

## Classified staff will press state for salary hike

By Michael Hosmar  
 Of the Emerald

Classified employees at the University will get an 8 percent salary increase beginning in July, if their tentatively-settled union contract meets approval by the Legislature.

The Oregon Public Employees Union contract asks for a 6 percent-per year increase in insurance contributions for the state employees as well. About 1,000 OPEU members work at the University, including library personnel, clerical workers, and Physical Plant employees.

The increase is designed to help union employees stay abreast of the inflation rate, said Donna Glathar, union district representative for higher education. But the increase does not make up for losses employees experienced when salaries were frozen three years ago, she said at a special contract settlement meeting Thursday in the EMU Forum.

The union negotiated the contract with the state labor relations division, and the agreement is now subject to approval by rank-and-file union members and the Legislature.

Glathar said the contract was settled earlier than in years past because "we knew money was an issue, so we put it on the table early."

"If we can get an 8 percent (salary) increase when Weyerhaeuser is taking a 30 percent cut, we're doing OK," she said.

However, legislators have already said the state has no money to fund such increases. Even worse, Glathar said, lobbyists have been asking the Legislature for increases in basic education "at the expense" of the union's requests.

Kurt Willcox, OPEU business agent, said that even though the union has settled on a tentative contract, the pay increases are not assured. Union members should turn their attention to the Legislature to make certain money for the increases is appropriated.

In its campaign to lobby the Legislature, Willcox said the union will argue the following:

- The union's request for higher pay is "extremely reasonable," in light of the two-year pay freeze and a postponed wage increase when the state was facing financial difficulties.

- It is unfair and counterproductive for state programs to fund pay increases using money from laid off employees' salaries.

- The union has low fringe benefit costs because it has been a leader in containing health benefit costs.

On a planned "lobby day" in early April, Willcox said union members will march streets near the Capitol in Salem to let the legislators know how important the contract is to union members. "The state owes you something," he said.

Union members will vote on the tentative contract, and results should be out by April 1.



## Senators do their homework

Bob Watrus (r.), Senate Education Committee administrator, discusses University research facilities and their future potential with Sen. Margie Hendriksen, D-Eugene, and other committee members during a Thursday tour. Legislators also met with University President Paul Olum and other officials.

Photo by Steven Wall

## Assault charges to be aired

# Beta hearings begin April 2

By Julie Shippen  
 Of the Emerald

University officials have scheduled a week of formal hearings to examine charges against Beta Theta Pi fraternity and six individuals directly or indirectly connected to the alleged assault of former University student Rob Seyler on Oct. 28.

Hearings begin April 2 at 7 p.m. in Room 167 EMU and will be open to the public, said Virginia Boushey, University conduct coordinator.

Eugene police officers found Seyler naked and unconscious outside a sorority house the morning of Oct. 28. Seyler claims he was robbed, beaten, stripped and abandoned that night by members of the Beta house and/or visitors following a social function there.

Boushey said charges will be heard against three individuals involved in the case, three representative officers of the fraternity and the fraternity itself. She could not release the specific charges against those involved.

"We have viewed this as a serious case, one that

needs to be addressed and resolved," she added.

Bill Kittredge, director of the Office of Student Advocacy, said four student defenders from his office have been appointed to represent four of the defendants.

Eugene attorney Douglas Haldane, who is representing Seyler, said he will file a formal lawsuit following the outcome of the University's hearing. Haldane said he needs more substantial evidence, which should come out at the hearing.

The Interfraternity Council's tribunal board met last month to hear charges against the fraternity, said Greg Van Dyke, board chair. Van Dyke said the house's members were found guilty of serving alcohol to minors and allowing uninvited guests to attend the function.

Beta members are on "suspended conduct probation" for social activities until fall and must complete 10 hours of community service work per member by the end of spring term, Van Dyke said.

# Board votes to trade bowling for bytes

By Scott McFetridge  
 Of the Emerald

The EMU Board voted Thursday to support the transformation of the older EMU bowling alley into a student computer center, and endorsed the general wording for a ballot measure that will request funding for the proposed change.

The number of computers available to students cannot meet the high demand, said Kevin Lewis, a member of the bowling alley subcommittee. He said the bowling alley, located east of the recreation center, is rarely used and

costs \$16,000 a year to maintain.

Although preliminary plans called for the installment of 100 computers into the proposed center, board members indicated that this number was probably too high.

The computer center would be completely funded by students, either through incidental fees or a user fee, Lewis said. If the costs were covered by incidental fees, a ballot measure requesting funds would have to be placed on the ASUO primary election ballot, he said.

Although the board agreed to sup-

port the creation of the computer center, they did not decide on how the center would be funded.

Adam Apalategui, a member of the EMU Board and the Incidental Fee Committee, said that the IFC is strongly opposed to any more student-subsidized programs. The IFC would not approve a ballot measure asking that student incidental fees be used to fund such a project, he said.

If the IFC does not approve a request from the EMU Board to place the measure on the spring ballot, the measure would have to be approved by

the ASUO Executive or by petition.

The bowling alley subcommittee hopes to remove the pin setters and contract an architect to design the interior of the area by fall term, Lewis said.

Also at the meeting, the board approved what EMU assistant director Frank Geltner called a "wish list" for the EMU dining areas. The list is needed so the University Planning Department can submit a list to the 1987 Legislature for future projects, Geltner said.