

# TAX

Continued from Page 1

Brand said unless the Legislature acts before the regular legislative session next January, it will be too late to avoid "traumatic downsizing." Brand has already submitted a budget to the Oregon State System of Higher Education that includes a 20-percent reduction for the 1993-95 biennium.

"In the case of the University of Oregon, this would mean the loss of 405 positions and enrolling five to 10 percent fewer students," Brand said.

Brand was not alone in voicing disappointment with the Legislature's performance.

ASUO Vice President Karmen Fore said a lot of work had gone into Roberts' now extinct tax plan.

"I think the citizens of Oregon would have liked the opportunity to vote on the package," she said. "If the House, however, thinks it can come up with a better package than the governor presented them, I would encourage them to start working on it in July and not wait until November."

"The longer we wait, the closer we come to the 1993-95 biennium and the billion-dollar cuts. I don't think anyone wants to go through that."

Fore said hopes for budget relief are now being placed on a special session after the election in November.

"It looks as if (Senate President John) Kitzhaber bargained

**'If they wait for the regular session it will be too late. Phase Two of Measure 5 will be kicked in, and too many agencies will have already been closed down.'**

— Bobby Lee,  
ASUO President

with (House Speaker Larry) Campbell to at least have some form of a session, again, after the November election," Fore said. "But that's still pretty tentative. Things have been changing so quickly we're not too sure what's going on up there."

"I think at this point they almost don't have a choice but to come up with some kind of a tax package," Fore said. "It's just matter of timing. When are they going to do it? I think they'll do it. I just don't know when."

ASUO President Bobby Lee said after last week's set back, the ASUO was "back to step one." He said the ASUO would be lobbying for a special session to be called in time to put a new revenue plan in front of voters at the November election. That means the Legislature would have to be called into special session again.

The main opposition to calling another special session before November would come from Campbell, who wants to wait until the regular legislative session next year.

However, it is imperative that the House come up with a new tax plan to present to voters before its regular session, Lee said.

"If they wait for the regular session it will be too late," he said. "Phase Two of Measure 5 will be kicked in, and too many agencies will have already been closed down."

Brand agreed that the Legislature is now in control of Oregon's tax future, but he was not as optimistic about a new plan.

"I do not believe the state can continue down this path," Brand said. "Measure 5 at this point is devastating. Everyone I've heard or spoken to, and that includes the political leadership, wants a revenue plan in place. But there is nothing on the table now, and I don't see one."

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Deadline for submitting Et Als to the Emerald front desk, EMU Suite 300, is noon the day before publication. Et Als run the

day of the event unless the event takes place before noon.

Notices of events with a donation or admission charge will not be accepted. Campus events and those scheduled nearest the publication date will be given priority. The Emerald reserves the right to edit notices for grammar and style. Et Als are published on a space-available basis.

## THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



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