

Season's games will cost \$50

IFC pushes up ticket price

By SALLY HODGKINSON
Of the Emerald

An Incidental Fee Committee decision to cut next year's athletic ticket subsidy from 20 to 15 percent is a move that may hit students hard in the pocketbook, says Greg Robinson, an athletic department accountant.

The cut in subsidy, combined with an increase in the number of home football games, will push ticket prices up to \$50.05, a 32 percent increase over this year's ticket price, Robinson says.

"That's a lot of money to pay at one time," he says. "I'm not sure there are 4,000 students willing to pay that price."

Without the IFC subsidy cut, there would be a 13.5 percent increase, making the price of a ticket \$42.90, because of the addition of two football games, Robinson says.

"I don't understand why the IFC cut the subsidy rate," he says. "Students are the ones who are going to be affected."

But IFC member Dusty Rhodes says the cut is justified. "With only 4,000 seats available, we shouldn't be heavily subsidizing the tickets," he says.

IFC member Harry Ricks voted against the cut.

"I don't think we as a committee should cut it (the ticket subsidy) just because it's a big budget," he says. "The demand for the tickets will decrease as the price goes up. We're trying to kill them off."

Rhodes answers that the demand for the tickets will still be there even if the price increases.

"It's still a real entertainment bargain," he says. "I don't think the athletic department really cares if we cut the subsidy;



Photo by Erich Boekelheide

Athletic department accountant Greg Robinson isn't sure the IFC is acting with student approval in slicing subsidies of athletic tickets.

they'll still get their money."

The athletic department does care, says Robinson, adding that the IFC may not be acting in the best interest of the students.

"If that is what the students want, fine. But I'm not convinced," he says. "I think the IFC is more concerned with balancing the budget than with anything else. I'm not sure they're in tune with what the students want."

Robinson cites two student surveys of the use of incidental fees as proof of student interest in ticket subsidy.

In the 1973 report 48 percent of the students favored partial subsidy of athletic tickets. In the 1977 survey, 52 percent favored partial subsidy, 11 percent favored full subsidy and 30 percent favored no

subsidy.

"Last year the IFC reduced the subsidy from 25 to 20 percent, now they're trying for 15 percent. What's next? Ten percent?" Robinson says. "It sounds to me like they're phasing out the ticket subsidy. If they are, I just wish they'd tell us."

The IFC is not trying to cut off the ticket subsidy, IFC Chair Janet Eggleston says, adding that the decision is not final because ASUO Pres. Ramon Herrera can veto the move. Additionally, any member of IFC can move to reconsider the motion, which passed by a 4-3 vote.

Herrera says he is undecided about a veto but adds that the price increase "is certainly something for me to consider."

University fills news position

A new director for the University News Bureau has been appointed, the University announced Friday.

Barbara Petura, manager of the University of Idaho news bureau, will take over University media relations April 1. Petura has taught journalism courses at the University of Idaho and worked as a reporter for the Morris County (N.J.) Citizen, a large suburban weekly. She replaces Robert Bruce, who resigned last October for a similar job at Kansas State.

Curtis Simic, University vice-president for public services, termed Petura's record "impressive." "I believe she will serve the University and the media effectively."

Petura graduated magna cum laude from Lawrence University in Appeton, Wis., and is former regional director of the National Federation of Press Women.

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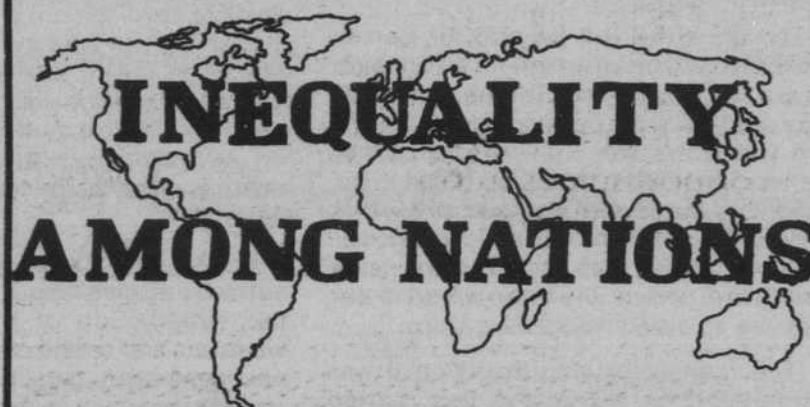
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