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FUNDING

Continued from Page 1

nine percent from the 1993-95 budget.

Senate members passed Gov. John Kitzhaber's proposed higher education budget of \$602.8 million — 15 percent less than in 1993-95 — and added back \$28 million for funding faculty salaries and Oregon State University (OSU) programs for the veterinary schools, cooperative extension, Ag Experiment Station and Forest Research.

If House members pass the Senate's recommended \$615 million to \$620 million budget, which is a \$55 million cut from 1993-95, students can expect a four percent increase in tuition over the next two years.

Higher education officials said they expect House members to pass the budget when they vote, probably at the end of next week.

"We think the House will pass it, but we're hopeful that money will be added back after the May forecast is known," said Grattan Kerans, a lobbyist for the Oregon State System of Higher Education (OSSHE).

The May forecast, which should be known by the beginning of next week, is what the state expects to spend for services between July 1, 1995 and June 30, 1997. Some leftover General Fund money is expected after the forecast is known, and higher education officials hope some of it will trickle into their budget.

"The Senate's add-back money is a start, but we'll return next week and say we need to add back more

money to our budget," Kerans said.

Higher education officials have told the legislative leadership it needs at least \$66 million in add-back funds. Today's decision only brings the add-back total to \$28 million.

In the Senate, 18 members voted to pass the budget and 10 were against it. Of those against the budget, Kerans said nine said no because they didn't think the budget offered enough money to OSSHE, and one voted against it because it was too much money.

Of the \$28 million in add-back funding, \$15 million is expected to go to restoring faculty salaries, which have been frozen by the state for the last two years.

The remaining \$13 million will fund OSU's veterinary schools and programs for the Cooperative Extension, the Ag Experiment Station and Forest Research.

"I'm glad we made some improvements and that they've made the commitment to restoring faculty salaries," said Robert Nosse, director of the Oregon Student Lobby. "But enrollment is down because tuition has risen so much, and we need more money added back to reduce the tuition increases."

The state's four universities and four colleges have already seen a \$130 million drop in funding since 1989-91.

The legislative leadership will decide how much, if any, add-back money will go to the higher education budget toward the end of the legislative session.

STRIKE

Continued from Page 1

services between 10 a.m. and 9 p.m."

Additionally, the memo asked management service employees to "ask around in your department if there are faculty who would be willing to help out."

Risa Haberman, president of the local University OPEU, said the memo was read on the picket lines and used as a morale

booster.

"They said they would be able to provide essential services and now they're saying, by their own admission, that some of these services are in critical need," Haberman said.

Although Haberman said the strike is hard on public employees, she said it's a good lesson to the University in terms of realizing the value of their work.

Linda King, director of human resources, said the memo was

sent to avoid hiring temporary workers.

"We really don't want to bring in temporary help and we are looking for other ways to serve the students," King said. "This is a situation where managers have put in really long hours and we are looking for ways to relieve them a bit."

At the University Thursday, 291 out of 978 OPEU employees scheduled to work today showed up at job sites.

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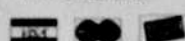
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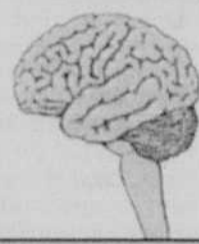
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