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Student court to rule on ASUO stipend raises

□ Complainants questioning whether ASUO had the authority to raise executive stipends without IFC approval

By Kirsten Lucas
Emerald Reporter

The ASUO Constitution Court will soon decide whether groups funded with student fees — including student government — must receive Incidental Fee Committee permission before raising member stipends.

The court heard arguments Monday night from University students Don King and Karl Pond and from ASUO President Jennifer Bills.

Petitioners King and Pond contended that three members of the ASUO executive have been overpaid. King and Pond also requested that the court make the recipients pay the money back.

ASUO Affirmative Action Coordinator Bobby Lee and former ASUO Vice President JoSonja Watson received raises this year, which exceeded the stipends approved for those positions by the IFC last spring.

Lee is currently receiving \$175 per month. His IFC-approved stipend was \$125. Watson was receiving \$300 per month. Her IFC-approved stipend was \$250.

Bills said that when she came into office, she created, combined and eliminated several positions, which led her to raise their stipends. She also said she felt justified in her action.

However, Bills could not explain why ASUO Programs Coordinator Therese DuBravac was paid more than her monthly stipend. DuBravac somehow ended up with \$625 more than she should have received. Bills said her office was still investigating DuBravac's overpayment.

King and Pond based most of their argument against the raises on a literal interpretation of IFC Resolution B, which states: "No one who is paid a salary which is funded by the IFC in whole or in part shall be paid a higher rate than that authorized by the IFC."

Bills argued that the intent of Resolution B is to prevent groups from spending more on stipends than the total amount allocated to stipends in an annual budget.

The IFC approved a total ASUO stipend line item budget of \$35,650 for this year. Bills said the controversial raises will not send the stipend budget into deficit.

In fact, she said, the ASUO will have a surplus of sti-

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Kidsports coaches have a ball

□ University students enjoy fun of volunteering in children's sports

By Hope Neelson
Emerald Reporter

There's a lot of energy in 18 fourth-graders, but senior Brad Robertson said he's never regretted for a second his decision to volunteer teaching basketball to "his kids."

Like many other students, Robertson volunteers for Kidsports, a non-profit organization that places every child who signs up in one of its sports, regardless of athletic ability.

"This is a league where having fun is still more important than winning," Robertson said.

"We lost after our first game by 20 points," he said. "After the game one of the kids came up to me yelling, 'Brad! Brad! Did we win?'"

"We let them set the tone of seriousness," Robertson said. "Some teams have the coaches yelling at the kids on the sidelines, and I don't see the value in that."

Patrick Johnston, Robertson's coaching partner, agrees.

"As long as the guys who are participating are having a good time, then it's OK," Johnston said.

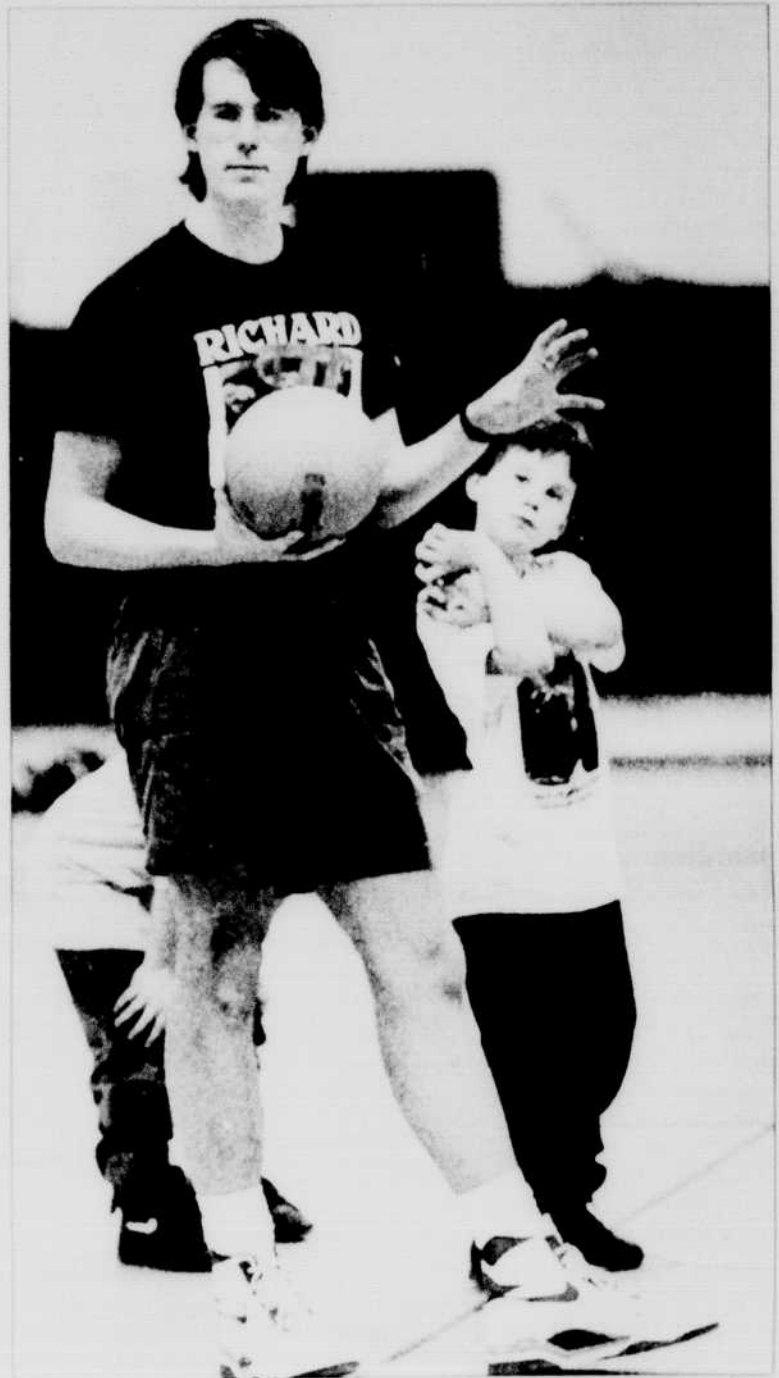
Johnston said he and Robertson were a little nervous when they started coaching.

"We had a bunch of kids just walking in and expecting us to know what was happening," he said. "We didn't know what was happening."

Johnston said practices now go a lot smoother, "somewhere between having control and complete mayhem."

"We usually decide our practices on the walk over to Edison (Elementary) School, where they practice and finish by scrimmaging," Johnston said.

"Brad and I have come up with



Coach Brad Robertson explains a drill during a Kidsports practice.

Photo by Sean Poston

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Myles Brand

Brand seeks help in letter-writing campaign

□ Students urged to write Oregon's leaders or face tuition increase

By Carrie Dennett
Emerald Associate Editor

University students are all too aware that tuition is up and number of programs are down, but they may be unaware that the situation could get much, much worse.

University President Myles

Brand said students will face an "enormous" tuition hike effective September 1993, courtesy of Measure 5, unless replacement revenue is found quickly.

To make students aware of what lies around the bend and to motivate them to take an active role in their future, Brand is sending out letters today to 14,500 students, asking them to write to Oregon's leaders.

In the letter, Brand urges students to write Gov. Barbara Roberts and state legislators. In the letters, Brand wants students to tell legislators to call

an immediate special legislative session and create a reasonable tax restructuring plan that can be sent to voters this year.

Similar letters were sent to 10,000 active alumni and 3,241 University employees. Each letter recipient is asked to get five of his or her friends, neighbors and relatives to join the letter-writing campaign.

"These cuts matter to graduates, too," said former ASUO Vice President Shosha Stickel, "because it's their old departments that are getting cut."

Stickel, an intern in Brand's office and a former legislative intern for state Rep. Gail Shibley, said letters matter.

"The legislators and elected officials respond to letters because if people take the time to write, they probably take the time to vote," she said.

Brand said although 1993 may seem far away, it is crucial that a special session be called soon. He and the other presidents in the Oregon State System of Higher Education are al-

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MR. POSTMAN

Media critic Neil Postman said Monday night that universities need to depoliticize and deprofessionalize themselves to be more effective learning environments.

See LECTURE, Page 7

UNWELCOME CALLERS

Many members of the University community, from individuals to student groups, find themselves harassed by obscene and threatening phone calls.

See CALLERS, Page 5

SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL

The most valuable players for the Duck men's basketball team just might be the two towel boys who crouch underneath the visiting team's basket.

See 'FROM THE SIDELINES,' Page 9