# Senate brief

Senate denies special funding requests

funding requests
At Wednesday night's ASUO
Student Senate meeting, two recognized student groups that aren't
funded through the ASUO—a hiphop group and GLOSS—each requested a \$300 startup fee.

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But Sen. Mary Elizabeth Madden pointed out a rule in the Green Tape Notebook that senators had overlooked. The rule prohibits the senate from allocating money to groups that hadn't gone through the Programs Finance Committee.

Some senators said they were concerned that allocating money to a group not yet funded would set a dangerous precedent, and students might begin to take advantage of senate special requests.

"We're moving into a dangerous area," Sen. Andy Elliott said. He said allocating money to the hip hop group is "saying that we'll just give \$300 to any group. They should go through the PFC process."

Elliott also questioned whether the \$300 startup money allocated to Night Ride should be recalled, since Night Ride is also a new group that didn't go through last year's PFC process.

In other senate business, the Athletic Department Finance Committee requested a 7 percent increase—totaling \$1,169,159—for the incidental fee contract with the Athletic Department. The increase

would pay for next year's student tickets for football and basketball games — including tickets released for football games played before school begins. Until this year, the Athletic Department had covered the cost of student tickets for preschool games.

ADFC members said they worried the Athletic Department will demand more money. But the 7 percent increase is the maximum increase student senate can implement without first asking the students for permission.

"The bottom line is, we don't have \$45,000 for the preseason tickets," Sen. Dave Sanchez said. "We need to (meet) with the Athletic Department and say, 'This is all the money we have to work with."

— Diane Huber

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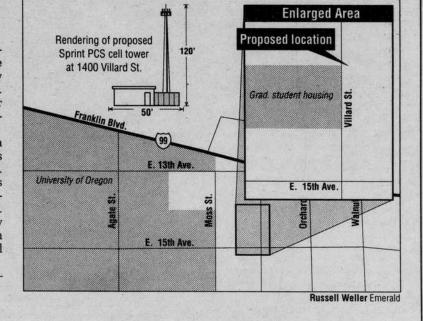
# **Tower**

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Kulby said Sprint did not conclusively show a 120-foot tower to be necessary. The city has historically refused to site large towers in town. Verizon's tower was denied last year and was only approved after the company agreed to shrink it to 80 feet.

Sprint has been trying to get a tower constructed in the campus area for the past several months. There are currently no locations available for siting on campus, University planner David Barta said. Barta has been working closely with the company to find a site on campus to give students better cell phone reception.

E-mail reporter Brook Reinhard at brookreinhard@dailyemerald.com.



# **Amtrak**

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Amtrak officials believe the dual responsibility of providing national rail service and making profit is impossible, according to spokeswoman Deirdre O'Sullivan.

Lloyd Flem, the executive director of the Washington Association of Rail Passengers, said a radical restructuring may not be necessary. He said Amtrak leadership has made poor decisions in the past, and he supports "some measure" of restructuring, but "not significant changes." He said the restructuring proposal has only become necessary because

the government does not spend enough money on rail systems.

"We've virtually starved our passenger rail system in the past 40 or 50 years," he said. "Getting money for the rail system is like pulling teeth without Novocain."

Under the proposal, the federal oversight committee could open railways outside the Washington, D.C.-to-Boston corridor to other entities, including state governments and private corporations. Chapman said he hopes Oregon and Washington will jointly create a Northwest rail system.

Rail service use in the Northwest has steadily increased in the past two years. In 2001, Eugene saw a nearly 50 percent increase from 1999, partly because of the addition of two routes, according to the Washington association. In the Northwest, 16 percent more people rode rails in 2001 than in 1999.

Washington and Oregon already contribute funds to Amtrak's western railroads, and if they create a new rail system they could offer incentives to freight companies to lay more railroad tracks. The extra tracks would free existing ones for passenger service, Chapman said.

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# Addictions

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as well as addiction experts and a tobacco executive.

The interviews were memorized by the cast word-for-word and turned into dramatic literature.

Some of these interviews were conducted just days ago at the University, bringing the issue closer to home.

"Putting the campus culture into the play definitely made it more real," said Sheryl Eyster, associate dean of student life.

Cast member Ginger Legon said there was a definite connection between the people on stage and those in the seats.

"I really felt a relationship between the actors and the audience," Legon said. "They responded to the situations that they could relate to."

Another sold-out audience is expected for tonight's performance at 7 p.m. in the EMU Ballroom. As of 5 p.m. Wednesday, nearly 100 tickets were left for the show. Students can attend for free, but they must obtain tickets from the UO Ticket Office. University faculty and staff admission is \$5 and general admission is \$10.

E-mail reporter Marcus Hathcock at marcushathcock@dailyemerald.com.



Adam Jones Emerald

Josh Koenig performs Wednesday night for the Quick Fix Project to raise awareness about drug addiction.



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