

Budget axe poises as review begins

By TAMARA SWENSON
Of the Emerald

With four sports teetering on the edge of a budget cut, the grueling process of deciding what Athletic Department cuts to recommend to the University administration has begun.

Monday, the Intercollegiate Athletic Committee reviewed the budget-cutting proposal submitted by the department's senior staff. The proposal suggests the elimination of four sports—men's and women's swimming and gymnastics—and details the department's budget requirements.

Topping the list is a \$375,000 deficit. It is estimated that cutting the four

sports will save nearly \$200,000, but the deficit could balloon to \$750,000 next year unless drastic action is taken, Athletic Director John Caine said.

"Reducing the budget by cutting sports is just one part of the problem," Caine said. "We received a mandate from (Acting University Pres. Paul) Olum . . . to balance the budget."

Caine outlined six criteria the department will use to establish a future operating budget.

- The budget must be balanced by July 1, 1982.
- The debt must be paid.
- The women's programs must reach parity with the men. Currently, the

women receive about \$170,000 less in scholarships than the men, Caine said.

- Oregon must maintain NCAA Division I status, which requires eight sports.

- Oregon must continue offering the sports the Pac-10 expects its member schools to have—football, basketball, baseball and track.

- The department must work more aggressively to increase receipts.

The coaches and administrators are opposed to dropping any sports, but the department's senior staff opted for a sports cut as one way to cut the deficit.

No one has stepped forward with any money, and the department probably can't expect any increase from other

sources, Caine said. The department expects to receive \$100,000 less in outside contributions next year, he added.

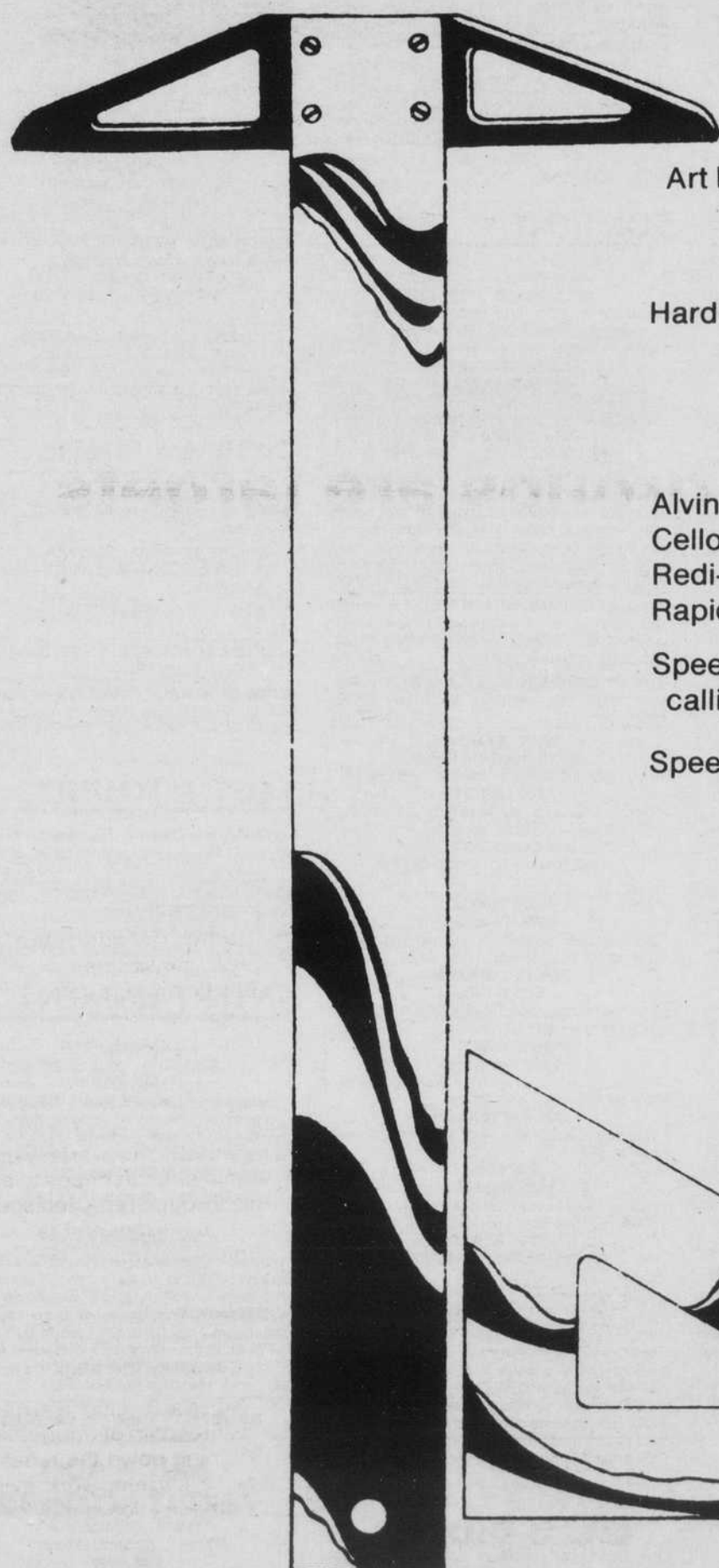
"It seems that the banker called your loan on short notice," said committee member King Martin.

"The banker called the loan last spring—that's why we got the (student athletic) fee," said Deputy Athletic Director Julie Carson.

But that \$17 per-term per-student fee, which Caine said was budgeted for a \$1.50 increase in next year's budget, remains uncertain.

ASUO Pres. Dave Eaton has indicated he will recommend no increase in the fee.

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