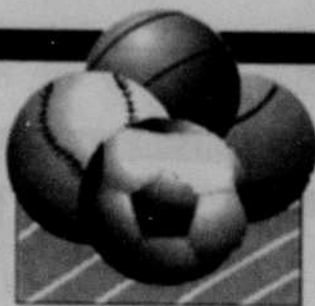


INDEX

Editorial	2
News Briefing	4
Stranger than Fiction	4
Sports	9
Classifieds	10
Crossword	11

TODAY

High school students from the area will be on campus today to take part in the University's debate tournament.



INSIDE

Lacrosse, soccer, skiing, rugby and volleyball Ducks keep fighting for higher ground

Lane County Commissioner candidate John Osanka makes his case for office

9
7



WEATHER
Showers today.
High 45. Low 35.

Oregon Daily Emerald

University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

An independent newspaper
Volume 97, Issue 99

UO receives donation for scholarships

CHARITY: The \$700,000 donation was the largest of its kind ever to the Presidential Scholarship Fund

By Jennifer Schmitt
Higher Education Reporter

Students from Oregon's small timber communities are receiving a helping hand because of a recent \$700,000 donation by a Douglas County resident, which eventually will be used to support up to nine presidential scholarships a year.

Minnie Churchill split her donation into two parts, giving the University \$300,000 in cash and the rest in a trust fund. The cash portion of the donation is the largest ever for presidential scholarships and increased the University's total endowment for scholarships of that type by 30 percent, according to a news release.

The Presidential Scholarship Program provides scholarships to 200 Oregon high school graduates attending the University at any one time. There are 50 new scholarships awarded each year.

The renewable scholarship is awarded for academic achievement and leadership. The applicants must have a GPA of at least 3.25, but the average high school GPA for the 1995-96 recipients was 3.94.

Churchill, 89, grew up on a farm in Canada and moved to southern Oregon with her family in the 1920s. When Churchill was 15, her mother died, and Churchill was unable to finish her schooling because she was needed to take care of the house and her younger siblings.

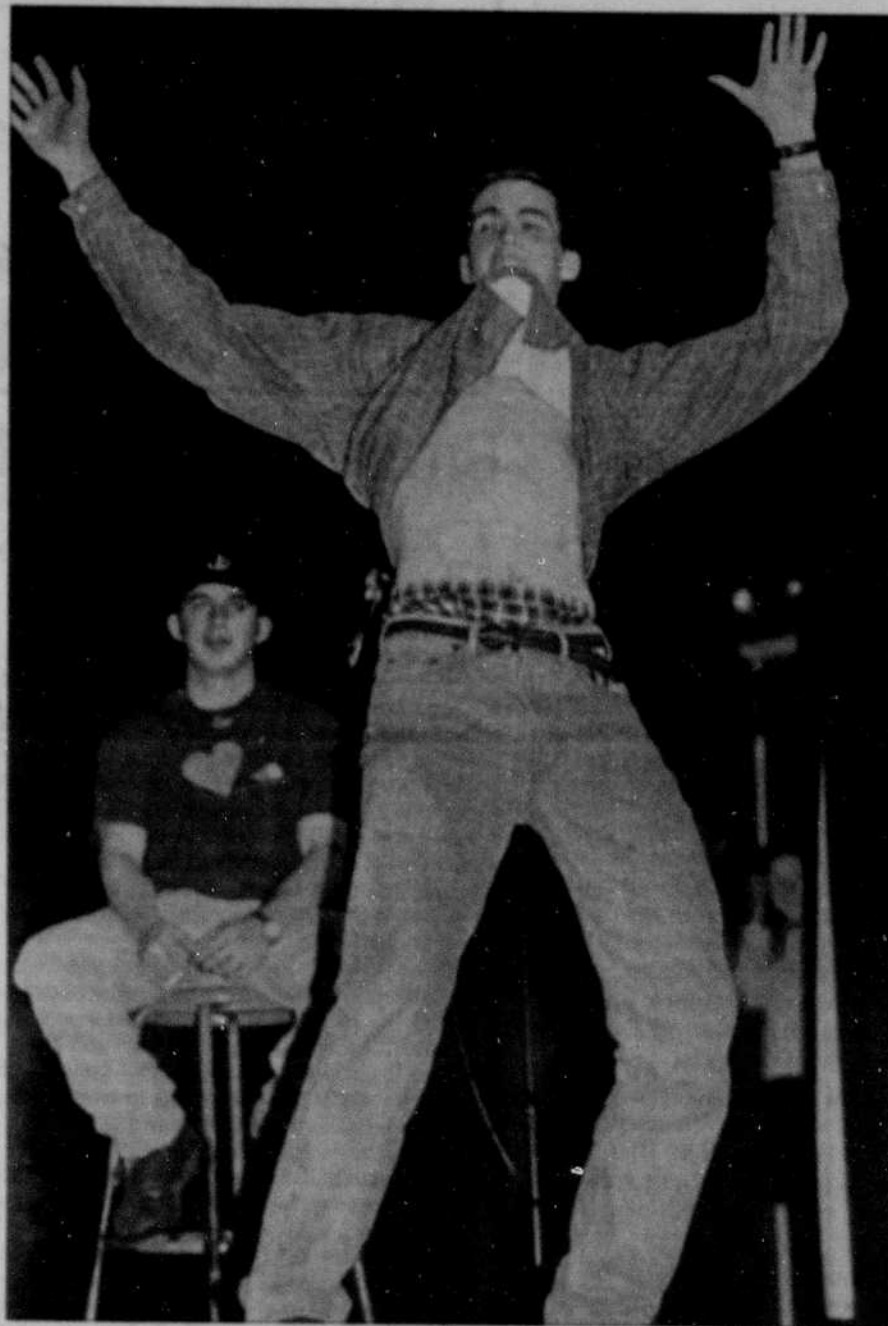
"There was no opportunity or money to go to college," Churchill said.

Churchill recently sold 250 acres of timberland in Douglas County after her husband, Leroy, died last year. The couple had no children, so Churchill decided to use the money to help students in financial need attend college.

Churchill had no previous connection with the

Turn to **CHARITY**, Page 5

Is he dateable?



To win a date, Ryan Makinson, a business administration junior, shows his dancing ability to Michelle Gill, who had her choice of three able-bodied competitors. The event was sponsored by Alpha Chi Omega house, and the money raised will be donated to battered women's shelters and to children with cystic fibrosis.

OPEU again negotiating to increase employee pay

STRIKE: A new bill causes the Board of Higher Education to mediate with union members directly

By Regina Brown
Higher Education Reporter

The Oregon Public Employees Union and the Oregon State Board of Higher Education have entered yet another series of salary negotiations. But because of a bill passed in last spring's legislative session, this time the board will negotiate directly with its employees.

"It was a major new step for the system," Chancellor Joe Cox said.

OPEU members went on strike last May after negotiations with the state failed to give them a 6.5 percent pay increase.

Both sides met last Friday at an Oregon State System of Higher Education board meeting to evaluate a joint vision statement, in which they express desire to work together to achieve common goals.

When negotiations began last October, OPEU employees who work within the University asked for a pay increase, said Jeff Seekatz, an OPEU negotiator from Oregon State University, who is serving as chairman of collective bargaining. The union is asking for a pay increase of 3.5 percent by April 1, 1996, and another 3 percent increase by April 1, 1997, he said.

OPEU members now suffer from a pay freeze, which has

Turn to **STRIKE**, Page 5

Tax victims begin to repair damage from Measure 5 fallout

Ballot Measure 5
5 Years Later

A Three-Part Series:

- Tuesday: Overview
- Today: State-wide impacts and property tax issue
- Thursday: University impacts

BUDGET: Oregon schools and universities re-evaluate structures after period of downsizing

By Sean Rossol
Higher Education Reporter

Ballot Measure 5, the tax-limitation law of 1990, hit its final round this last legislative session and left Oregonians with a nasty aftertaste.

Not only has the state provided less funding for higher education, but it has also forced several institutions to downsize and restructure their systems to make due with the decreased revenue.

Measure 5 also affected primary (K-12) education and several social support services in the state, which are funded by property taxes.

Despite cuts in the tax rate, property assessments rose drastically during the next few years (1995 property assessments were not available). This failed to give many Oregon home owners the financial break they had anticipated.

In an article published in *The Oregonian* in 1993, Mark Parker, who owns a 2,000-square-foot house in Laurelhurst, saw his property taxes increase by 67 percent in two years. In 1990-91, his house was assessed at

\$71,200, which meant a tax bill of \$2,386. The next year, the assessment rose to \$134,000, for a tax bill of \$3,110.

Although the tax rate dropped, his tax bill increased.

However, this increase in assessment values failed to compensate for the General Fund's Measure-5 losses.

In order for universities and colleges to survive, the schools have had to eliminate several key programs, drastically increase tuition, recruit more out-of-state students, and cap the salaries of almost all the departments within the system.

These were done in three phases since the measure's inception.

Overall, the first phase created a revenue loss of \$152 million. One major loss to the state's university system was the termination of OSU's veterinary medicines program. In addition, the University nearly lost its School of Law because of revenue decreases.

"The biggest effect [of Ballot Measure 5] was the large increases in tuition [statewide]," said Weldon Ihrig, vice chancellor for finance and administration for the Oregon State System of Higher Education. "We have also had to drastically increase the number of out-of-state students to make up for the downfall. We

Turn to **BUDGET**, Page 5