

Prior planning necessary to vote on tax measure

□ Students who move for the summer could find themselves unable to vote on a possible solution to Measure 5

By John Higgins
Emerald Contributor

If the governor calls a special legislative session this summer, a tax reform proposal may appear on the Sept. 15 ballot. Students could miss their chance to vote if they don't make arrangements before leaving school for the summer.

"That's where the students come in as being a critical factor," said Vice-Provost Lorraine Davis. "If that proposal is out there to vote on, they better be there voting on it."

Because the election would be held before school starts in the fall, students who leave the state or go home to another city will need to register at their summer address or get an absentee ballot.

"The people who are impacted the most have to be out there doing their supporting and their voting," Davis said. "It will make a difference."

Students should also follow the news throughout the summer so they know what they might be voting on if there is a vote in September, she said.

"I think the student government will be a key vehicle for getting the information to students about what's going on," Davis said. "We have to count on the students to take some of their own responsibility."

ASUO President Bobby Lee said the ASUO has put together a team that will mail information to students at their summer addresses about proposals that might be on the ballot. They will also conduct a phone drive to make sure students are registered.

While students are still here, ASUO representatives are circulating lists to recruit volunteers for the summer team and registering voters.

Students are considered residents of Lane County during the school year and may register to vote here. However, they must register by Aug. 25 to vote in September.

Registered voters must submit applications for absentee ballots if they want a ballot mailed to them. The forms must be signed and returned to the Lane County Elections Board.

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Splish Splash



Photo by Michael Shindler

This was one of the less graceful moments in the steeplechase at the Prefontaine Classic, which drew more than 6,000 fans to Hayward Field Saturday night. See story, page 9.

Students often face unfair rental practices

□ A state-wide renters hotline can help students avoid getting ripped off

By Jen Ellison
Emerald Contributor

In November 1991, shortly after her husband died, Barbara and her 9-year-old son, Derrick, came to Eugene from California to be near her family and to look for a place to live. She found a great apartment and a landlord who seemed like a dream come true.

"Everything I needed she offered me," Barbara said. "She promised to add a washer and a dryer, put in new curtains, wash the carpet and fix the wall in the bathroom."

Because Barbara was out of town and couldn't move until December, the landlord promised to give the apartment key to Barbara's brother on Dec. 1.

"She said she wouldn't charge me for the two weeks rent from the time I signed the lease to the day my brother got the key," Barbara said.

On Dec. 1, Barbara's brother was refused the key. Barbara was charged for the two weeks rent, and no repairs or cleaning had been done.

Barbara is among those who are victims of bad business practices in renting property. Many renters are unfamiliar with the Landlord-Tenant Act and the rights of renters and landlords. As a result, some renters, and even landlords, can be taken advantage of in rental situations.

The University's Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group set up a state-wide Renter's Hotline to give information on renters' options when they are in situations like Barbara's.

"You have to get everything in writing," said Amy Clements, Hotline director. "Even though verbal promises are

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Low graduation rates not alarming

□ University officials say comparing student-athlete graduation rates with other NCAA schools misses the point

By Jayson Jacoby
Emerald Sports Reporter

University student-athletes are graduating at a rate lower than the NCAA Division I average, but school officials are giving a variety of reasons why they believe the statistics don't truly represent their commitment to helping all students graduate.

Forty-two percent of Oregon's student-athletes entering school in 1983-84 and 1984-85 graduated within six years, according to the University's latest NCAA disclosure reports.

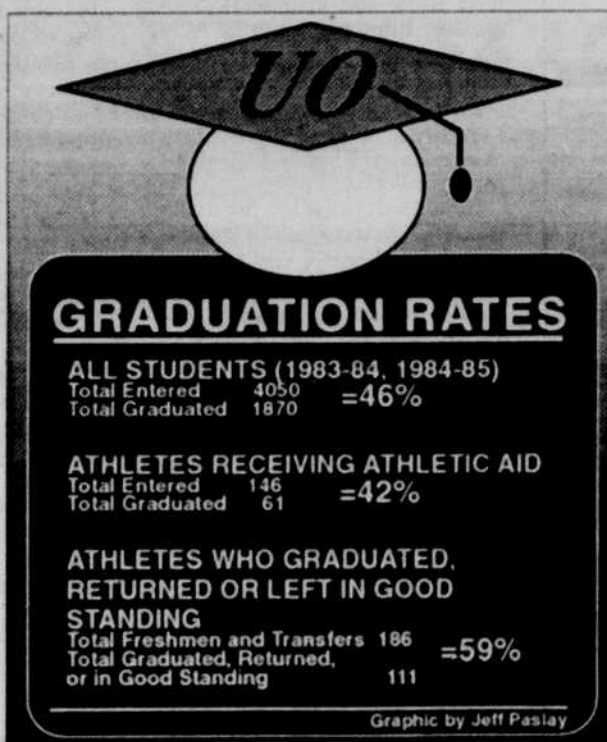
That compares with 46 percent for the entire student body over the same period. Nationally, 50 percent of student-athletes at the 291 Division I schools earned degrees within six years.

Oregon State's numbers are even higher, with a 56 percent graduation rate.

Nevertheless, University administrators say Oregon's lower numbers don't especially alarm them.

"It's hard to analyze a snapshot of just one or two years," said Oregon athletic director Bill Byrne. "I'll be

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SEE YA

Today is the last issue of the *Emerald* for spring term. Publication for summer term will resume June 23.

OUTLOOK: ENCOURAGING

Passage of Measure 20-04 allowing the reopening of Olive Street has politicians and shopkeepers optimistic about the economic future of downtown.

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NCAA TRACK

Art Skipper won the NCAA title in the javelin as the men's team placed fourth, womens 22nd.

See **SPORTS**, Page 9