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Sophisticated flying

Dave Lickey catches some "thermals," updrafts of warm air, with his sail plane "The Sophisticated Lady" Tuesday morning. Lickey, a senior in history, catapults his plane into the sky with an elastic device and manipulates it by remote control.

Photo by Mark Ylen

Voters dump plan for new school tax bases

By Don Peters
Emerald Associate Editor

Oregon voters Tuesday overwhelmingly rejected a ballot measure that would have updated tax bases for about a third of the state's school districts.

With 2,038 (90 percent) of the state's 2,261 precincts reporting, Measure 1, heavily supported by both Gov. Neil Goldschmidt and the Legislature, was defeated 161,167 (41 percent) to 233,589 (59 percent).

In addition, Eugene 4J school district's bid for a supplemental property tax levy was narrowly leading 8,708 to 8,490 with an undetermined amount of precincts reporting.

The measure would have established property tax levies for about 100 state school districts who either have inadequate

bases or none at all. Property tax bases are amounts districts can levy without further voter approval. The state constitution allows bases to automatically grow 6 percent a year.

Because the state supplies less than 38 percent of the money for education, school districts with small tax bases have to levy supplemental property taxes, subject to district voter approval.

The defeat comes as a major blow to Gov. Goldschmidt's school finance reform plan. Measure 1 would have been the plan's second step.

The first step was the 1987 "safety net" law, which permitted financially ailing school districts to fall back on the previous year's tax without submitting it for voter approval.

Measure 1 was designed to pull districts

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Fee spending bill passes House education panel

By Don Peters
Emerald Associate Editor

SALEM — The House Education Committee Tuesday unanimously approved a bill that would give students more control over incidental and building fees.



Legislative Update

Senate Bill 830, sponsored by Sen. Larry Hill (D-Springfield) at the request of the Oregon Student Lobby, passed the Senate April 19, 29-0.

The bill would tighten up the language that governs how student fees are appropriated by rerouting all surplus incidental fees back into the processing system. This would prevent higher administration officials from using student fees for anything other than non-academic purposes.

Another section of the bill would require

student building fees to be used for no reason but to fund self-sustaining, self-liquidating auxiliary facilities.

Members of ASUO, OSL and other college and university student governments turned out at the public hearing to lobby support for SB830.

Steve Hoyt, OSL chairman and vice president of ASUO, said the bill would give more power to students.

"Passing this bill would be a real victory for students," he said.

University Incidental Fee Committee chairwoman Lauren Norris said the incidental fee process gave students the opportunity to provide a wider variety of extracurricular activities and better services.

"Without this bill, true representation on the allocation of fees is not guaranteed to the very students who pay the fees," she said. "The system of student taxation is only fair when there is student representation."

Sen. Hill also showed up to lend his sup-

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University moves on lighting issue

By Chris Bouneff
Emerald Reporter

The University will begin implementing a three-phase plan within the next two weeks in an attempt to improve the campus lighting situation.

The total project will be finished in three years with each phase taking one year to complete, said Muriel Jackson, assistant vice president for administration.

"The ASUO worked very closely with us as we attempted to first identify the areas needing more lighting and then prioritize the areas that are most important," Jackson said.

Jackson said the project carries an overall cost of about \$100,000, which will be distributed accordingly for each

phase of the lighting project.

"It's just a great step — a positive step in the administration meeting students' needs," said Mark Button, ASUO University affairs coordinator. "It's the first time in a long time we've received a response and intent to meet students' needs."

Button and ASUO President Karen Gaffney started discussing the lighting situation with Jackson after organizing a night walk in January to demonstrate the lack of adequate lighting on campus, Button said.

Jackson participated in the walk and said she saw several areas that needed improvements in lighting.

At one point, Jackson moved ahead of the group in a darkened area near Deady Hall and

basically became invisible to the group after walking only a short distance, she said.

Phase one of the project will be broken into three "activities," according to a memo from University Vice President Dan Williams.

The first activity will be the installation of two temporary pole lights near Deady Hall, while the second and third activities will include new lighting in three areas near the dorms and on the path from Gerlinger Annex to the Knight Library.

Because Deady Hall is a historical landmark, the University will have to review the lighting plan for that area with the State's Historic Preservation ex-



Photo illustration by James Marks

Some areas of campus are so dark that a person only a few yards away can be almost invisible.

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