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House kills tax plan over date

□ Legislative debate over September or November election date kills plan before it gets to voters

By Tim Neff
Emerald Associate Editor

SALEM — The Oregon House of Representatives killed Gov. Barbara Roberts' tax-reform proposal Wednesday after spending most of the one-day special session deadlocked over when to send it to voters.

After three hours of wrangling about the election date, the House voted 33-26 against Roberts' plan, which was packaged as House Joint Resolution 70, and refused to reconsider it.

The original draft of Roberts' plan, which included a split-roll tax and a 3.5-percent sales tax, called for a Sept. 15 vote.

The majority of the House, led by House Speaker Larry Campbell, R-Eugene, demanded the plan appear on the Nov. 3 ballot, or not at all.

If passed by the House with the November election, the proposal would have gone to the Democrat-controlled Senate, which was willing to support the Sept. 15 vote.

The likelihood of resolving the face-off during the one-day session was remote, and few favored extend-

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Leg up

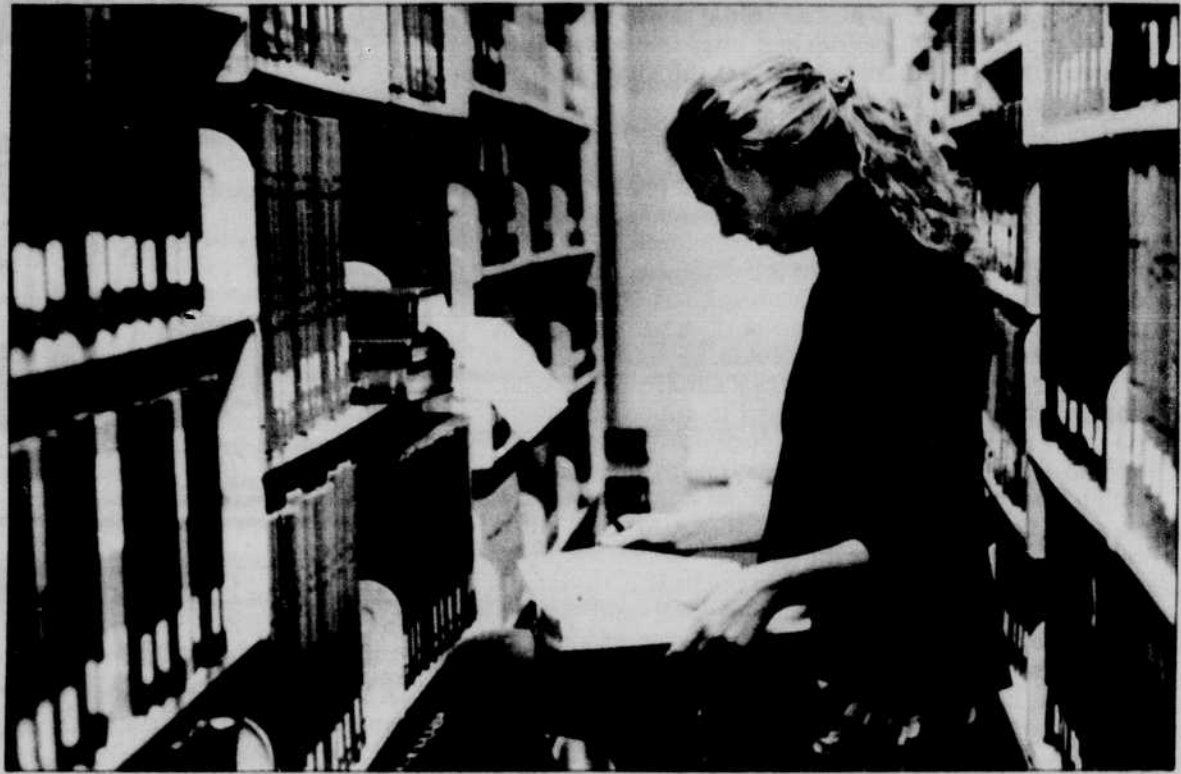


Photo by Jeff Paslay

Portia Sabin, a student from Grinnell College in Iowa, researches through books at the Knight Library for her Northwest Youth Corps environmental education program.

University returns big bucks, report says

□ Workforce and research grants vitalize Eugene and all of Lane County, according to University-sponsored study

The University returns more than \$250 million to the Eugene/Springfield economy each year as a result of University and student spending, a new report shows.

University students spend an estimated \$53 million for food, clothing, books, entertainment, personal living expenses and off-campus housing, according to the 1992 economic impact report, "A Partnership Where Everyone Profits: The University of Oregon and Eugene/Springfield." It was conducted by the University's Legislative and Community Relations Office.

University operational expenses, including payroll, total \$199 million, the report

states. The University workforce of 7,131 full- and part-time employees (equivalent to 3,617 full-time workers) earned \$134 million during 1990-91, making the University the largest employer in Lane County. It is estimated that another 4,800 jobs are created as a result of the University's presence in Lane County.

"In addition to plowing dollars directly into the economy, the University also makes tremendous cultural contributions that enrich and vitalize the community," said Randy MacDonald, University legislative and community relations director.

"At the same time, the Eugene/Springfield area provides the infrastructure, workers, business opportunities and services that support University operations," he said.

University activities attract thousands of people to the Eugene/Springfield area during a typical year. Examples range from academically related

conferences and museum shows to alumni gatherings and athletic events, such as the 1991 NCAA Track and Field Championships. By conservative estimates, in 1991 these conferences alone brought \$450,000 in direct spending.

International students and scholars bring about \$15 million into the local economy each year, the report found.

MacDonald also pointed to the contributions that the University's high-quality research makes to the local area.

"University research helps Oregon gain international prominence by providing solutions for medical, social and economic problems," he said. "For example, one UO program is helping to create affordable housing while also adding value to Oregon wood products."

In fiscal year, 1990-91, University researchers attracted approximately \$46 million in grants and contracts.

Local group protests 'hate-speech' ruling

□ Demonstrators don Klan hoods and skin-head attire to make their Point

By Morgan Emrich
Emerald Contributor

In an effort to draw attention to a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision declaring cross-burning a form of protected speech, five demonstrators took to the steps of the Federal Building Tuesday afternoon trying to make a point without saying a word.

The demonstrators, members of Communities Against Hate, stood side by side wearing the costumes of various white supremacist groups from the white hooded robe of the Klu Klux Klan to the militaristic uniform of the Aryan Youth. What appeared to be a White Aryan Resistance member stood next to a woman posing as a U.S. Supreme Court Justice. Both held signs asking "Eugene-Springfield Where do you stand?" and "Is this where we are going?"

Eric Ward, the group's spokesman said, "We're letting these images symbolize what is happening in our country. Hate groups are able to operate because of community silence and ignorance. We think the community needs to realize what's going on."

Ward said the purpose of the hour-long demonstration was to raise awareness about a recent trend seen as backward steps in the fight for civil rights. This includes the Court's decision as well as the attitude expressed in the passing of the Oregon Citizens Alliance sponsored initiative in Springfield.

"It's a continuum of intolerance and bigotry we are facing," said

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WEATHER



You might want to reserve your spot in the park because sunny skies are on tap this afternoon after morning clouds burn off. Expect highs near 80 in the Eugene-Springfield area.

However, the clouds are expected to return this weekend bringing a chance of showers. Weekend temperatures reaching 70-75.

HEATING UP IN STYLE

Summer
in the
C·I·T·Y

If you're looking for activities this weekend and for the rest of the summer, check out the Emerald's Summer in the City section. From all the Fourth activities to the Country Fair, Eugene has something to offer everyone.

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REGIONAL

GOVERNMENT CAMP (AP) — A group of renegade snowboarders is suspected of stealing \$27,000 worth of sports equipment from vehicles on Mount Hood. Car stereos, snowboards, mountain bikes and 40 pairs of purple and pink Alpina ski boots were among the items taken.

Sgt. P.J. Steigleder II, spokesman for the Clackamas County sheriff's office, said a group of homeless snowboarders is suspected.

Steigleder said the snowboarders illegally hike up trails to avoid paying for lift tickets, illegally buy lift tickets from people who have finished skiing for the day and steal them from children.