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Davis vetoes 'unjustified' AD budget

By Mary Lichtenwalner
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Charging that the Athletic Department is asking too much of University students, ASUO President Julie Davis vetoed the department's 1985-86 budget request Thursday, sending it back to the Incidental Fee Committee for reconsideration.

The IFC, however, intends to override Davis' veto, said Bob Mead, IFC chair. Five votes are necessary to override the veto, Mead said, adding that he isn't sure what the outcome will be, but that "it will be close."

If the IFC does not override the veto, the committee will ask the ASUO and the AD to renegotiate a proposal, Mead said.

Mead called the department's \$773,009 allocated budget level a "compromise" reached through negotiations between the AD and the IFC.

"We worked out a solution that was acceptable to both parties," he said.

Davis, however, told the IFC in a memo Thursday that the department's budget allocation is "unjustified at this time."

As factors leading to her decision, Davis cited a 3 percent tuition increase next year, reductions in individual financial aid awards, and a history of substantial AD budget increases. The ASUO does not feel an additional increase is appropriate this year, she said.

But the AD stands firm in its reasoning for the budget's level.

The allocated budget is "absolutely essential" to the health of non-revenue sports, said Bill Byrne, athletic department director. Byrne said that the funding is needed to meet necessary increases in non-revenue sports that were not anticipated last year.

"(The veto) won't affect men's basketball and football; it's the non-revenue sports that will feel the sting," he said.

Davis said that Byrne made a verbal commitment in a final interview for his position last summer, indicating that no further increase in the budget would be requested for the next fiscal cycle. He stated that the current level of student support through incidental fees was adequate, Davis said.

Byrne said that it was an accurate statement at that time, but "things change."

Davis said she believes the committee probably will override the veto. "Hopefully the IFC will look at the reasons I have listed to veto the budget," she said.

Chris Voelz, assistant director of the AD, said the veto would be a "retrenching" of the budget. The allocation has eliminated any possible reductions in the budget, she said.

The IFC, Voelz, Davis and ASUO Finance Coordinator John Dreeszen met Tuesday to consider the department's budget contract. The contract included the provision that incidental fees shall fund 50 percent of the expenses of men's sports, excluding football and basketball, co-ed sports and women's sports.

The IFC will consider the veto and resubmit it to the ASUO early next week. If still not approved by the ASUO, the budget will go to University President Paul Olum, and possibly to the Oregon State Board of Higher Education.

Academy given eviction notice

Famed center may construct new facility

By Julie Freeman
Of the Emerald

A 30-day eviction notice served by the Eugene Hospital and Clinic on May 3 could have marked the end for the Eugene-based National Academy of Artistic Gymnastics.

Instead, it may have just given the organization a reason to make a new start.

"When all this comes out, things may just work out for the best," said Keith Kerbaugh, the academy's director of development.

The academy, which is known as one of the world's best gymnastics training centers, has been struggling to pay off a \$210,000 deficit realized almost two years ago. Now it must pay \$19,000 by June 3 to the Eugene Clinic or leave its current home at 148 W. 12th Ave.

Instead of giving up, however, Dick Mulvihill, who founded the academy in 1973, said Wednesday night he will announce the school's future plans next week, which may include the construction of a new facility.

Until then, Mulvihill hopes to make arrangements with the clinic to stay in the school's current home through the summer.

"Our immediate goal right now is to bring our payments up to snuff and operate on a month-to-month basis," Mulvihill said.

In addition, Kerbaugh emphasized that the daily operation of the academy is on solid financial footing right now and will continue to satisfy all its creditors.

More than 500 youths from 40 states and 11 foreign countries currently train at the national academy, which has trained 10 Olympians and



Photo by James Marks

Despite a recent eviction notice from the Eugene Clinic, Dick Mulvihill hopes the National Academy of Artistic Gymnastics can stay at its present home through the summer.

won seven national gymnastics team titles.

Besides this, Kerbaugh said that the academy, a non-profit organization, has been good for the local economy.

Quoting a recent economic impact statement conducted by the school, Kerbaugh said that the academy has brought more than \$14.5 million directly into the Eugene/Springfield area, and next year the program is expected to bring in more than \$4 million.

"Our goal has always been community service, not some capitalist goal to make money," Mulvihill said.

It is mostly for this reason that Mulvihill has refused to file for bankruptcy in the past.

"We made the decision 20 months ago to do the hard thing," Mulvihill said, indicating that the school has always intended to pay off all its creditors.

Through budget cutting and some private donations, the academy has been able to cut its total \$210,000 debt

to \$75,000 and reduce its number of creditors still owed.

Mulvihill did say, however, that the academy may have to leave their current site, but he didn't expect the eviction notice from the Eugene Clinic until the end of the summer.

According to Wes Davidson, Eugene Clinic's assistant administrator of finance, the clinic's officials just felt it was time to act.

He added that the building currently used by the academy will eventually be knocked down to provide the clinic, located across the street, needed parking space.

Meanwhile, Mulvihill remains optimistic that everything will work out.

"The process has already been started for the relocation, and once we make some final decision, things will go quickly.

"Basically everything is on schedule, with the exception of us getting the boot," he said.

Women's faculty group lobbies for bill

Many capable faculty women are leaving state universities because of discriminatory practices by higher education officials, and until grievance procedures are improved, the situation will only become worse, a leader of a faculty women's group said Thursday night in the EMU.

There is no question that women are discriminated against in the Oregon State System of Higher Education, said Margaret Lumpkin, co-chair of Faculty Women for Equity and a recently retired Oregon State University professor.

"Women are clustered at the lowest levels where they don't have tenure and where they can't get full-time jobs," Lumpkin said.

According to a report cited by Lumpkin, only 4.8 percent of full professors at the University are women. In the entire state system, 91.4 percent of full professors are male, she said.

FWE, a group comprised of faculty

women from the state's eight public colleges and universities, is encouraging state legislators to support Senate Bill 542. The bill, which was approved by the Senate Education Committee, would change the state system's grievance procedures.

The bill would create more timely and effective grievance procedures in the state system, Lumpkin said. Currently, there are no time lines for discrimination claims, she said.

Faculty women don't simply want more money, Lumpkin said. They want to change the higher education system so women will be treated in an equitable way, she said.

"It's not just money that is important, but the policies that let you get your fair share," Lumpkin said. "Many capable women are leaving the system. We're trying to keep doors open for women, but they are closing in their faces."



Margaret Lumpkin