

Oregon Daily Emerald



Weather forecast

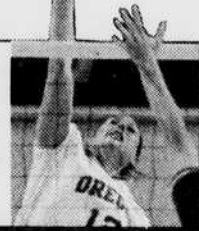
Today Sunny High 69, Low 36
 Friday Fog High 62, Low 39

Senate gives money for score

The Student Senate allocated \$700 for two students to compose film scores for silent movies / PAGE 6

Oregon vs. USC

The Ducks will challenge nationally ranked UCLA and USC this week / PAGE 9



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Trust funds aim to ease tuition costs

Opponents of the measure question whether it will have the desired effect of helping low-income families afford college

By Laura Cadiz
 Managing Editor

Rep. Peter Courtney (D-Salem) knows the economic challenges students face when trying to attend college.

As the assistant to the president at Western Oregon University, he's seen the tuition increases and the higher accumulation of student debt through the years.

"I'm very sensitive to the burden on kids today and how hard it is to afford a college education," Courtney said.

In an attempt to make it easier for students to attend Oregon public universities, Courtney introduced state Ballot Measure 55. If passed on Nov. 3, the measure would allow people to buy tomorrow's tuition at today's prices.

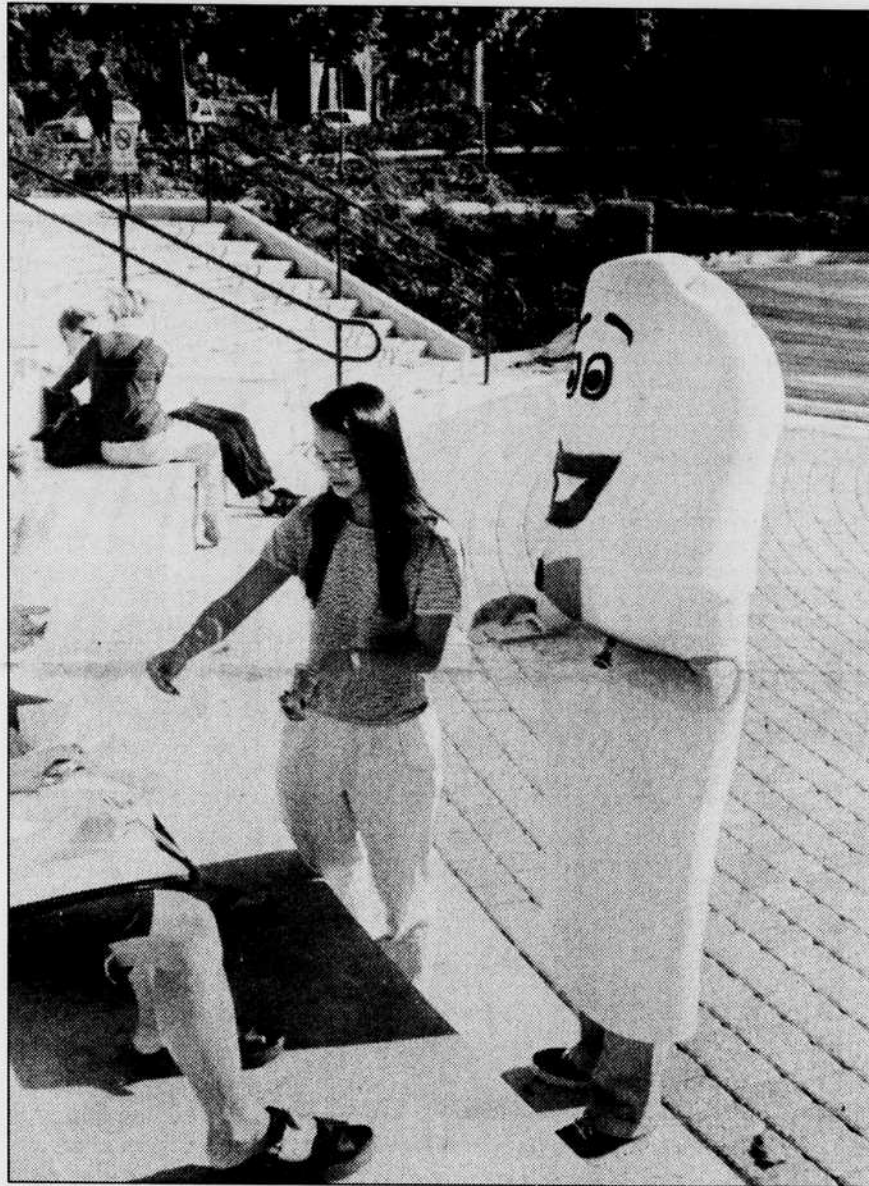
The price would be set at the highest prevailing year 2000 resident tuition at a university in the Oregon University System. The University of Oregon has the highest residential tuition cost this year at \$3,681.

The ballot measure would help more students afford a higher education, after tuition increased by 80 percent at Oregon's public universities since 1990, Courtney said. That caused the average Oregon graduate to accumulate \$15,000 to \$24,000 in debt.

Under the guidelines of Measure 55, the tuition must be bought for a specific Oregon resident. But the tuition can be used at any accredited non-profit community college, college or university in the United States. Buyers, however, potentially won't get as much for their money if the student went out of state because different states have different prepaid plans, Courtney said.

Turn to **BALLOT**, Page 3

Fair promotes sexual awareness



The Student Health Center's foam condom passes out condoms and sexual health information in the EMU Amphitheater during the Sexual Awareness Fair on Wednesday.

The event, sponsored by the Health Center and the Women's Center, sought to educate students about safe sex

By Sarah Skidmore
 Oregon Daily Emerald

A huge foam condom wandered around the EMU Amphitheater Wednesday, thrusting its goodies on students. It handed out grape, cola and banana flavored condoms as promotional prophylactics for the University's Sexual Health Awareness Fair.

The fair, held on Wednesday, was organized by the University Student Health Center. It offered a chance for students to receive information and talk to professionals about sexual health.

"It's a day that students can learn more about their sexual health," said Joanne Frank, director of health education at the health center.

Sexual health awareness is an issue University students should be concerned about, Frank said. According to the 1998 health center survey, 75.5 percent of the students polled have engaged in sexual intercourse. Of the students who have had sex, 50 percent have had one sexual partner, 11 percent have had two and 10 percent have had three or more partners.

Encouraging students to visit the fair by offering contests with prizes and free samples are good tools to get students in to learn more about their health options, Frank said.

Students such as Matt Rocha, a first year graduate student in physics, was enticed to the fair by the free treats.

"There's a lot of different and useful things here," he said.

The health center, Eugene HIV Alliance, University Health Education Program, Women's Center and three

Turn to **HEALTH**, Page 4

Eugene Airport asks for resident input to help create master plan

The airport's current plan, which is required by the Federal Aviation Association, has not been updated since in eight years

By Michael Hines
 Oregon Daily Emerald

The public has a chance today to give the Eugene Airport feedback on the progress of its new master plan update.

The master plan, which is required by the Federal Aviation Association, is a series of projections and goals that are set by and for the airport. It is regularly updated by the airport, said Diana Bell, airport office manager.

The meeting is from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Hilton Eugene and Conference Center at 66 E. 6th Ave. in downtown Eugene.

The last time the airport underwent an update of its master plan was 1990, Bell

said. Since then, the airport has determined it is time to revamp its master plan.

"Because many of the projects that were in the plan have developed, we said we were going to do another master plan," she said.

Essentially, a master plan gives the airport predictions on capacity and growth needs, and over time, the airport attempts to ensure all the needs are met. The master plan's update started in May, said Eugene public works information officer Eric Jones.

"We were projecting it would take about a year to complete," he said.

Currently, the process is ahead of schedule and could be finished in early 1999, he said.

Today's meeting allows the public to give feedback on the airport's new plan.

"People can come in, look at the program and ask questions about it," Bell said.

Continually updating the master plan

is a necessary step, Bell said. In a survey conducted about a year ago, the airport found that 13 percent of its users were between the ages of 18 and 24, and 17 percent of users were between 25 and 34. It did not take statistics on students, but Bell estimated that as much as 20 percent of the airport's users could be students.

The airport contracted AirTech of Cincinnati, Ohio, to conduct surveys on what the airport should prepare for.

"If we look at what they perceive is happening, then we will continue to grow," Bell said.

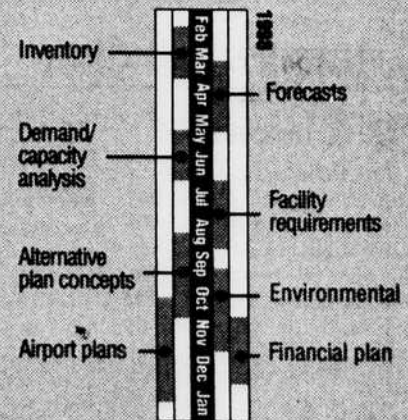
In theory, the airport could need any number of adjustments or improvements in the future, including constructing a new runway or a new terminal.

"The idea is to talk about what the assumptions are about needs at the airport," Jones said.

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Project Schedule

The FAA-mandated plan is projected to take about a year to complete.



SOURCE: Eugene Airport

Katie Nesso/Emerald