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Athletic Department given funding boost

By Dennis Fernandes
Of the Emerald

The University's shaky future in intercollegiate athletics stabilized considerably after students passed Ballot Measure 9 in their ASUO General elections last week.

The measure, passed by a 1,765-1,115 margin, will boost the Athletic Department's allocation of student incidental fees by an estimated \$300,000, some of which is penciled for the budgets of non-revenue sports such as men's and women's tennis and golf, wrestling and softball.

The rest of the money will provide free student tickets for all athletic events, including men's basketball and football. The Athletic Department currently allots 6,000 student tickets for football and 4,000 for basketball. The other sports have unlimited student capacity.

"We had such a delightful day around the Athletic Department Friday," said Chris Voelz, associate athletic director. "It was such a psychological uplift."

Students will now pay an additional \$6.55 per term in incidental fees, raising each student's contribution to the Athletic Department to \$24.18 a term.

For the state of athletics at the University, the increase gives student athletes in non-revenue sports renewed optimism, especially after last spring's budget cuts that left men's and women's swimming and women's gymnastics without a banner to compete under, and the rest of the dependent programs with depleted resources.

It was thought that if this

measure failed, more cuts would have to be made in next year's budget. With the University already on the borderline in the Pacific 10 Conference's requirement for varsity-level sports (13), more cuts would have been devastating.

"As an athlete, we really didn't think of them as extra funds," said Dan White, a member of The Team Council, an organization of student athletes. "They were necessary funds. I'm a wrestler, and for us, it was a savior."

"We wouldn't have dropped sports," Voelz said. "But we really would have been in a precarious situation. It would have meant cuts or freezes."

"It's been a long, long time since I've tried to distribute funds and not had to extract them," she added.

A similar measure on last year's ballot failed. This time around the 26-member Team Council got better organized in their lobbying effort, and the work appears to have paid off.

White cites a more combined front in the publicity effort and re-wording the ballot's explanation as major factors in changing the outcome of this measure. "Last year, the ballot only addressed women's sports," White said. "That struck a lot of people as being reverse discrimination. Also, this year the \$1 tickets (for football and basketball) were free."

Dan Martin, another wrestler, listed the help of "30 to 40 athletes from different sports" as a deciding factor.

"This is going to help us a lot," Martin said. "You see those kinds of resources right away, first in travel expenses and then in recruiting."



Breezin'

The seventh annual Tour Williamette makes its way to campus on Sunday for the University of Oregon Criterium, the final leg of the four-day, 350-mile race that began with a 55-mile competition at Dexter Lake on Thursday.

The event attracted 280 participants and thousands of spectators, including students soaking up the sunshine along the .6-mile criterium route on University and Agate Streets, in between 13th and 15th Avenues.

Photo by Derrel Hewitt

State Board reaffirms pledge to divest funds in South Africa

The State Board of Higher Education on Friday reaffirmed its ten-year-old policy of divestment of funds from companies doing business in South Africa.

In 1977, the State Board voted to sell its stock in companies that do business in South Africa as a statement of protest against apartheid.

But the state's Attorney General ruled at the time the State Board lacked authority to order divestiture, and that the state's "most prudent investor

rule" would be violated if funds were pulled out of South Africa related businesses.

The ASUO and the students of Portland State University joined in a lawsuit seeking to overturn the Attorney General's ruling.

The nine-year old lawsuit was dismissed last month by the Oregon Supreme Court, which chose not to hear the case.

Last November, the Oregon State Court of Appeals ruled that students lacked the right to

bring suit in the case because they failed to "allege any legally recognized injury."

The State Board on Friday also voted not to invest in companies doing substantial business in South Africa in the future.

The State Board will ask the current Attorney General to OK the move before they pull their investments from South Africa related businesses.

Animal research protesters take message to streets



Local animal rights supporters participate in a march intended to be a 'message to the research community.' The three women holding the banner refused to identify themselves.

By Sarah Kitchen
and Stephen Maher
Of the Emerald

A group of about 80 protesters marched through Eugene on Saturday protesting the use of laboratory animals for research.

Sponsored by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, the march proceeded from the Federal Building in downtown Eugene to the University Science buildings and back.

The march was "a message to the research community that we don't believe in what they're doing — it's unethical and a fraud," said Sharon Nettles, a PETA spokeswoman and one of the coordinators of the march.

"We are trying to make two points," she said. "One is that it is not ethical to house animals in research laboratories supposedly to benefit humans, and the second is that we do not believe animal research benefits humans at all."

"We wanted to make our point and we think we made it," said Betty Kang, a member of PETA's steering committee.

Alternatives do exist that would be more applicable and less expensive, Nettles said. These alternatives are not used, however, because of laziness on the part of researchers for not looking for new technology and because of the money involved with using animals in experiments, she said.

"Animal research is a billion-dollar industry, and many people are involved, from the people who breed the animals that are used in research to the people who make the cages and the food," Nettles said. "According to the world health association, we only need 250 drugs."

However, researchers continue to pour useless drugs onto the market each day however, she added.

Hand-held signs, such as "Stop cruel treatment at the hand of abusive experimenters," "Non-human animals have feelings too" and "Animal torture by U of O from tax dollars," dominated the march, which included a number of dogs on leashes.

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