

# Athletes react to budget scare

The budget committee is screaming, "Cut! Cut! Cut!" and the athletes involved are crying, "Help! Help! Help!"

That is the situation as the Oregon athletic department is forced to chop \$375,000 from the budget in accordance with directives from the University president's office. And the answer to the order might be to drop four programs — two men's and two women's teams.

Responses from athletes to the possible loss of their programs range from pleas for help to feelings of despair to outright indignation.

Mike Talia, a senior on the baseball team, expressed a feeling felt by athletes contacted by the Emerald.

"What a waste it would be," Talia said. "I'm very disappointed that we will lose any programs. There isn't really too much we can do but sit back and wait."

Alice Marchant, a freshman on the softball team, felt the same way.

"I hate to see them drop the programs, because it would be such a loss. I can understand why because of the budget problems, but I still don't like it."

Mike Erb, a sophomore on the wrestling, was more demonstrative. "I feel horrible about it! I hate to have it happen. I know a lot of athletes in the other sports and I hate to see any of their programs get cut."

Sharing in Erb's outrage was Mike Black, a senior on the baseball team.

"I just can't see them dropping anything. It would be a unneeded waste, a big loss."

"It would not only hurt the athletes, but it would also be a bad reflection on all of Oregon's programs. To be competitive in athletics nationwide, you have to have all of your major sports. Without a sport like baseball or wrestling, it's just not the same."

Eric Deeg, a freshman baseball player, agreed with Black, but thought the loss of programs would have a more far-flung effect.

"Not only would the students lose out, but I think the fans in the community would feel sold out and unhappy, too," Deeg said. "To lose a sport like baseball would be a huge loss. It's part of America!"

Some athletes feel the answer to the budget dilemma may lie in a re-evaluation of which sports to emphasize in the Oregon athletic hierarchy.

Andrew Hanson, a sophomore on the golf team: "I'm a big fan of football and I realize my sport may not be where it is if it weren't for the money that football brings in, but I still don't like seeing it and basketball get bigger and bigger at the expense of the other sports."

"It just doesn't seem fair."

Some athletes were in favor of dropping their sport to a club level just so it will continue to exist.

"I played on the club level last year," said soccer player Michelle Potestio. "There is not much difference in my sport as far as competition goes, but you lack all the benefits of scholarships and such. On either level, you still get the best benefit of all, and that's being able to compete."

The majority of athletes contacted were against this, though, and would rather transfer to another school than compete on the club level.

"To put us on the club level would ruin us," Erb said. "The only way to improve in sports is to go against the best around. You need this if you are ever going to get any better. And isn't



Michele Potestio — "On either (club or intercollegiate) level, you still get the best benefit of all, and that's being able to compete."



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that what you are trying to do in sports?"

The problems involved with dropping the sport programs are immense. But the athlete is basically helpless at this stage of the game.

"There is nothing I can do about it" said gymnast Randy Jepson. "I just have to be concerned with my season now. Sure, it's always in the back of our minds, but we just have to keep on performing. There's not much else we can do."

Story by Mike Riplinger  
Emerald photos



## FOR ALL THAT YOU DO THIS RIM NEWS IS FOR YOU



### Fun Run Participants

**Basketball Intramurals** - Divisions I and II play-offs for co-ed, women's and men's teams are now underway. Teams in Division III are enjoying a guaranteed six game schedule. All schedules are posted in the RIM office.

**Scotch Doubles Bowling** is scheduled for today (February 18) at the EMU lanes at 4:30 p.m. Entries will be accepted at the RIM office or at the EMU Recreation Desk until 4:00 pm today. Partners roll every other ball regardless of frame. Do something FUN TODAY and try this for pure relaxation and kicks.

**Sports Photography Contest** - The contest for all entries has the broad title of sport, which is meant to include endless varieties of human movement, sport performance, recreation and dance. The categories for competition will consist of the following:

Entries are to be delivered to 103 Gerlinger on or before March 6. Details posted in RIM office, 103 Gerlinger.

- Division I Sports Action photographs which depict an event or group
- Division II Sports Portrait photographs which depict an individual

**Fun Runs** There will be two more fun runs this term. Mark these dates on your calendar.

March 4, Wednesday, 4:00 p.m. there will be a co-ed

partner run. Teams of one man and one woman will run alternating laps for one hour. The object is to accumulate as much yardage as possible.

March 5, Thursday, 4:00 p.m. RIM is co-sponsoring a run with the CPE Road Running classes. Details to come - check at RIM office.

**NEW - ACTION PROGRAM** - RIM is beginning a new recreation program. The Action Program will be a series of non-credit workshops, clinics, and courses which is designed to broaden and enhance recreational skills and understandings. We are interested in locating students who have special recreational talents/skills they would like to share with others. There will be a small fee to attend any Action Program - the fee's will cover the cost of instructors and other expenses. If you are interested in teaching in the Action Program contact the RIM office now to make arrangements for spring term.

**Tug-of-War** - Just how well could your team stack up in a battle of traction and strength? Here's your chance to find out. A team will consist of any number of participants not to exceed a total weight of 1500 pounds. There will be men's, women's and co-ed tugs. Co-ed teams may have plus or minus one man or woman member. Prelims will be in B-54 Gerlinger at 3:30 on Friday, February 27. Finals will be during the half of the Oregon women's basketball game February 27. Details and entries available at 103 Gerlinger.

### RESULTS

#### Inner Tube Race - February 2

Men

Women

1st  
Paul Gulkisson  
Peggy Garties

2nd  
Bob Needham  
Geri Sandell

#### Racquetball - Mixed Doubles - February 7

Novice

E. Rasmussen/L. Lombard  
J. Matz/  
E. Ananda

K. Zaidhach/ I. Babbs

Intermediate

Advanced

S. Guthrie/  
A. Mulvarey

L. Basich/ J. Geiry  
M. Hyne/ B. Stickney

#### Fun Run - February 10

5.5 mile  
Men  
Women

Lyndon Skoog  
Sally Simpson

Ed Spinney  
Sharon Bell

#### Free Throw Contest - February 12

Men

Bob Cory 25/25

tie T.J. Thomas 23/25  
David Smith 23/25

Women

Kay Neill 18/25

tie Kay Olson 17/25  
Gail Patton 17/25

### OPEN RECREATION SCHEDULE

**SWIMMING** - Identification required at open swim

Gerlinger Pool 7:00 am - 8:30 am M U W H (cap required)  
Gerlinger Pool 11:30 am - 1:30 pm M W F (cap required)  
Gerlinger Pool 12:30 am - 1:30 pm U H (cap required)

Leighton Pool 11:30 am - 1:30 pm M U W H F (50c charge)  
Leighton Pool 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm M W (50c charge)  
Leighton Pool 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Sunday

#### BADMINTON

Gerlinger Annex B-54 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm U\*  
Gerlinger Annex B-54 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm H\*

#### OPEN RECREATION

Esslinger Hall 3:30 pm - 9:00 pm M U W H\*  
Gerlinger Hall 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm F\*  
Gerlinger Hall 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Saturday\*  
1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Sunday\*

\*Gyms are available during this time periods EXCEPT where scheduled for classes, intramurals, athletics, club sports or special events.

Esslinger Hall  
Gerlinger Hall  
Gerlinger Annex

8:00 am - 3:30 pm\*\*

\*\*Students may use gyms during this period ONLY when no classes are scheduled.

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