

Willamette Valley Folk
Festival pictorial essay
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Goldschmidt signs divestiture bill

By B.J. Thomsen
Of the Emerald

SALEM — Advocates of human rights who have been working for years to get Oregon dollars out of South African investments finally tasted sweet victory on Friday when Gov. Neil Goldschmidt signed House Bill 2001.



Legislative issues

More than 100 jubilant onlookers and many of the key legislators from both the House and the Senate responsible for passage of the bill attended an emotionally charged ceremony in the governor's office.

Before signing the bill, Goldschmidt said many have opposed divestment through the years, justifying it by saying it will make no difference. He rebuffed that belief by describing the legislation as a small step critical in forcing the South African government into reconsidering its policy of apartheid.

"If there ever was a ripple in a current this is it," he said.



Gov. Neil Goldschmidt

Turn to Divestiture, Page 4

Charges on Bils dropped; possible case still pending

Criminal charges against former University student Willy Bernard Bils, who was arrested for allegedly turning in a class paper that he did not write, have been dismissed.

Bils, 31, was taken into custody March 9 on two counts of criminal simulation and one count of Forgery II stemming from a police investigation into the authenticity of a paper he turned in for class credit last fall.

The district attorney's office dropped the charges prior to Bils' trial, set for last Friday.

Protecting their individual cases, neither the district attorney's office nor Bils' attorney would divulge any specifics of the dismissal. However, sources said Bils could be recharged through another court.

Deputy District Attorney Darryl Larson confirmed Friday that the charges had been dropped, but added he expected new developments would arise in the case by today.

"We've been negotiating with the district attorney's office for some time; this is no surprise to us," said Bils' attorney Daniel Goff.

According to sources quoted in police reports, Bils paid a Eugene legal researcher \$500 last November for a report that he later handed in under his own authorship.

Bils was arraigned March 12, when he pleaded not guilty to the charges. He was granted a medical leave of absence from the law school and has been living in or near Seattle, Wash..

Eugene police Sgt. Chuck Tilby said the case is still under investigation.

Officials say paid leaves important for University

By Chris Norred
Of the Emerald

At the height of the Eugene teachers strike, frustrated teachers picketed in front of Johnson Hall and accused a University professor of prolonging the strike for his own benefit.

Steve Goldschmidt, a professor in the University's Division of Educational Policy and Management, was serving as the Eugene School District's chief negotiator while taking a one-year paid sabbatical leave from the University.

Goldschmidt, who regularly earns more than \$46,000 a year as a University professor, will get 60 percent or nearly \$28,000 in sabbatical pay this year.

During his sabbatical, Goldschmidt's part-time work as negotiator for the Eugene School District earned him \$75 an hour.

Striking teachers accused Goldschmidt of being the state's highest paid public employee on an hourly scale.

By the end of spring term, the University will pay more than \$1 million to faculty members on sabbatical leaves, about 4 percent of the total payroll.

Overall, 54 faculty members are taking paid sabbaticals from the University this year. At the same time, 46 new full-time equivalent (FTE) faculty positions were added to the University's payroll.

Oregon legislators are considering a budget for higher education that will add about \$2.3 million to the University's basic operating budget. Higher education officials say part of the \$2.3 million will be used for hiring more faculty to teach the increasing number of students at the University.

The 46 added FTE faculty positions brought the University total to about 961 FTE positions this year. Each FTE position usually includes two or more part-time faculty members whose workload is equal to one full-time employee.

Why should taxpayers finance 46 new FTE faculty positions when 54 paid faculty members are on sabbatical leave?

The Chronicle of Higher Education last month reported on one Illinois senator's concerns about the cost of sabbatical leaves in his state when colleges asked for extra money to hire more instructors.

The senator suggested restricting sabbaticals and requiring faculty members who earn profits during sabbatical to help the state defray its sabbatical expenses.

But here, University administrators and Oregon higher education experts say faculty members who earn outside income during sabbatical are rare.

Turn to Leaves, Page 5

Hayward project nears finish line

By Stanley Nelson
Of the Emerald

SALEM — Funding for a Hayward Field facelift cleared one hurdle as the Oregon House on Friday passed a bill authorizing the sale of Department of Higher Education bonds for the renovation of the track and field facility.

House Bill 2800, passed by the House 52-2, would allow the Department of Higher Education to issue up to \$2 million in 20-year bonds for the

renovation. The bonds would then be repaid primarily from an increase in local room tax funds earmarked for the project as well as a \$1 surcharge on Hayward Field track events and private contributions to the project.

The bill now moves to the Senate where it is expected to be heard within a week to 10 days.

The passage of the bill through the House is a culmination of six months work as well

as bi-partisan cooperation, said its sponsor, Rep. David Dix, D-Eugene.

There was no voiced opposition during the bill's discussion, which Dix attributed to the assistance of House Republican leader Larry Campbell, R-Eugene.

"He tried to throw a bi-partisan support for the bill so I have to give him as much credit as anyone," Dix said of Campbell.

Turn to Renovation, Page 4



'Tis the season

A happy group gathers to receive awards for efforts in the Oregon Summer Games of the Special Olympics, held this past weekend at Silke Field in Springfield. An estimated 6,500 participants and 1,000 volunteers took part in the annual event.

Photo by Andy Cripe