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Board hedges on giving higher ed funds to athletics Delay of final vote surprises nobody

By Carrie Dennett
Emerald Associate Editor

The Oregon State Board of Higher Education voted Friday to delay final action on how to fund a \$6.3 million intercollegiate athletics deficit, a move that did not surprise students and administrators.

The board had been set to vote on whether to transfer \$3.35 million in Oregon State System of Higher Education funds to athletic programs at the University, Oregon State and Portland State, a proposal that has drawn fire from many students and faculty, as well as Gov. Barbara Roberts.

The vote marked the second time the board delayed action on the proposal. The first delay came at the Sept. 27 meeting, where the proposal was first presented to transfer \$1.5 million annually

each to Oregon and Oregon State, and \$350,000 annually to Portland State.

The board voted unanimously Friday to approve board President George Richardson Jr.'s recommendation to appoint a Task Force on Funding of Intercollegiate Athletics to find more acceptable ways of financing the debt.

Richardson said while the original proposal to transfer state system funds is "well thought-out and innovative," an effort must be made to seek alternative funds to remain "sensitive and responsive" to those opposed to using institutional funds.

Before the 11 a.m. meeting in the EMU Gumwood Room, students and some faculty joined in a last-minute protest in the EMU Fish-



Photo by Jeff Paslay
Jennifer Bills, ASUCO president and chairwoman of the Oregon Student Lobby, addresses a group of concerned citizens in the EMU Fish-wood Room Friday afternoon about athletic funding.

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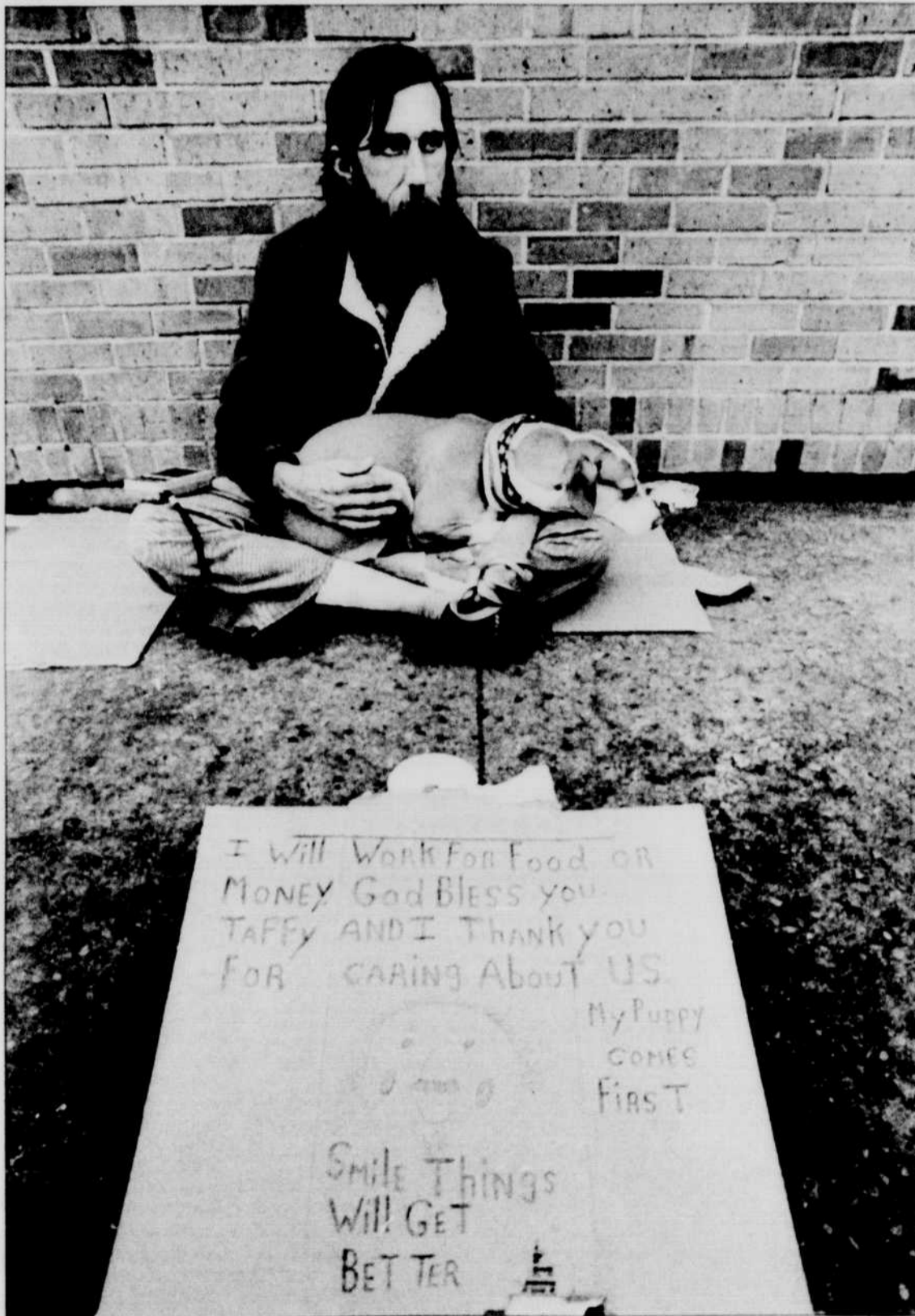


Photo by Sean Poston
Cowboy and his dog Taffy Marie have sat at this post for two weeks in the hopes of getting work for food.

WITHOUT A HOME

By Colleen Pohlig
Emerald Reporter

A damp, raggedy poncho hangs loosely around the man's shivering body as he counts the small amount of change he has just panhandled. His face is dirty and weathered by a life of wandering, Vietnam and booze. His pale blue eyes reflect a dismal hopelessness.

"Where do you see yourself in the next five years, Tim?"

"In the grave."

Tim slowly pulls back his torn sleeve to reveal three large lumps on his wrist. Then he tilts his head down only to expose several more lumps buried beneath the scraggly, black hair.

"Cancer tumors," Tim says.

INSIDE

- Students and merchants along 13th Avenue generally have different opinions about homeless people. See story, Page 8.

- Shelters in Eugene are often the only place to go for some families. See story, Page 8.

- Facts and figures about the growing problem of homelessness. See Page 10.

Taking the Bugle tobacco out of the foil pack, Zeus intently rolls his sixth cigarette in the last hour, pondering the question for a long moment. The silence is broken by a group of University men yelling, "Watch out, Zeus — we're gonna bring our ferocious dog over and he's gonna lick your face!"

Fear flashes in his eyes for a split second

before going back to the question.

"What am I doing here, is that what you asked? I perceive myself as a philosopher of logic," he says. "I am on a sociological expedition and when I return to school in the near future, I am going to write my psychology paper on my sociological expedition."

Cowboy sits peacefully in front of Guido's, holding his "baby girl" in his lap. The cardboard sign in front of him reads "I will work for food or money" and "my puppy comes first." He has sat with his beloved companion and his sign for two weeks — and still not one job. A passing student hurriedly walks by, dropping a quarter in the glass jar with a sympathetic look.

Petting his dog, Cowboy says, "Yeah, it's a pretty rough life. I just want enough change to feed Taffy Marie and me and that's it. I just want to live with my baby girl — I just want to survive."

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