

UNION

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Bently Gilbert, spokesman for OPEU.

Nobody really wants a strike, but the government is holding the key, said Lucy Lehr, director of Lane County OPEU.

OPEU members are willing to negotiate with Kitzhaber to settle. They are putting pressure on the governor to prevent a strike, but if that fails they will vote for a strike.

The union will hold a strike vote on Wednesday, April 19 at 24 locations around the state. The Lane County vote will take place at the fairgrounds. If the vote is approved, the union will declare a strike after the vote.

The members are threatening to strike because they have not been able to negotiate a 6.5 percent pay raise with the state. The union employees have had a pay freeze for two years.

In the contract negotiated in 1993, the state said that if there was surplus money in the budget, it would give the OPEU employees a cost-of-living increase, said Bart Lewis, University OPEU member.

In July 1994, a wage-reopener contract, allowing the union to negotiate for a cost-of-living

increase before the current two-year contract ends, came up for negotiation. The union asked for a 6 percent cost-of-living adjustment to make up for the 1993 pay freeze.

According to Gilbert, the wage reopener was on the table long before Measure 8 passed in November. Therefore, the union would receive a .5 percent pay raise after the law takes effect July 1.

Before the union can strike, a fact finder must review the issues and make a recommendation to both sides.

Luella Nelson, a fact finder, found that state employees were entitled to a 6.5 percent pay raise by April 1. However, Nelson also said that Measure 8 could not be addressed in any strike negotiations.

The state rejected the findings, Gilbert said.

Both union and state negotiators have been trying to develop a contract since July, but Gilbert said there haven't been any negotiations in weeks.

Peter Deluca, a negotiator for the state, said the state is continuing to meet with OPEU representatives.

The 14,800 member union voted in December to authorize preliminary strike preparations.

ple who are HIV-positive are part of the traditional high-risk groups of drug users and homosexuals.

Fisher is using herself as an example of the many HIV carriers who did not engage in risky behavior but contracted the disease anyway, he said.

Fisher's life story breaks the stereotypes many people have of AIDS, he said. She was an assistant to former President Gerald Ford, and her family plays an active role in Republican politics. They are close friends with the Fords and the Nixons, and her father is one of the Republican party's most prominent fund raisers.

Fisher has devoted her public life to AIDS awareness. As the mother of two, she wants to help create an open environment where her children can grow up free from false prejudices about HIV and AIDS.

ACTIVIST

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Lane Transit District will provide free bus service to Fisher's speech from the Fairgrounds from 8 to 11 a.m.

After the speech, Fisher will take part in a symposium with local clergy at the First Congregational Church, 1050 E. 23rd Ave. The symposium is scheduled from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Fisher believes AIDS has been overlooked by many, who she said are ignorant of the disease and its causes. Fisher said she hopes that by focusing on her own story, she can force people to acknowledge the virus.

"[Fisher's] message is 'if this can happen to me, it can happen to you,'" said the Rev. Greg Flint of the First Congregational Church.

Flint said Fisher is trying to combat the illusion that all peo-

CORRECTION

In an article on ASUO Executive candidates Jennifer Williamson and Zachary Kelton (ODE, April 10), one of their platform issues was described confusingly. The

candidates actually want to increase student representation in decisions about raising tuition, not increase tuition. The *Emerald* apologizes for any inconvenience.

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Health Education Workshops

All workshops are free to registered students. Call 346-4456 to preregister.

Weight Management

This is a six-week workshop to assist participants in weight loss & weight management. Behavior change strategies, nutrition, exercise and relapse prevention planning will be discussed. The last class will be a low-fat cooking demonstration.

Mondays, 3:00-4:00 p.m., April 17-May 22

Medical Library, Student Health Center

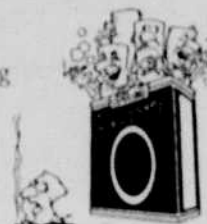


Smoking Cessation

An eight-week educational support group for those wanting to quit smoking and those who have already quit. Emphasis will be placed on recent findings and overcoming perceived barriers. You can join this workshop anytime.

Wednesdays, 3:00-4:00 p.m., April 5-May 24

Medical Library, Student Health Center



Relaxation

A four-week workshop for those who want to learn a variety of relaxation techniques. We will explore yoga, meditation and massage. A great way to relieve stress and enhance your life.

Tuesdays, 4:00-5:30 p.m., April 18-May 9

77 Esslinger Hall



Vegetarianism

A four-week workshop for those interested in becoming vegetarian and for those already vegetarian and looking for new recipes or are concerned with proper nutrition. The last two classes will be cooking demonstrations.

Tuesdays, 3:30-5:00 p.m., April 12-May 3

Medical Library, Student Health Center



Self Defense

A four-week workshop for both men and women covering basic self defense. A great way to learn more about prevention, how to construct a safe environment and increase confidence and self awareness.

Thursdays, 4:30-5:30 p.m. April 27-May 18,

77 Esslinger Hall



Student Health Center Health
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