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## Olum, Wessells announce specific budget cuts

By Denise Clifton  
Emerald Reporter

(For a complete list of all the announced cuts in University programs, see Page 5.)

At least 24 faculty positions will be eliminated and one department will be closed as a result of the University's proposed budget cuts revealed in a press conference Thursday morning at Johnson Hall.

Provost Norman Wessells announced that 13 to 15 current non-tenured faculty will be laid off and the remaining faculty cuts will be covered by unfilled vacancies and upcoming retirements, breaking the silence University administrators have maintained over the past nine months as they planned these budget cuts.

"The president and myself will each provide to any faculty

person terminated for financial reasons a letter so indicating, and we'll explain that no deficiencies in performances were involved in the termination," Wessells said.

In addition, Wessells said the gerontology department and the Center for Gerontology will be dropped completely next year. "This is a small department with only one tenured faculty in it, who will be transferred to somewhere else within the college," he said.

Wessells said the colleges of arts and sciences and human development will be affected greatly by the cuts because each college will be trimmed by more than \$340,000.

"What we're talking about here is ... looking at the overall structure of the colleges, and the senior faculty and department heads will be doing just that," he said, adding that

many changes will come through reorganization rather than elimination.

"We have to try to make these departments and schools stronger, if we can do that," Wessells said.

However, human development Dean Celeste Ulrich said the college will not be strengthened by the changes.

"This represents in our college a gigantic cut - probably about 18 to 20 percent of our budget," Ulrich said.

"Academically, I am obviously disappointed and distressed that the University was called on to make these cuts and even more distressed that the administration felt our department was so vulnerable to taking such large cuts.

"Obviously, this closes a lot of doors to students, especially since much of the service content of the college has been

eliminated," she said.

The college will lose the Widowed and Family Grief Counseling Center, the Therapeutic Recreation Program, the Ethnic and Folk Dance Program, and the interdisciplinary master's degree in corrections.

Moreover, the University will reduce enrollment in leisure studies and physical education programs and eliminate at least seven faculty positions in the college.

"We certainly aren't going to be what we were before," Ulrich said. "It would take five years to regain what we've already lost psychologically, let alone what we'll lose academically."

The College of Arts and Sciences also will face reorganization and extreme cutbacks in programs, Wessells said.

The University will cut three faculty positions and reduce

undergraduate enrollments in the speech department. The department also may be reorganized, and the telecommunications and film program may be transferred into the journalism school, Wessells said.

Arts and Sciences Dean Donald Van Houten said the changes are very painful for the college. "We're going to have to limit the access to students to those (speech) majors and minors," he said. "That will be very difficult."

In addition, the statistics program will be eliminated from the mathematics department, and department head Frank Anderson is worried about how this will affect the University's reputation as a research institution.

"If statistics isn't a fundamental part of a research institution, I don't know what is."

Turn to Cuts, Page 5

## Student's push for elevator to result in increased access

By Michael Drummond  
Emerald Associate Editor

John Hocken III didn't think needing four fellow Honors College students to carry him and his 175-pound electric wheelchair up three flights of stairs constituted equal access.

An elevator, however, would.

Hocken lobbied University officials to get an elevator built in Chapman Hall, and the school agreed to do so.

The heart of the University's Honors College beats from the third floor of Chapman Hall, and Hocken, who had Duchenne's muscular dystrophy and required a wheelchair, couldn't physically enter the very school to which he had been admitted.

John Hocken III enrolled in the Honors College in 1986, attended the school for one academic year. Before he was to begin his sophomore year, Hocken died of muscular dystrophy on Sept. 23, 1987. He got to see the inside of the Honors College one time - the time he was carried there.

But thanks to his efforts, the next John Hocken III won't have to be carried to the top floor of Chapman Hall. He or she will be able to take an elevator, which will be appropriately dedicated in the name of John Hocken III.

"When it came to the question of the elevator, John was a seer," wrote Henry Alley, an assistant professor in the Honors College, in a 1989 newsletter.

"He was not speaking for himself but for all people who needed accessible buildings," Alley added.

Construction of the lift begins at the end of this month, said University planning associate Fred Tepfer. "The elevator may not be operational by fall, but I can guarantee it will be operational by Christmas, if all goes well," Tepfer said.

The elevator will serve the main first floor and all of the second and third floors, he said. However, the elevator will not reach the basement.

"The building itself presents a number of structural and utility line obsta-

cles," Tepfer said. The building already is crowded with office space, and one branch of the University's subterranean tunnels cuts under Chapman, he added.

Richard Stevenson, director of the Honors College, worked with John in bringing the equal access issue to the attention of campus administrators.

"During the year that John was an HC student he did a great deal to raise my consciousness about equal access," he said. Stevenson had written President Paul Olum in 1988. "The positive pressure he put on me was relayed directly to (Vice President for Administration) Dan Williams; very quickly a Chapman Hall elevator became a high priority," he said.

Stevenson recalled the orientation brunch during which John had to be carried upstairs.

"He had a wonderful time mingling with the other students. That's when (the elevator idea) really hit home," Stevenson said.

John Hocken's parents credit Stevenson for pushing the elevator idea.

"I was extremely upset when I first heard there was no elevator at the Honors College," said John's father, John Hocken. "So I went to Stevenson."

"Stevenson said that wasn't right ... We didn't have to push, Stevenson pushed it," Hocken said.

Stevenson, however, gives the credit to John Hocken III for his "quiet lobbying."

"Everytime I saw John he'd look me in the eye and ask me 'How's the elevator coming?'" Stevenson said. "And I'd go 'gulp' and say, 'I'm writing another letter' to the administration."

John Hocken noted that the University "did everything it could" to help his son, including moving classes to accessible rooms to fit John's academic schedule.

"It's a freedom issue," John Hocken said. "And John's wheelchair was his freedom machine."

While that allowed John to attend classes, he still couldn't get to the top of

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## Double whammy

Scott Buresh shows off his mastery of the double Frisbee catch Thursday afternoon. The self-proclaimed inventors of double Frisbee, Buresh and his Frisbee throwing partner John Haakanson started throwing while students at the University 17 years ago.

As dead week draws to a close, students can expect beautiful, sunny, 80-degree weather this weekend - making procrastination all the more tempting.

Photo by Mark Ylen