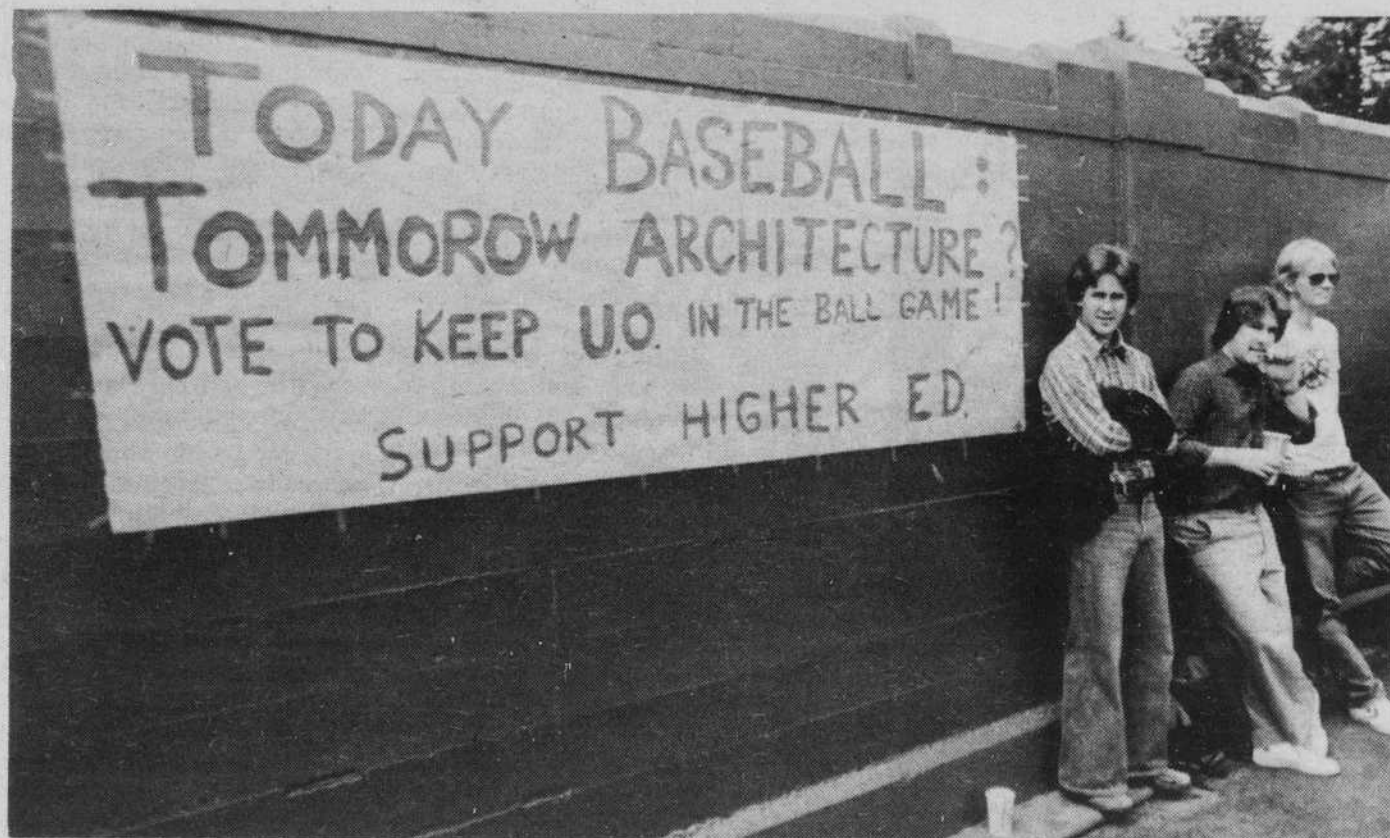


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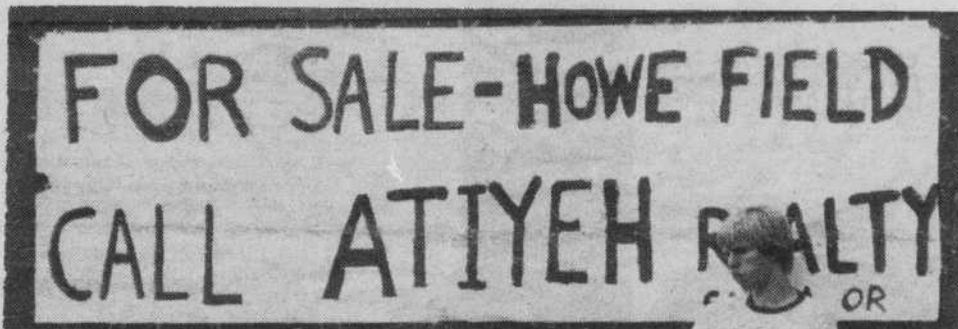
Signs of the times

Some came to see the end of 74 years of Oregon baseball, some just to enjoy the sun. But others came with signs to vent frustration over the loss of the sport and to show concern that the budget-cutting cleaver may not stop with sports.

The University, and coach Mel Krause (lower right), closed the book on baseball for good Wednesday at Howe Field, marking the end of a sport that first appeared on campus in 1877. Baseball was one of four sports axed by the administration last week in an effort to balance a hopelessly lopsided athletic budget.

For details on the game, see page 5A.

Photo by Steve Dykes



Reduced fund may eliminate 200 of faculty

By MARIAN GREEN
Of the Emerald

With the Legislature busy whittling away at higher education funding, the University's financial outlook is far from settled. But Pres. Paul Olum was prepared Wednesday to deliver an unsettling assessment of the University's future.

"The case is pretty simple," Olum told about 400 faculty and staff members. A 10-percent funding reduction — which the Legislature is considering — added to Gov. Vic Atiyeh's 3-percent cut would probably mean eliminating entire programs. "It would require cutting three professional schools and seven or eight departments beyond that."

These radical cuts would mean terminating 160-200 faculty members, with a corresponding loss in classified staff, Olum said.

"One of the worst things about cuts in a University, as distinct from cuts in property taxes, is that they are irreversible. The University is not a switch that can be turned on and off."

Olum also said the University's cuts would have a "severe impact" on the Eugene-Springfield community.

Because University salaries are spent in Eugene — and that money grows as it travels through the Eugene economy — the community could lose as much as \$22 million from faculty cuts alone based on an average \$20,000 faculty salary.

Olum also stressed that cuts in the University are more painful than cuts at other universities.

"We are much more poorly funded than other universities of our quality."

The University could come out in the black with the governor's budget if it were funded at the same level as comparable universities, he said.

"Other segments of education are funded at least as well as other states," Olum said. While elementary and secondary funding in Oregon has increased 42 percent in the last decade, higher education funding has declined 24 percent.

"In higher education we are special," Olum said, referring to the University's standing in the Association of American Universities. "Among those universities, we are the most poorly funded."

Olum stressed that the University is doing all it can to prevent the dire consequences of the cuts.

"We are not sitting still and letting this happen. We do not intend to give up."

Olum said he and other University administrators are visiting the legislators in Salem to tell them of the consequences. In addition, the University is contacting parent and alumni groups, organizations and editorial boards.

"Our faculty is doing a good job of getting this out," he said.

The cuts coming from the governor's budget are estimated at \$1.4 million for each year of the biennium, he said.

"Those cuts are already in place. We can survive it with pain and suffering."

But Olum wasn't as optimistic about the proposed 10-percent cut.

The 10-percent cut would result in a \$3.3 million reduction in the first year of the biennium and \$5.5 million the second, he said.

Olum said the University "must have the autonomy (from the Legislature) to make those decisions" of what to cut.

After the Legislature announces its revenue expectations May 19, "we will come to you with recommendations for carefully selected program cuts," Olum told the faculty and staff. "They will not be across-the-board cuts because across-the-board cuts would weaken the University."

He also said faculty representatives and deans will be consulted on the cuts, and that the administration would propose no faculty salary cuts.

"That proposal has to come from the people who are going to suffer those cuts."

Wounded pope 'stable'

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II, shot down by a Turkish gunman as he greeted 15,000 tourists and faithful at his weekly audience in St. Peter's Square, came through more than 5½ hours of surgery for six wounds in "good and stable" condition, his doctors said early Thursday.

They said the prognosis remained "guarded" largely because of the risk of possible infection, but added that the pontiff was conscious and breathing on his own.

As John Paul beamed and waved to the crowd packed Wednesday in the sunlit square, shots were fired and the pope slumped in his white jeep, witnesses said. Blood stained his white garments and horrified witnesses cried, "Oh no! Oh no!"

Police quickly took into custody a man identified as a Turkish right-wing terrorist who had vowed to kill the pope. He told them he "couldn't care less about life."

The gunman's bullets also wounded two women in the crowd, one of them American.

In Poznan, Poland, a woman said the John Paul's homeland was praying for "the burning heart of Poland radiating through the world."

A press release issued early Thursday by the

Vatican and signed by the attending physicians said, "At the end of the operation, the pope recovered consciousness, breathing spontaneously, and was in good and stable cardiocirculatory condition."

"The patient came through the operation in a satisfying manner. The prognosis remains strictly guarded in part because of risks deriving from post-operative infection," the Vatican press release said.

Earlier, the director of the surgery unit at the Gemelli Policlinico hospital, Professor Giancarlo Castiglioni, had termed the operation "successful" and told reporters, "The pope was very lucky."

After the 5½-hour operation and blood transfusions, the 60-year-old pope was transferred to the hospital's emergency care unit where he was expected to remain for 48 hours. The operation began at 8:55 a.m. PDT and ended at 2:25 p.m.

Castiglioni said the pope was shot twice in the lower intestine. He said one bullet passed through the body, causing another wound when it left, and another stayed in the body and was extracted by surgeons. The pope also had two slight wounds on his right arm and one on his left hand.