempt from paying minimum wage under the Fair Labor Standards Act. However, a University policy issued last August stated it would pay the minimum wage. The University plans to change the policy under the August act to clarify its position.

Currently, the lowest wage student workers are paid is about \$2.40 an hour.

Because the policy won't be changed until April 1, the University must pay students the minimum wage effective Jan. 1 when the new standard was passed.

About 100 student workers at Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT) went on strike, Tuesday demanding a wage increase.

"Students here and elsewhere around the state, simply are treated as second-class citizens," says Kay Carroll, a spokesperson for the strikers.

OIT administrators told the students, whose pay dips as low as \$2.35, that there are simply not enough funds in the school budget to provide for student raises.

Undergrads barred from law facilities

By KATY SLADE
Of the Emerald

Undergraduates studying at the University Law School received an unsettling surprise when Chapin Clark, dean of the law school, entered classrooms Monday evening and informed them that the law school library and classrooms will no longer be available to them as study hall facilities.

Citing abuses such as the stealing of coffee money, making noise, and creating mess in the classrooms as the reasons for the decision, Clark asked the undergraduates present to find another place to study, saying "if there are insufficient study hall facilities, it is the problem of the University, not the law school."

Braulio Escobar, president of the Student Bar Association, said the large number of complaints from law students prompted the decision.

He said law students will probably ask undergraduates to leave the building and study elsewhere if they are observed studying on the premises.

"It is not difficult to identify who is a law student; this is a small school," Escobar said when asked if undergraduates were identified as the source of the complaints.

"Last week there were some playing kick-the-can in the hallway," Escobar continued.

He contended the increase in undergraduates studying in the law school became "detrimental to the study of law" by University law students.

But ASUO Pres. Gary Feldman, blasted the decision. "I think the decision to close up the classrooms is very dangerous," he said. "It is tantamount to saying certain students can't use the library, or certain students can't study in PLC. The law school was paid for by the state, and every student on this campus has the same right to enter the building," Feldman said.

Feldman said the ASUO will try to force a test case, by setting up a hypothetical situation of an undergraduate asked to leave the law school, and then bringing a complaint to the University Office of Student Advocacy in order to legally challenge the new rule.



Photo by Adrienne Salinger

"To class, Andrew"

Goin' my way? This "Pedal Transporter" is the newest mode of bicycle transportation, without the traditional steering bar. Instead you lean your legs against the steering mechanism in the direction you want to go. This brainchild of M.A. Baris is on display today in the EMU during the Living Lightly on the Land fair sponsored by the Survival Center. Here, Bob Waite is the cargo and Andrew Freeman the conductor.

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Local committee forms to study overlapping taxation policies

By WANDA LAUKKANEN
Of the Emerald

A proposal to study city and county tax policies and how they overlap will be developed by a committee of Eugene, Springfield and Lane County government

representatives.

The committee came out of an unusual joint meeting between the two city councils and the Lane County Board of Commissioners Tuesday night.

Proposals for a golf course at the Buford Recreation Area were also discussed and recommended to Eugene and county parks departments for further study.

The 1990 Plan update, the proposed metropolitan wastewater treatment plant and economic development were also considered at the work session.

The taxation committee is charged with developing a proposal on how an adequate study of taxation problems could be done. According to City Manager Charles Henery, such a study could cost \$10,000 to \$20,000 at the minimum.

Members of the group will include Springfield Mayor Vern Meyer, Jerry Rust, county commissioner board chair, Eugene

Mayor Gus Keller and staff members of the City of Eugene.

The study was proposed after members of the three governing boards talked about the problems of taxing city residents for both city and county services, while those in outlying areas pay only for county services.

"This is the most important issue on the agenda," declared commissioner Bob Wood.

He said the "negative impact" of people living outside the city and using city services needed to be studied.

"The city residents are paying for it," he said adding that in many cities, "the poor live in the ghettos and the rich on the outside...we are headed in that direction." Springfield Councilman Gene Hulett agreed, adding that the question of whether Lane County was providing a disproportionate amount of services to unincorporated areas at the expense of those living in incorporated areas should be studied.

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