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The Great Depression

■ With the onset of winter, it's not unusual for many students to slip into depression

By Marcus Hathcock
Oregon Daily Emerald

Gloomy weather, outbreaks of illness and psychological strain aren't just ingredients for a classic horror movie — they're all standard characteristics of a University winter term.

Students tend to retreat to their rooms and even hunker down on their studies during gloomy weather. But weather isn't the only factor. Medical and psychological experts say students find themselves in the winter doldrums for a variety of physical and emotional reasons.

"Everyone's sort of downbeat," junior international studies major Barry Barksdale said. "No one's excited. Everyone's either doing their own thing or staying in their room."

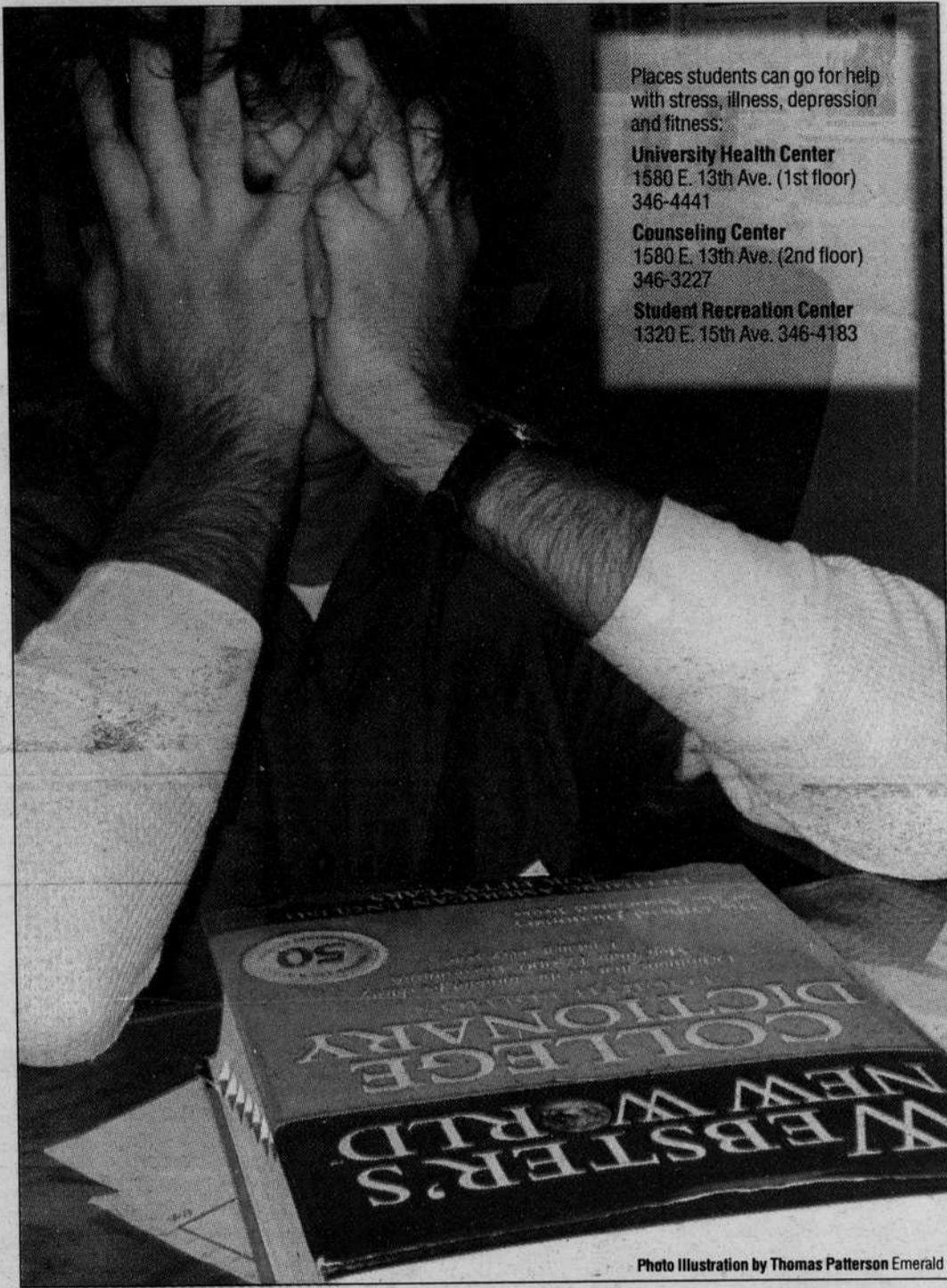
Barksdale, a transfer student from Willamette University, said he finds it hard to adjust to a new school when the weather has an obvious influence on the social climate.

Freshman biology major Andy Howard said while he personally enjoys the Oregon rain, he shares Barksdale's view of the student population's morale.

"A lot of people are just down on things," Howard said. "People are just kind of gloomy."

This gloominess may go beyond disapproval with the weather, said University Health Center Director Gerald Fleischli. He said some peo-

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Places students can go for help with stress, illness, depression and fitness:

University Health Center
1580 E. 13th Ave. (1st floor)
346-4441

Counseling Center
1580 E. 13th Ave. (2nd floor)
346-3227

Student Recreation Center
1320 E. 15th Ave. 346-4183

Photo Illustration by Thomas Patterson Emerald

Budget plan fails to please officials

■ Many representatives from the University think Kitzhaber's proposed OUS budget cut threatens academic quality

By Brook Reinhard
Oregon Daily Emerald

University officials think Gov. John Kitzhaber's plan to balance the state budget will cause the worst funding crisis at the University since Measure 5 took effect in 1991.

Kitzhaber unveiled his proposal to counteract the shortfall, which he called a "starting point for the debate," at a Monday press conference.

His plan calls for an \$84 million cut to the Oregon University System — 10.4 percent of OUS's operating budget.

That cut would eliminate \$12.4 million — 8.1 percent of the University's \$152.9 million budget.

Kitzhaber said he intends to have an updated plan by Jan. 14, but if no changes occur, the proposal will shortchange the University by \$12.4 million.

"The magnitude of the cut would be greater than the effect of Measure 5," University Provost John Moseley said. "It will be tragic if the state pulls back funding."

Nathan Tublitz, head of the University's faculty senate, said estimates have shown that a 10 percent cut at the University of Oregon would mean the school would be forced to cut 85 faculty positions. The exact effects of an 8.1 percent cut aren't known; however, any cuts above 5 percent would drastically affect the University.

"The sad part is that it takes just one large cut to cause an effect that takes a decade to recover from," Tublitz said.

Kitzhaber hasn't said cuts at the University would reach 10 percent, and Moseley said the administration isn't trying to inflate figures or assume the worst.

"We have no intention of playing any kind of game with this," he said.

Moseley added that a 5 percent cut to the University won't cause any programs to "close." Tublitz agreed a 5 percent cut would be "absorbable."

However, Tublitz acknowledged that the proposal threatens to be the University's biggest funding crunch

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MOSELEY

Parking shortages equal more dollars for DPS

■ DPS issues more than 20,000 citations per year in the campus area

By Leon Tovey
Oregon Daily Emerald

Those unsatisfied with the parking situation at the University shouldn't get mad about the prices of permits, tickets and meters — just consider them "gifts" to the University's parking and transportation program.

Parking permit sales are expected to bring in an estimated \$746,592 in 2001-02, according to Rand Stamm, manager of parking and transportation for the Department of Public Safety. Revenues from meters are expected to be about \$270,000, and citations are expected to bring in

\$360,000.

Junior Austin Jones summed up his feelings for parking and associated costs on campus with two words: "That blows."

Campus administration disagrees. The total income — an estimated \$1.38 million — is good news for parking on campus, according to Associate Director of Public Safety Tom Hicks. Because state law mandates that parking and transportation at the University must be self-supporting, all revenues generated from permit sales, parking meters and citations are used to fund the program. Hicks said the revenue pays the salaries of DPS parking enforcement officers and other parking related expenditures such as maintenance, repair and bond payments on existing parking

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Adam Jones Emerald

Many students are unaware that while hoods are usually placed on parking meters the night before events, the spots remain available until 4 p.m. the following day.