

STRIKE

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are workers here who have not forgotten those who crossed the picket line during the strike eight years ago [1987], and feelings of resentment are being brought up all over again."

Lewis said the strike in 1987 lasted about a week, and many people in managerial positions covered some of the jobs vacated by striking employees, since people in managerial positions

are not permitted to strike. The University declined to comment about how it would handle a strike at this time.

Lewis said he did not anticipate any sort of violence should the strike occur, and no strikers would impede students from going into any buildings.

The Oregon Public Employees Union will vote on April 19 on whether or not to strike. If workers do vote to strike, the earliest the state-

wide strike would begin is May 6, due to a 30 day mandatory "cooling off" period imposed by the union and a ten-day notice to employers.

Karla Spence, president of the OPEU, said that the union is trying to avert a strike and is stressing the importance of placing more attention on a report by fact finder Luella Nelson. Nelson was hired by the union and the state jointly to assess the contractual situa-

tion of state employees.

In her report, Nelson found that the salaries of University union members were 6 percent below the state average for county and municipal employees and that the university union employees deserved a pay increase. The state has rejected Nelson's finding.

"Our position causes the state no net loss in budget," Spence said. "We just want to stay even, the increase doesn't impact other budgets such as prison reform or higher education."

Union members asked University President Dave Frohnmayer to attend the rally and show support for the workers, but neither Frohnmayer nor an administration representative attended the rally, said Jerry Carson, a 54 year-old University student and night custodian for University housing.

Barbara Edwards, special counsel to the President, said that she did receive the request but said that Frohnmayer was unable to attend the rally because of an executive staff meeting off-campus at that time. Edwards said that she did not interpret the request as having asked for a representative.

Christine Leonard, assistant to President Frohnmayer, said on behalf of Frohnmayer that he was "supportive of all employees' right to their freedom of expression."

However, Carson, said that he did not think that Frohnmayer was supportive of the workers at all.

"Frohnmayer is a politician, and he just says what he has to say and doesn't care what happens," Carson said. Carson makes approximately \$650 a month. He pays \$415 a month in rent and must collect cans to supplement his income. Carson also receives \$30 a week selling his plasma. Carson said he will receive a \$94 pay cut due to Measure 8, leaving him with "barely enough to live on."

No one can afford to go on strike, especially him, Carson said.

"I'm not crying for me, I'll survive," Carson said. "If I go homeless again, I don't care. I'll just try and find another job

and live off of macaroni and cheese for a long time."

Charles Potts has been a training supervisor at Carson dining hall for 14 years. Potts said he worked as a janitor off campus last year to supplement his income because his University wages were not enough to cover his cost of living expenses.

"I'm lucky my wife works in child care because I know that we couldn't afford the high cost of regular child care for our two sons."

Potts said that he was unaware of any request for Frohnmayer or a representative to attend the rally, but was not disappointed by his absence because "Frohnmayer's role as a state administrator does not allow him to discuss strike issues."

"I think he [Frohnmayer] sincerely cares about the University state workers and our situation," Potts said. "I have a good idea of where his heart is in this matter."

Potts also said he thought President Frohnmayer was "probably the most supportive president this University has had in a long time."

Vice President Dan Williams said that if a strike does occur, students can expect that such services as the University power plant, laboratories that have ongoing experiments requiring 24 hour attention, dorm housing and dining halls will be maintained to the best extent possible.

"If some of our workers choose not to come to work, it will not be business as usual," Williams said. "We'll do the best we can with the critical services."

Scott McCloud, a junior and general science major said that he sympathizes with the state employees.

"State employees work very hard, and they're basically being stabbed in the back," McCloud said.

McCloud, whose mother is a state employee with the Department of Environmental Quality, said, "I understand I might suffer because I use the dining hall, but I'll live through it."

CAMP

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allocates funds for housing services and emergency shelters.

"This will only terminate primary responsibility," said Councilwoman Nancy Nathanson. "[This] really belongs in the court of the IHSC."

Councilman Kevin Hornbuckle said that transferring responsibility will put pressure on other regional institutions, and hopefully the state, to help fund the camp. "As long as Eugene carries this," he said, "other areas will not kick in."

The car camp originally had a budget of \$85,900, nearly 30 percent higher than the budget of a year ago. Officials last fall attributed the increase to the fact that Lane ShelterCare pays its staff more and uses fewer volunteers than White Bird Clinic, which managed the

camp last year.

Susan Ban, executive director of Lane ShelterCare, said the agency needed to increase staffing to deal with security and help in other programs on the site.

"We were originally budgeted to have only one person on the site at a time," Ban said. "We really needed two people during peak activity times."

The agency began to overlap shifts during the late afternoon and evening, she said. "This made residents and staff much happier," she said.

Other unexpected costs include \$2,000 for two additional portable toilets, \$1,500 for a wheelchair accessible ramp to the camp trailer office, \$734 for propane heating fuel and \$1,000 for "miscellaneous shut-down costs."



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