

\$35,000 cut from athletics budget

By Tammy Batey, Beth Hege and Chester Allen
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University students may have less seats and be sitting further from the action when attending next year's football and basketball games.

The Incidental Fee Committee voted Thursday to cut \$35,000 from the athletic department's football and basketball student ticket subsidy.

Associate athletic director Sandy Walton told the committee its vote would force the athletic department to take away some of the better student seating at football and basketball games.

Committee members suggested the athletic department sell the little-used student seats in section five of Autzen Stadium, but Walton said selling those seats would not substitute for the loss of \$35,000 in student money.

"We can't get students to sit in these seats for free, so how are we going to sell them to the public?" Walton said.

Walton said seats in section nine, which are near the center of the field, would be the easiest and most profitable to sell to the public.

The athletic department and the ASUO will begin negotiations to decide what seats the students will lose, said ASUO President Bobby Lee.

"We've been buying about 6,000 seats a game, but only an average of 3,000 are picked up by students," Lee said. "At this point, it seems reasonable for student government to buy less football and basketball seats."

In other business, the committee approved 1993-94 budgets for six student groups.

Two groups, the Opportunity Students Association and the Target of Returning Graduate Advisory Council received student funds for the first time.

The Oregon Marine Student Association made a special request for \$1,416 for swimming pool rental costs. IFC members said they couldn't approve special requests for next year.

IFC members Steve Masat and Ed Carson said they believed the recreational costs should be placed as a new line item on the group's budget if it is going to be an annual cost.

Sheree Watson and Amy Moran of OMSA said they preferred the money was in the form of a special request because they didn't want money taken from other areas of the 1993-94 budget.

The IFC had two choices, Masat said. It could vote on the recreational costs as part of the group's budget or do it so the fee is lumped with the budget "since they feel uncomfortable with that,"

GROUP	1992-93	1993-94	% CHANGE
Men Against Rape	\$1,383	\$1,325	- 4.2
Minority Law Students	1,436	1,536	+ 7.0
Marching Band	73,399	78,000	+ 6.3
Oregon Voice	2,980	3,372	+ 13.2
Womens Center	34,293	36,373	+ 6.0
Interfraternity Council	7,827	7,727	- 1.3
OMSA	4,488	4,660	+ 3.8
Office of Student Advocacy	53,508	61,117	+ 12.4
Returning Students Assoc.	0	738	+ 100.0
TOGAC	0	1,967	+ 100.0
Athletic Department	1.04 million	1 million	- 3.4
OLSPIF	100	1,650	+ 1,550.0
Native American Student U.	13,228	13,221	- 0.01
National Lawyer's Guild	470	465	- 1.0
Amazon Comm. Tenants	2,147	2,070	- 3.5

Graphic by Jeff Paslay

he said. Several IFC members expressed confusion over Masat's suggestion.

"How can you have it in the budget but it's not in the budget?" said Efreem Mehretab.

The members decided to add the recreational costs as a new line item in OMSA's budget.

The IFC approved a new line item in the Office of Student Advocacy's budget for a student defender supervisor. The eight-month position would be for a law student who would work with students being denied residency status by University Housing. The IFC approved the \$5,200 additional line item for the position.

On Monday, the Oregon Marching Band lobbied hard to receive \$78,000, an increase of 6.3 percent, for maintenance and repair of its instruments. "If we can't replace our instruments we won't be able to function," band director Rod Harkins said. He warned that the University might otherwise end up like the University of Oklahoma, which recently replaced 16 sousaphones at an enormous cost.

Although the \$78,000 is nearly \$5,000 less than what the band requested, it represents a 6.3 increase in funding over last year.

Erika Armsbury presented a request for \$662 in special funding for herself and Ebon Brady to attend the United States Student Association meetings. The committee allocated \$550.

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