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 A great way of life

Contreras says ASUO supports prep fans

By Steve Hooks
 Of the Emerald

University students may subsidize high school students who attend University athletic events, says one ASUO official. The athletic department business manager disagrees. The Incidental Fee Committee allocated \$544,000 of students' fees to the athletic department for the 1982 fiscal year, says Alan Contreras, acting ASUO vice president of program administration. The money reduces the ticket prices University students pay to attend sporting events. The athletic department ticket office says high school students, as well as grade school students, get into games for the same price as University students.

the athletic department." Currently, \$12 per student per term goes to the athletic department, he says.

Administrators of Eugene, Springfield, and Bethel school districts say their districts do not pay the athletic department a subsidy to reduce ticket prices for high school students. One was surprised to learn a University ticket discount was available for high school students.

College students are entitled to discounts to high school sports events, says Charles Hamby, business administrator for the Eugene schools. This is "standard throughout the state," he adds.

This reciprocal deal "still does not change the fundamental problem," Contreras says. The financially troubled athletic department is giving high school students discounts at University students' expense, and "wouldn't give any discount in the first place if it didn't get the subsidy," he says.

"I don't see why I should pay so they (the high school students) can have a good deal," Contreras says. "Why, with all the griping about balancing the (athletic department) budget, are they letting high school students in at a reduced rate?"

How many high school students actually take advantage of the discount may influence the athletic department's future share of the ASUO budget, Contreras claims. The ASUO would find out the dollar amount lost from high school discounts and base decisions on those statistics, he says.

Any changes would be effected only after recommendations from Rich Wilkins, ASUO president, are sent to the IFC, Contreras said.

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If the athletic department extends the same discount to high school students, the \$544,000 may subsidize this, Contreras says.

This is not true, according to Mike Easterly, athletic department business manager. Reduced general admission ticket prices for high school and grade school students have been a long-standing policy of the athletic department, he says.

Reduced general admission ticket prices are not subsidized through incidental fees and are treated separately from University student tickets, Easterly says.

"The figures never talk to each other," he says.

"It is technically correct that our subsidy is not tied to the price of tickets for high school students," Contreras says. "But anytime the athletic department is offering a discount to somebody other than U of O students, it's in effect raising the amount U of O students must put into

Housing not in dire straits

By Dane Claussen
 Of the Emerald

Unlike the other University departments, the picture at the Housing Department is not yet grim, says Marge Ramey, assistant housing director.

Although the possibilities of enrollment declines concern the self-supported housing department, officials aren't ner-

vous yet, she says.

"The question of attracting new students is critical to us," Ramey says, adding reasons why she thinks the housing department will weather the storm.

The expenses of living off campus and the establishment of some halls reserved for upperclassmen or graduate students are factors keeping more and more upperclassmen in the dorms, she says.

A good selection of halls and food will keep the dorms attractive, Ramey says, along with a concerted effort to find out how students think the quality of dorm life can be improved.

Selling dormitory life to students is "a matter of marketing and service," Ramey says. "We don't try to spoil the students but we keep in mind the student is our customer."

Occupancy projections were above actual figures for both fall and winter terms, but they have yet to cause serious concern, she says. Only 2,981 students lived in residence halls during the fall term of a projected

3,057, while winter residents numbered 2,918, falling short of a 3,026 projection.

Underrealizations so far amount to only 1-percent of the year's budget, Ramey says.

"It's a trend we certainly have to keep our eye on."

Economizing is the way to deal with any upcoming problems, Ramey says.

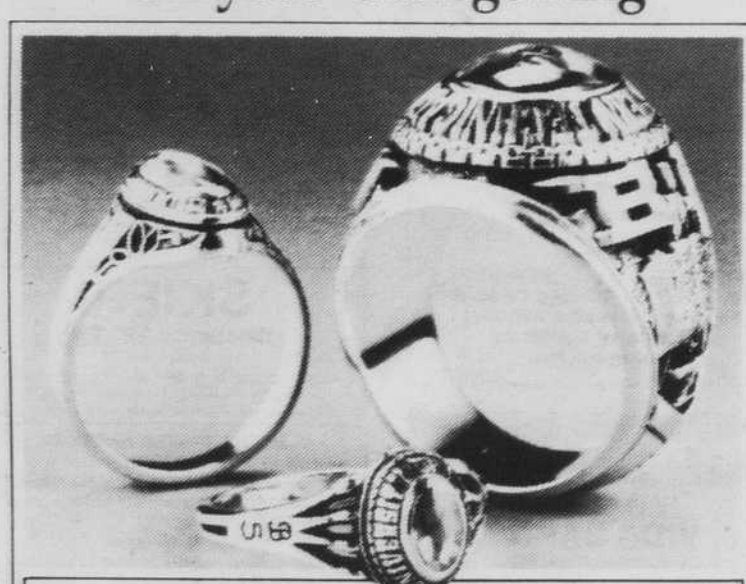
Students moving out or leaving the University during the year will cause more single-occupancy rooms, but little income is lost because single rooms cost more, she says.

Another selling point of the "residence halls"—as housing and Residence Hall Governance Committee members now call dormitories—is that "not all education takes place in the classroom," Ramey says.

The University recognizes this, and places 13 housing department officials at the faculty level, she says. The rest of the staff are state civil service employees.

Because of the nature of the department's funding, Ramey says there is a "constant responsibility to run a good ship."

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