

Goin' nowhere fast

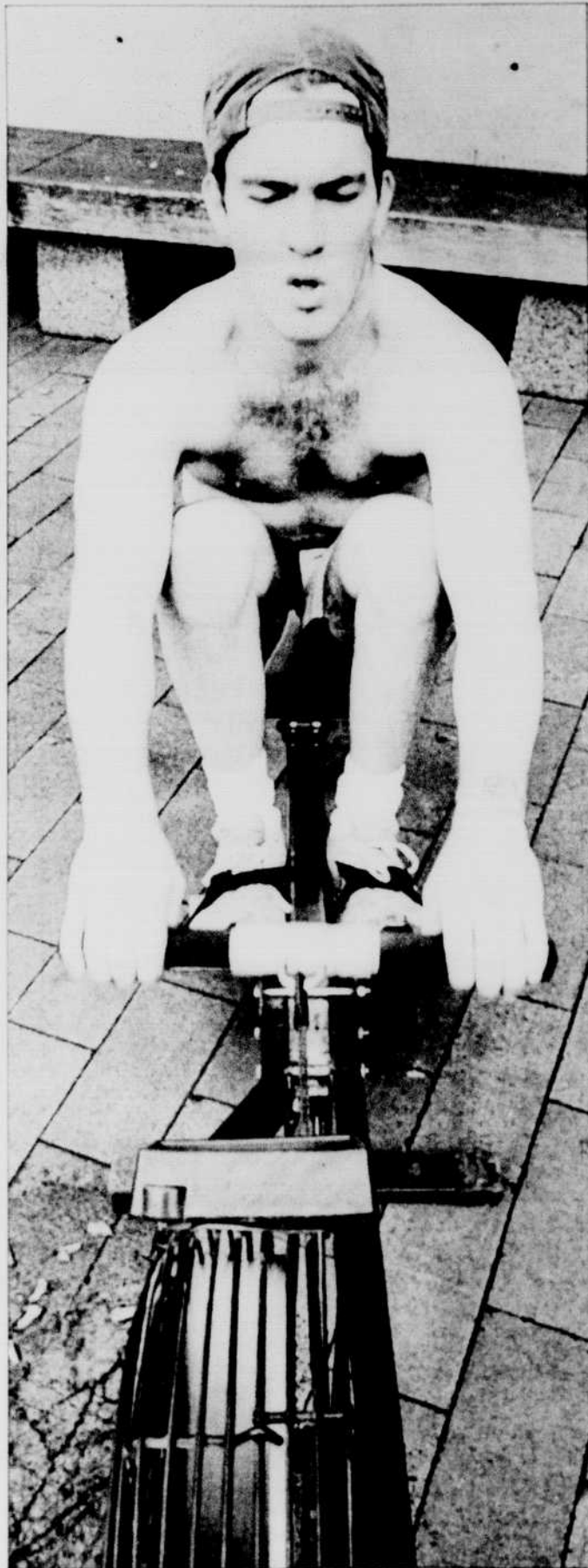


Photo by Sean Poston

University sophomore Philip Johnson takes part in the Oregon club crew's 24-hour Erg-a-thon Tuesday in the EMU courtyard. Members of the crew teams will be out again today to raise money for travel expenses, uniforms, entry fees and repairs.

Court says raises were violation

□ Despite overpayment, Lee and Watson will not be asked to repay the difference

By Daralyn Trappe
Emerald Associate Editor

ASUO President Jennifer Bills violated an Incidental Fee Committee rule when she reallocated staff salaries last year, including raises for two members, but the Constitutional Court ruled Tuesday it was not an intentional violation and was not done in bad faith.

As a result, the two ASUO staff members, Affirmative Action Coordinator Bobby Lee and Vice President JoSonja Watson, will not have to repay the difference in their salaries, as petitioners Don King and Karl Pond requested.

Bills, who said she considers the decision a fair one, has been ordered to submit a request to the IFC for 1991-92 staff salaries within 30 days — a decision she termed "retroactive approval" of salaries already in place.

Each spring, the IFC allocates a budget to the ASUO for the following year and the amount given for salaries is in one lump sum. The incoming president sometimes creates new staff positions and eliminates others, as Bills did.

Bills had not yet taken office when the hearing for the 1991-92 budget took place and the staff salaries that 1990-91 President Kirk Bailey submitted were only recommendations for this year, Bills and Lee said.

King and Pond based their complaint on IFC Resolution No. 8, which states no one who is paid

a salary funded by the IFC shall be paid a higher rate than the committee authorizes.

The decision, delivered by Chief Justice Steven Briggs, was unanimous among the other three members who participated in the hearing. It states the intent of the resolution is to prevent student program directors from misusing funds.

The ASUO must follow these guidelines as well, the decision states, but adds that "our interpretation of Resolution No. 8 does not prevent directors from reducing salaries or eliminating positions without IFC approval. It merely requires the director to obtain authorization for salary increases or funding of new positions."

Bills reshuffled the staff and gave Lee, who held the same job last year, a monthly salary of \$175, up from last year's \$125. Watson, whose resignation goes into effect Tuesday, was given a salary of \$300, up from Bailey's request of \$250.

Bills has pointed out that she lowered her own salary and, with the elimination of some positions, the amount spent on ASUO staff salaries will be less this year than the total \$35,650 the IFC allocated for that line item.

King said he is pleased with the decision, although he is disappointed that Lee and Watson do not have to repay.

"Hopefully this will clear it up for all student groups in the future," he said. "All we wanted to do was instill some checks and balances. They were already there and now they'll be enforced."

In an additional charge, King and Pond claimed ASUO Programs Coordinator Therese DuBravac was paid for periods over the summer when she did not work. The Court ruled no documentation has proven this but ordered the ASUO to investigate and report back within one month.

Layoffs will be 'last resort' for cuts

□ Brand memo explains that layoffs are not planned as part of 156 staff cuts to be made by June 1993

By Carrie Dennett
Emerald Associate Editor

Layoffs are not expected to be a factor in 156 positions to be cut at the University by June 1993, according to a memo from President Myles Brand.

The Tuesday memo to Weldon Ibrig, vice chancellor for finance and administration, contained a draft of schedules outlining actions the University administration will take to eliminate the 156 positions.

Brand estimated that over the next 17 months, 10 positions will open due to retirements, and 117 positions will empty through phasing-in of program reductions and employees giving notice. The remaining 29 positions are currently vacant, and will not be filled.

Teaching faculty positions will not be cut.

UNIVERSITY POSITION REDUCTION SUMMARY

NON-TEACHING POSITIONS	NUMBER	GROSS SAVINGS*
Current Vacancies	29	\$776,246
Retirements	10	137,501
Anticipated Attrition	117	1,003,264
Lay Offs	0	0
Total	156	\$1,917,011

*Gross savings do not show reallocation of funds for other programmatic needs.
Graphic by Jeff Paslay

The position reductions are part of 813 positions to be cut by the Oregon State System of Higher Education, as directed by Gov. Barbara Roberts.

On Jan. 23, Roberts announced her plan to cut 4,000 state jobs, looking toward an anticipated \$1 billion state deficit for 1993-95.

Roberts said Oregonians want a leaner state government before they will consider approving a tax plan to offset the bulk of the deficit.

When OSSHE announced its target numbers on Feb. 7, it stated layoffs would be the last resort to meet that target.

The eliminated positions will result in an estimated gross savings of \$1.9 million, according

to the memo, but the savings from these anticipated vacancies have been reprogrammed for other purposes at the University.

Brand said in the memo the administration will continue to "search for alternate solutions which minimize the impact on the University."

"By any reasonable standards for the private sector or government agencies," Brand said, "this \$200-million-a-year organization is under-administered."

"As a result, we can expect that some services for students will be degraded, and we will not be able to be as administratively responsive as we have been in the past."



EDUCATION

Norma Paulus, state superintendent of public instruction, spoke about education Tuesday.

See PAULUS, Page 3

MANDATORY INSURANCE?

University students may have to decide on mandatory University-sponsored health insurance before being allowed to register next fall.

See INSURANCE, Page 4



SKYDIVE

Sports editor Jake Berg recounts his weekend encounter with the forces of gravity.

See 10,000, Page 5