

Employers ready for Measure 36

■ **BALLOT:** A minimum wage increase could affect roughly 2,500 University students

By Laura Cadiz
Higher Education Reporter

With Measure 36 looking as if it will pass in Oregon, employers at the University are anticipating their next move.

As of yesterday afternoon, the minimum wage measure had 56 percent of votes in favor and 44 percent opposed.

The measure will affect approximately 2,500 students employed by the University and their employers. It would increase minimum wage from \$4.75 an hour to \$5.50 in 1997, \$6 in 1998, and \$6.50 in 1999.

If Measure 36 passes, University employers will have to restructure their budgets in order to comply with the measure.

As a major student employer on campus, the EMU is already pre-

pared for the measure's impact. Dusty Miller, director of the EMU, said their budget was created last year with the expectation that the minimum wage would increase. Miller is optimistic that Measure 36 won't cause a decrease in student jobs.

"We think we can continue to hire the same number of students we always have," Miller said.

To help adjust to the increase, Miller said the EMU will attempt to rely on hiring more work study students. Currently, there are approximately 1,600 work study students at the University.

While some worry that \$4.75 to \$6.50 is a large jump, the majority of student jobs at the University are already well above minimum wage.

With a starting wage of \$5.25, University food services will only have a 4 percent increase in labor costs in 1997.

"The real impact will be in '98 and '99," said Fred Babcock, director of food service for University Housing.

"The 4 percent won't be as large an impact as the 9 percent and 8 percent. When this thing becomes fully implemented there will be a 21 percent increase of student wages."

In three years, Babcock must find a way to compensate for a total increase of \$232,000 in labor costs.

"I'm certain that it will have some financial impact on raising our board rates," Babcock said.

Though some believe Measure 36 could lead to inflation, the EMU will work to avoid raising prices to cover increased labor costs, Miller said. But there's always the chance that inflation will happen, Miller said.

"If costs continue to rise ... prices go up; that's the way it works," he said.

Measure 47: Tax limits may be unconstitutional

■ **Continued from Page 1A**
take money from the higher education budget if the measure passes.

"We're going to work through this," said John Coney, Kitzhaber's press aide. "[Kitzhaber] is not going to let this rule his administration."

State Representative Bob Tiernan, an advocate of the measure, said it would not carry such dire consequences. Instead, it would force the government to streamline itself, he said.

"There is plenty of money in our budget to trim," he said.

Oregonians also need the measure because property taxes are skyrocketing, Tiernan said. Students should consider

the long-term implications the measure would have for them, he said.

"Students have to realize that one of their dreams they're going to college for is to own their own homes," Tiernan said. "They don't want it to be prohibitively expensive."

However, Frohnmayer said it is not clear whether the measure is even constitutional because of a clause that limits the state's ability to raise more taxes.

"If it passes, I suspect there will be litigation," he said.

Absentee ballots will determine the outcome, Frohnmayer said. Absentee voters are typically more conservative than poll voters.

Disabilities: Older campus buildings fail to meet standards

■ **Continued from Page 1A**
improved ramp access to Robinson Theatre that change began.

"A friend of mine and I went and the place wasn't accessible," Collett said. "So, I called the administration ... [saying] the [theater] should be accessible to everyone in the community. I just voiced my frustrations."

Gilg credits Collett for getting the ball running.

"He was instrumental to force the administration to get on it," he said.

Accessibility is an important requirement for the University. The American Disabilities Act of 1990 required all public places to remove barriers and make it accessible to people with disabilities. The act was implemented nationwide in 1992.

The theater wasn't in compliance with the ADA before the recent renovations, but the project has removed that status, Gilg said. The cost of the project was estimated at \$60,000, he said.

Gilg is also excited about new audience opportunities.

"Our perspective is to be as diverse as possible," he said. "[This renovation] offers services to a broader range of people and makes it accessible for them."

Nearly 500 students with disabilities attend the University, said Hilary Gerdes, a counselor coordinator for Students with Disabilities. Disabilities include epilepsy, heart problems and blindness.

The University has made efforts to render the campus accessible, such as building the recent elevator installment in Johnson Hall, Gerdes said. But older buildings such as Fenton and Friendly Hall need improvements with second-floor accessibility.

"For the big picture, given how old our campus is, we're in pretty good shape," she said. "The University moves to take action for accessibility. No student should be denied access [to education]."

Check IT OUT THIS WEEK at UofO

SHOOTING THE LIGHTS OUT

SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 9

Test your basketball and airplane toss skills for fun and prizes.
At Mac Court following the UO vs. Slovakia Women's Basketball Game.



HOMECOMING DANCE

SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 9

* Wesley Center, 1236 Kincaid (next to the Bookstore)
* 9:00p.m. - 12 a.m. \$2 students/\$3 general. Free admission for students who attended *Shooting the Lights Out!*

Every Friday Night

Ballroom Dance

Every Friday; Beginners lessons, 7:30 p.m.
Dance, 8:30 - 11:30 p.m., 220 Gerlinger
Students \$2, General \$3

Every Fri & Sat OPEN LATE

Recreation Center

Open until 1:00 a.m.

Campus Eateries:

EMU Breezeway Cafe

Open until 12:30 a.m.

Pizanos

Open until 1:00 a.m.
in the Bean Complex



UNIVERSITY
OF OREGON
**BOOK
STORE**
**THE
PARTY
FUND**

Calling all Ducks!! Call about more info on the PARTY Fund. Mini grants will be provided to assist in the cost of late night weekend events. First come, first serve. Only a selected number of spots & applicants will be chosen. Linda Devine 346-1123.

**(Fun Line...346-1135
more groovy info**

Get last minute up-to-date event info—must call after 5 on weekdays and weekends.

Sponsors: Office of the Dean of Student Life, PARS/IRM
The Ballroom Dance Club, Campus Interfaith Ministry.

Everyone Welcome!!
Come hear former NFL & Duck Football Star:

George Martin

"Success Strategies from a
Super Bowl Champion"

- George will share his insight about teamwork, dedication and career opportunity.
- George played 14 years with NFL's NY Giants including Super Bowl 1986.
- Founder of Minority Athletes Networking Etc., Inc. (MAN), providing inner-city kids with positive role models.

Friday, November 8

1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. • Chiles 128

Reception to follow

Sponsored by the Warsaw Sports Marketing Center,
the U of O Athletic Department and Mutual of New York

NO MATTER HOW FAR YOU TRAVEL,
YOU'RE ALWAYS CLOSE TO CAMPUS.
oregon daily emerald
now on the world wide web