

# Schools must cut \$20 million

By Marius Meland  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The 4J School District must cut expenditures by \$20 million over a period of three years after voters rejected a state sales tax that would compensate the schools for the loss of funds resulting from 1990's Measure 5 property tax limits.

Some of the money-saving alternatives discussed by school officials Monday night were closing schools, shortening the school year, increasing class size and eliminating programs.

"There's no doubt that these cuts will require enormous adjustments of the school district," said Jan Oliver, president of the school board. "It's going to be extremely difficult to cut this deeply without affecting the quality of education."

Many of the members of the Budget Committee expressed their disappointment over the failure of Measure 1, which would have introduced a sales tax in Oregon.

"There's a rift between what people expect from the schools and their desire to fund those expectations," said Trent Spradling, the committee's chair.

Superintendent-clerk Margaret Nichols said that

the 4J School District would lose \$7 million this year, \$5 million next year and \$8 million the subsequent year. She said the school district would have to consider eliminating entire programs while reducing others.

Some of the programs that may be eliminated are the transportation program, a project for improving school safety, and a program that allows some teachers to go on special assignments.

Nichols also mentioned school closure as a "very real possibility." Nichols' proposal could mean closing as many as 12 schools in the district.

In addition to closing schools and shortening the school year, committee members proposed to merge with the Bethel School District, cut language and immersion programs, introduce early retirement incentives, charge fees for enrichment programs, charge rental fees for books and equipment, turn four-year high schools into three-year high schools, and eliminate international high schools.

"It's important that we don't appear vindictive after the defeat of Measure 1," Spradling said. "This is a sad day for the school district, but we have no choice but to cut wherever it's possible."

## Project Eugene kicks off program to aid in the fight on drunken driving

By Frank Lenzi  
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

Project Eugene kicked off its citywide program to fight drunken driving Tuesday.

In cooperation with Mothers Against Drunk Driving, the coalition is working to rid Eugene's streets of intoxicated drivers through a pledge card drive and red ribbon campaign.

The holiday pledge and red ribbon programs are working together this year. Local businesses are asked to display pledge boxes at their establishments. Employees are then asked to sign a pledge card promising to not drive drunk.

For every pledge card received, Project Eugene will tie a red ribbon around trees between the Hult Center and the Eugene Hilton. Last year, 3,000 ribbons were tied, and the coalition hopes to top that number this year.

Some of those on hand for the news conference were, Oregon football coach Rich Brooks, Duck quarterback Danny O'Neil and Oregon basketball coach Jerry Green.

The Project Eugene/Mothers Against Drunk Driving campaign runs through New Year's Day. Individuals are urged to not only sign pledge cards but also to tie a red ribbon to their radio antenna as a sign of support.

## Chi Alpha holds food drive for Food For Lane County

By Eron Witzel  
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship hopes to get \$500 in food and cash donations during a food drive for Food For Lane County from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the EMU Wednesday.

Chi Alpha itself will donate \$100 worth of canned food, and Director Matt Tallman said people who do not bring food can bring money and that all proceeds will benefit Food For Lane County.

"We'd like to do it every term if we can," Tallman said. "They give out a lot of food, and it requires a lot of food and a lot of money."

He said another drive is possible in February when those who gave at the holidays may have forgotten about hunger in the community.

Kathleen MacArthur, development director at Food For Lane County, said she is pleased groups are thinking past the holiday season.

"People tend to donate more at the holidays," she said. "But we would really like to see a steady flow of food throughout the year."


Food For Lane County distributes about 2.2 million pounds of food through more than 60 member-agencies, such as soup kitchens and group homes. About 45,000 people receive assistance each month through these member-agencies, and MacArthur said more than half of those assisted are children.

The federal government will cut food donations to Food For Lane County from 1.8 million pounds in 1985 to an expected 250,000 pounds this year. MacArthur said the demand for food has remained constant and that increased community efforts are needed to cover the difference.

Chi Alpha, whose 20 active members have discussed running a food drive since last spring, raised the money for the \$100 donation through various fund raisers in the past year.

Tallman said the cans they purchased will be on one side of the table and that people will be able to symbolically donate them by making a cash donation and then moving a can to the other side of the table.

Foods most needed are ones high in protein, like canned meats, tuna, peanut butter and chili. Food For Lane County discourages donations of rapidly perishable items and junk food.



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