

Faculty favors group bargaining

By MICHAEL TEVLIN
For the Emerald

University faculty members favor collective bargaining by a wide margin, according to a recent poll, but there is still debate among faculty members on the necessity of collective bargaining.

Collective bargaining could bring "strife and change" in the present system of governance at the University, says Barry Siegel, president of the local chapter of the American Association of University Professors.

"You've got a lot to lose in collective bargaining. Everything goes on the table, including governance, which is something that the faculty should protect," Siegel says.

According to the American Federation of Teachers' April

8 survey, if a vote was held now, the faculty would approve unionization by a 2-1 margin. The faculty voted against unionization in 1976 by the same margin. Out of about 1,000 eligible faculty, 374 participated in the survey.

Siegel predicted the increased interest in a faculty union in January. In an address to the State Board of Higher Education, he warned of the "hardening of attitudes that leads to interest in collective bargaining" as a reaction to eroded salaries.

Faculty association representatives say the deterioration of salaries by inflation is the prime factor affecting the shift in support for collective bargaining. Plagued by double-digit inflation, University faculty members earned 17 percent fewer dollars in

1978-79 than in 1971-72, according to a report by the Association of Oregon Faculties.

"Although many faculty members don't want collective bargaining, they would be driven to it if the situation persists," Siegel told the state board.

But Hilda Young, Oregon State Employees Association chapter president, disagrees with Siegel's claim.

"When rational people come to the bargaining table on both sides, rational agreements will be reached," she says. "No person in their right mind would agree to something they didn't want."

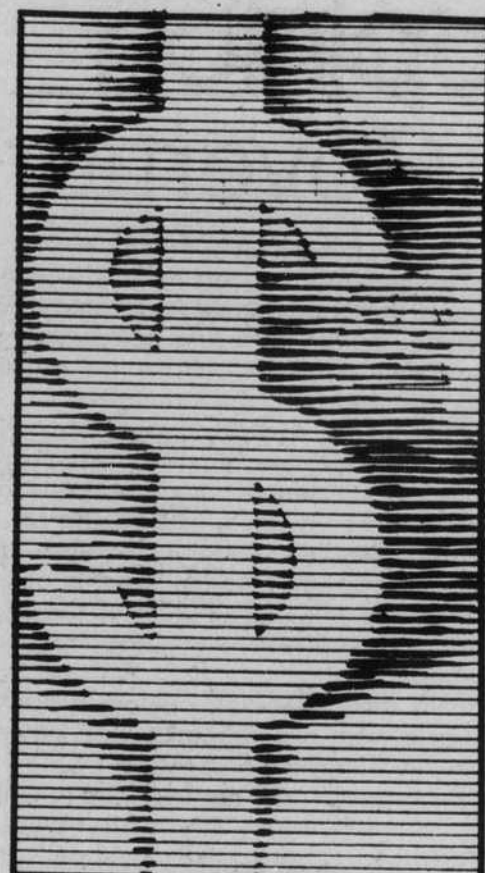
Collective bargaining would give the faculty a voice in budgetary considerations at the state level, Young says. The faculty could also have a greater say in the redistribu-

tion of salary allocations that takes place at the local level, including merit and across-the-board increases.

"Faculty members don't realize that merit increases are made for the benefit of a few at the expense of many," Young says. Faculty will receive a 2.5 percent across-the-board increase while merit increases will total 5 percent. This could greatly influence the attitudes of faculty towards collective bargaining, Young says.

Collective bargaining is necessary and beneficial, says Dave Curland, president of the local AFT chapter. "There is a direct relationship between compensation and organization."

"Faculty have delusions about how much power they really have. In the final analysis we are beggars."



Emerald graphic

Petitions call for smoke-free public areas

By MARIAN GREEN
Of the Emerald

Businesses such as restaurants and medical offices would be required to designate smoke-free areas according to

a statewide petition that may appear on the November ballot.

The initiative, the Oregon Clean Indoor Air Act, would require all proprietors to post signs and to provide a reasonably smoke-free environment to anyone de-

siring such an area. Violations would be punishable by a fine of up to \$100. Designated smoking areas would be an option if the initiative passes.

The measure, which would appropriate \$50,000 for implementation, would go into effect Jan. 1 of 1981.

State Rep. Rod Monroe, D-Portland, the main sponsor of the initiative, said at a Eugene meeting this week that the measure is designed to "cut the bureaucracy to a minimum."

The measure steers clear of provisions such as excessive fines and mandatory designated areas that contributed to the defeat of similar initiatives in California and Florida, Monroe said.

"People would enforce it (smoke-free

areas) — the law would just give them the courage to do it."

The petition sponsors need to gather about 55,000 signatures by June to place it on the November ballot. Only 20,000 signatures have been counted to date, Monroe said, but "the last six weeks are when most of the signatures come in."

Joyce Owen, petition coordinator in the Eugene area, says Lane County petitioners have collected a "phenomenal" 12,000 signatures from registered voters. About 5,000 signatures is the average number of signatures usually obtained in a county.

On May 3 — Clean Indoor Air Day — petitioners hope to collect 2,000 signatures, she said.

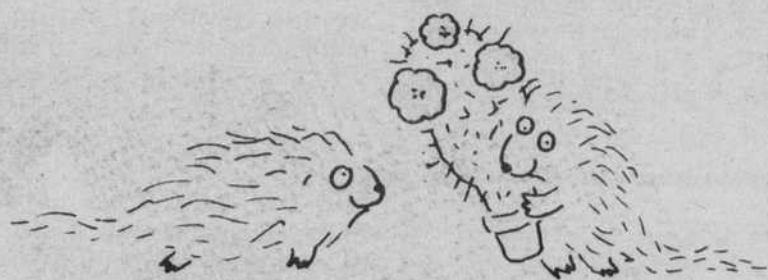
Herbicide forum tops memorial activities

Today's schedule for Memorial Week is as follows.

A herbicide forum will be held from 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. in the Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid St.; a discussion titled "Southern Africa: Another Vietnam?" is scheduled from noon until 1 p.m. in the Koinonia Center; a legal

workshop on Senate Bill 1722 will be held from 1:30 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. in the Koinonia Center; a discussion on "Justice American Style: Dessie Woods and the Struggle for African Liberation" will be held from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. at the Koinonia Center; and a Hard-Times picnic is scheduled at Alton Baker Park from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m.

Remember Mom on May 11th



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