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Despite Brand's effort, special session on hold

▮ Roberts, Brand meet to discuss higher ed cuts and the impact of Measure 5

By Daralyn Trappe
Emerald Associate Editor

Gov. Barbara Roberts and University President Myles Brand met Thursday to discuss the past and future impacts of Measure 5 and said afterward they are both committed to finding equitable solutions.

Roberts' stop at the University was part of a day-long trip to Eugene, where she also met with high school students, teachers and state employees.

Brand recently sent letters to all University students urging them to write to state legislators and the governor to request a special session to come up with a way to counter the cutbacks of Measure 5 through replacement revenue or a new tax plan.

In a statement released after her meeting with Brand, Roberts said state government should not implement another significant tuition increase for college students.

However, Roberts told reporters after the meeting that she will not call a special session until she believes the citizens of Oregon are ready to consider some changes in the current tax struc-



Gov. Barbara Roberts and University President Myles Brand met at the University Thursday to discuss higher education and the impact of Measure 5.

ture, such as implementing a sales tax. But Brand and Roberts had only praise for each other Thursday and said they are working toward the same goals.

Brand's letter urged the special session to avoid the next proposed phase of

Measure 5 cutbacks — a 20 percent reduction in the state budget, including higher education, for the 1993-95 biennium. Brand pointed out that Roberts does

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Reps skeptical of letter writing

By Rene DeCair
Emerald Associate Editor

Several Oregon legislators are praising University President Myles Brand's letter-writing campaign to prevent further cutbacks in higher education, but are skeptical about how much good it will do.

Brand, in an unprecedented act, mailed out letters on Feb. 17 encouraging students to write to their state legislators and Gov. Barbara Roberts to ask them to call a special legislative session to find a solution to Measure 5.

"Additional budget cutbacks would mean a further tuition increase, reduction of student access to the University, or both," Brand wrote in his letter.

"I do not want this statement to alarm you; but I also do not want you to be caught by surprise," he wrote.

Legislators say they are pleased to see a university president get in-

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Rain likely to return soon

▮ Forecaster says recent warmth could be linked to El Nino, but it won't last long

By Jayson Jacoby
Emerald Reporter

Just a note to anyone who woke up the past few days and thought they had slept through spring break: It's still February and it's still winter term. This week's unseasonable weather only seems like May.

The warm temperatures are the result of a strong high pressure system lodged over the state, Eugene National Weather Service forecaster Rick Wagner said.

"This is just an unusually warm air mass," Wagner said. "Usually when we get high pressure like this in February, we have cooler temperatures and sometimes even very cold Arctic air."

Temperatures were anything but frigid throughout the week, however, as Eugene's high hit 67 degrees Monday and 66 Tuesday and Wednesday. The coast was even warmer, as North Bend residents saw 82-degree heat Tuesday.

Wagner said it's impossible to say exactly what is causing the warmth, but El Nino might be playing a role.

El Nino, a cyclic warming of water temperatures in the Pacific Ocean that was noticed again by scientists last year, has been blamed for unusual weather all over the



Photo by Douglas Parsons

world.

Wagner said the relative warmth and dryness of the current winter in Oregon has been linked to El Nino, and the recent warm spell may be an extension of that.

Unfortunately, today will likely be the last nice day for a while. Wagner said an approaching storm will slowly push the high pressure to the east, bringing cooler temperatures and increased cloudiness by later today and a chance of showers just in time for the weekend.



Photo by Sean Poston

University student Sierra Doane (above) takes a break near the EMU in Thursday's warm weather, while student Sarah Lewis (left) plants vegetables as part of urban farm, a landscape architecture class.



CIA HONOR

Oregon graduate Richard Kerr received the CIA's highest career achievement award.

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RETURNING TO COLLEGE

The Non-Traditional Student Project, an ASUO Women's Center program, aims to address and assess women's needs by developing and starting a support system.

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LAME DUCKS

Arizona shot down the Ducks by 48 points Thursday night at Mac Court.

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