

# University attempts to bandage budget cuts

By SALLY HODGKINSON  
Of the Emerald

The University is running out of budgetary corners to cut.

"There are no corners left to cut. We're cutting sides now," says Dick Hill, University provost and vice president for academic affairs.

The University administration has been forced to pare about \$3.4 million from the University budget due to a \$2.7 million cut in state support courtesy of the state Legislature and unexpected energy costs totaling \$700,000.

Gov. Vic Atiyeh discovered a \$204 million state deficit in July. A special session of the Legislature then pared \$22.2 million of that deficit from the State System of Higher Education — \$2.7 million of that was the University's share.

The total state system budget is about \$500 million with \$200 million of that coming from state funding.

"I did not expect to become president and face a terrible budget cut," says Acting University Pres. Paul Olum. "Our objective is to preserve the University as well as we can."

The budget cut will have an effect on classroom sizes, future tuition increases, library acquisitions, course offerings and student services.

Some class sections will close before registration even begins; maximum class size will be increased for many courses.

Office hours in student service offices may be cut by one hour per day after the first week of fall term; the number of telephone lines in student services has been reduced.

Grades won't be mailed out to returning students. The number of telephones available at Mac Court during registration has been reduced from 22 to 10. The number of publications and information booklets about various University programs has been reduced along with adver-

tising budgets of student services.

"Communication will be a little bit more different than in the past," says Bob Bowlin, dean of students. "We're going to be more limited in how quickly we can respond to students."

There is a freeze on out-of-state travel and a freeze on faculty and staff hiring.

And the total \$400,000 library acquisitions budget has been slashed — a cut that Olum calls "utterly unfair."

"I'm committed to doing everything in my power to finding the money to offset that cut," he says. "I don't know how we're going to do it. We don't know what to do. We've cut everything we can cut short of firing people who've already been hired."

"At a university like this, the destruction of our library is not tolerable," Hill says.

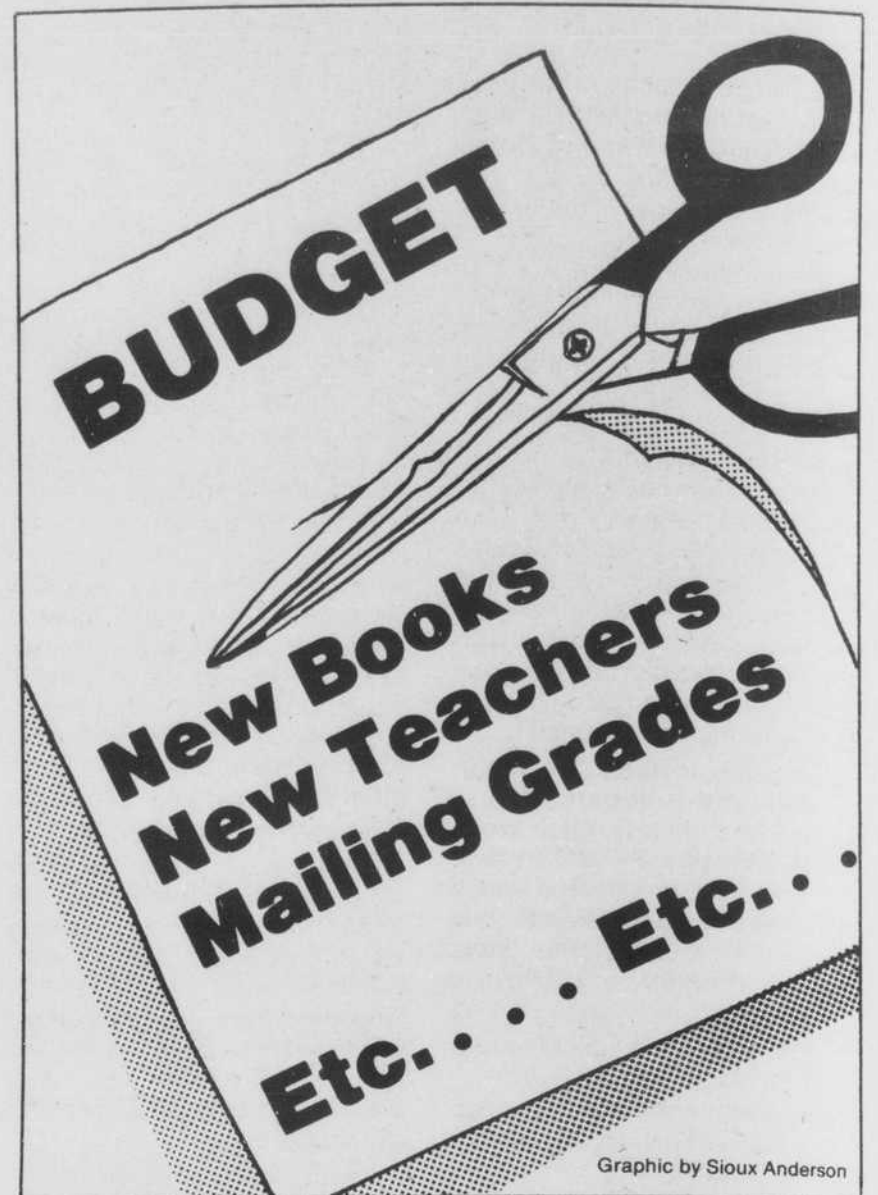
Olum says he will try to find funds to restore all but \$65,000 of the library cut.

But in addition to the immediate cut in services and class offerings, the budget cut may effect the University for years.

"If we can restore our base budget, we believe the reputation of the University of Oregon is sufficient that we'll be able to recruit high quality faculty," says Hill.

"But that's a big if."

During the past 10 years,



Graphic by Sioux Anderson

state support of higher education has declined. The budget cut only adds to existing financial burdens of the University, Hill says, adding that students, faculty and administrators have

to work together to lobby for higher education funds.

"The people of the state need to make higher education a higher priority at the Legislature."

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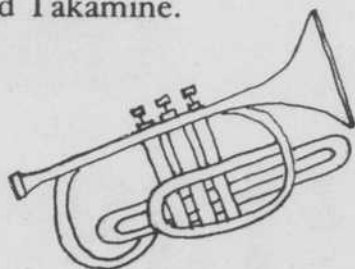
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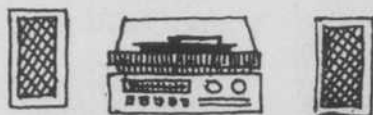
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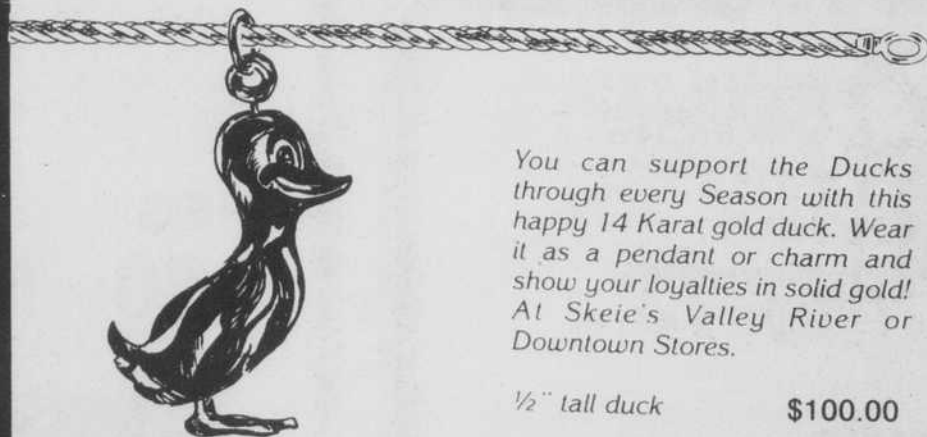
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