

OPEU rejects 2 percent raise

SALEM (AP) — A possible strike by members of the Oregon Public Employees Union loomed larger Tuesday after the union rejected an offer of a 2-percent across-the-board pay raise on July 1.

"We told them it is totally unacceptable," OPEU spokesman Bentley Gilbert said.

While not ruling out further talks with the state, Gilbert said the union is continuing preparations for a strike that could slow delivery of state services such as driver's licenses and welfare and unemployment checks.

The OPEU, which represents 18,000 state workers, is threatening a walkout next Monday unless the state agrees to a 6.5

percent across-the-board pay increase immediately.

State spokesman Mark Fryburg on Tuesday declined to publicly discuss details of the state's proposal.

"That's not the most effective way of getting a deal," Fryburg said.

Gilbert said, however, that the state's offer followed the recommendations of a governor's task force, which said state union employees should get a 2 percent pay raise.

The OPEU spokesman said workers haven't had a pay raise in two years and in July will have to start paying 6 percent of their salaries toward their pension plans because of a ballot measure

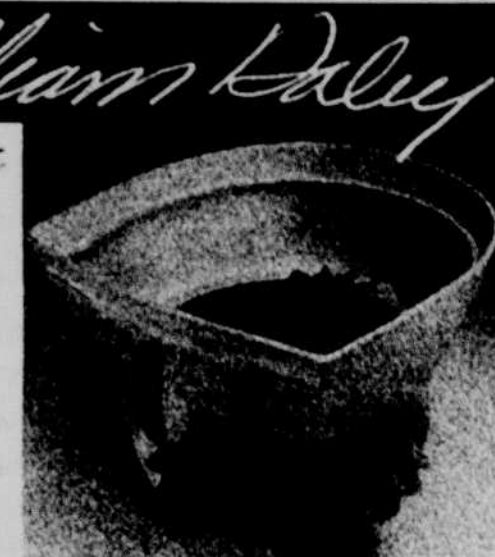
approved by voters last fall.

"It does nothing to catch us up," Gilbert said of the state's offer.

Gilbert refused to discuss strike strategy or to say whether the union is planning a three-day general strike or a more extended walkout.

Some state managers are being trained to handle the duties of front-line workers to keep state mental hospitals open and to continue providing protective services to abused or neglected children.

OPEU members include clerical workers, tax collectors, health care providers, accountants and highway maintenance workers, among other jobs.



William Daley

CERAMIST

WILLIAM DALEY
FREE LECTURE
Thurs. May 4, 7:30pm
115 Lawrence, U of O

WORKSHOP
Fri. Sat. May 5 & 6
9:30am-5:00pm
*40 UO students
*50 all others
346-4361

Campus trip inspires city youths

TACOMA (AP) — Rowdy behavior and sarcastic remarks made it clear to middle school teacher John Grevstad that a trip to the state prison in Monroe had not "scared straight" the 13 eighth-grade boys he was chaperoning.

"Then we went by the University of Washington," Grevstad said, recalling the trip home from last year's prison visit. "That's when I started thinking that instead of trying to scare them out of prison, we should be helping them into college."

Nine of the 13 who made the prison trip have already dropped out, he said.

So he has devised an ambitious program of campus tours for students at Jason Lee Middle School, located near the city's troubled Hilltop area. More than 60 percent of the students come

from low-income families.

Grevstad and 40 eighth-graders visited the University of Washington last week to hear students and faculty members offer variations on Grevstad's favorite theme: Going to college can increase options and make life better, and it's not out of the question for poor kids.

Millie Russell, assistant to the UW vice president for minority affairs, told Grevstad's group that "educated people are healthier. They earn more. They can do more for their families."

UW outreach staffer Lette Hagdu urged them to save money for college and advised them scholarships are available for students with little money and good grades.

"If you do well in high school, people will pay you for going to school" in the form of scholar-

ships, said R.J. Braxton, a UW outreach worker.

Braxton, who grew up in a poor New Jersey neighborhood, told the group he nearly gave up as a youngster, that he began to believe that "I'm black and I'm poor, so I can't do it."

But a firefighter friend encouraged him to "first, begin the dream," said Braxton, who is pursuing his doctorate.

Several of Grevstad's students later said the visit had reinforced their plans to go to college.

"I can't wait to get up there," said Sartara Williams, 14.

"Now I really want to go to college," said Anthony Gordon, 14. "A lot of people out on the street say getting into college is hard, but after talking to [UW students] I'm sure I can do it."

Eugene Poet to Read From New Memoir

The award-winning poet Garrett Hongo will read from his newly released memoir *Volcano*, Wednesday, May 3 at 7:30 p.m. in the Gerlinger Alumni Lounge on the University of Oregon campus. The reading is free and sponsored by the Creative Writing Program.

"Garrett Hongo's memoir-meditation *Volcano* charts a dangerous journey across lava flows and Los Angeles streets, through the fractured history of a family, toward the revelation of a luminous and dedicated soul. One of the most gifted and passionate poets of his generation, Hongo now delivers up a cultural document so powerful that its seismic tremors are sure to keep rocking us for years to come."

— Terry Hummer, director of the Creative Writing Program

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

ASSISTANT RESIDENT DIRECTOR

University Housing is seeking candidates for the Assistant Resident Director position (ARD) for the 1995/96 academic year.

Duties of an Assistant Resident Director

- Provides administrative and clerical support to the resident Director (RD);
- Includes student conduct cases, special tasks, and paperwork.
- Attends and helps facilitate paraprofessional staff orientation and development.
- Assists the RD in planning and conducting weekly staff meetings.
- Offers feedback to the RD regarding paraprofessional staff in their formal evaluations.
- Advises complex-wide student government (Presidents' Council).
- Trains, advises, and meets with the Area Standards Board (ASB).

Qualifications

- Candidates must be an enrolled U of O student and must be at least a Senior.
- Preference will be given to qualified Graduate or Post-Baccalaureate students.
- Two years of work experience in Student Development or Student Affairs is required, one of which must be experience as a Resident Assistant in a university Residence hall.
- Position term is from August 21, 1995 to June 14, 1996.

Remuneration

- Single room in a residence hall, including private bathroom.
- Full board while the dining halls are open plus \$300 per month during the above term.

Application Process

- Application will consist of your resume, and a cover letter telling us why you want the position and why you are qualified.
- All applications must be turned into the University Housing Office no later than Friday, May 5, 1995, or be postmarked by that date.

An equal opportunity, affirmative action institution committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with disabilities Act

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Pick up a free summer bulletin with schedule of classes in 333 Oregon Hall.



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