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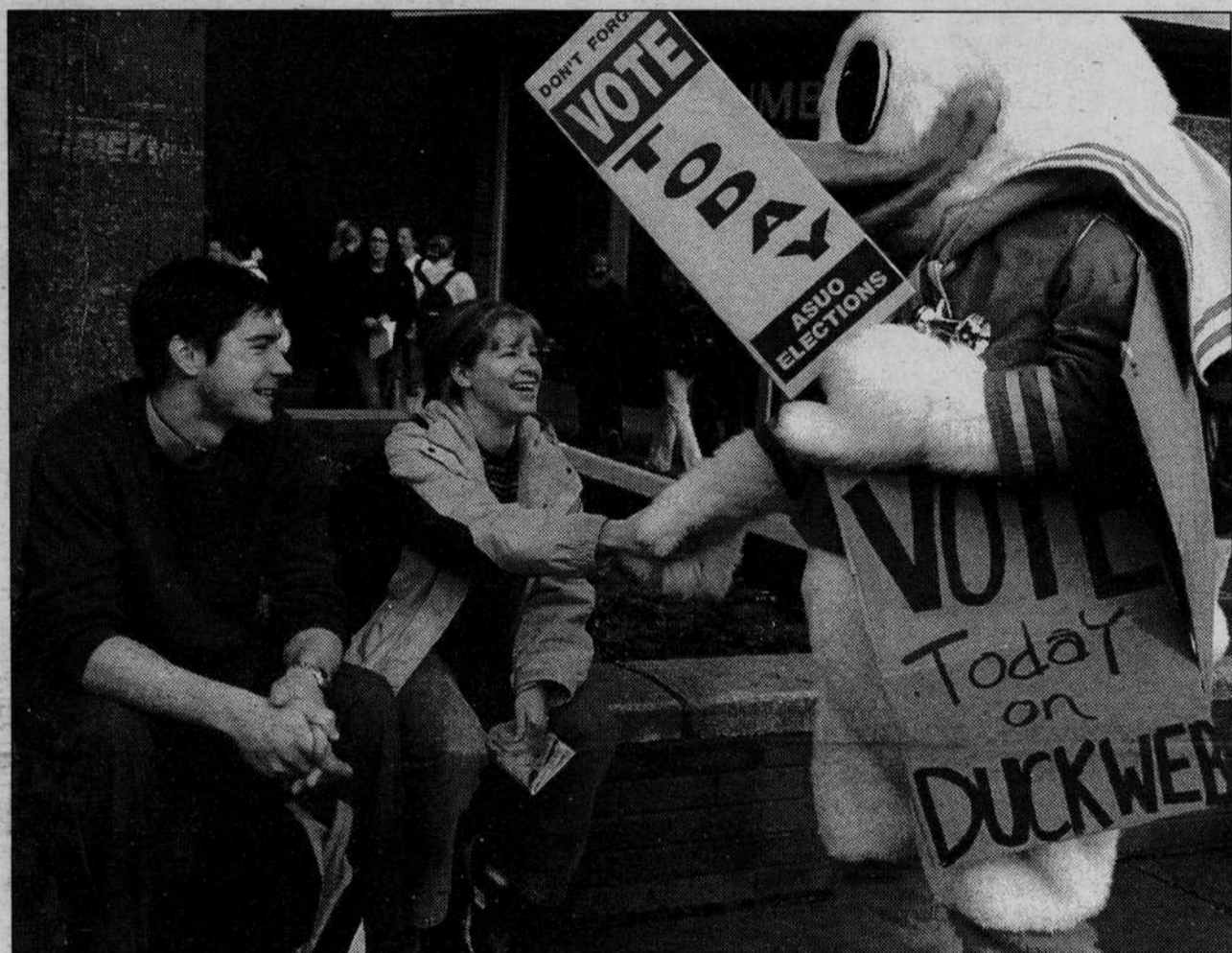
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Politics is for the Ducks



Danielle Hickey for the Emerald

The University mascot encourages Dan Vickery (left) and Lisa Appel (center) to vote in the ASUO primary election, which began Wednesday. Students can vote for ASUO Executive, Student Senators and other student representatives on DuckWeb from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and Friday.

Campus plans for increases in fines, fees

■ Traffic fines, parking permits and course fees are some of the items tagged to go up, and there may even be a \$5 fee for bicycle riders on campus

By Eric Martin
Oregon Daily Emerald

University administrators want to increase the fees and fines students pay for hundreds of courses and services in order to cover rising expenses, according to a notice issued Tuesday by the Secretary of State's office.

Scores of fees and some fines would be introduced, deleted or decreased if the proposal garners approval. The proposed fees and fines will offset increases in annual, existing costs of University services, such as ink for laser printers or repair of parking lots.

"It's not a process used to compensate for declining revenue elsewhere," associate vice president for resource management Francis Dyke said — including decreasing state revenues for higher education.

Some of the fees directly add to the price of the class because some courses require expensive materials or resources, which the University must purchase, senior vice president and provost John Moseley said.

Turn to Fees, page 4

Safety lights wait for consensus, not for funding

■ Campus officials have \$150,000 to spend on improved lighting, but no decisions have been made

By Diane Huber
Oregon Daily Emerald

In spring 2001, the ASUO granted Facilities Services \$150,000 of the overrealized fund to try to improve safety on campus by increasing outside lighting, but facilities isn't just going to pop a new light wherever there's a dark area.

Instead, Facilities Services, the ASUO, the Office of University Planning, the Office of Student Life and the Department of Public Safety envision improving lighting on "campus corridors" — highly traveled, designated paths.

Student Life Associate Director Sheryl Eyster said in the past, new lighting has been put up rather sporadically.

"Boom — a light goes here and a light goes there. But if we put a light by Deady (Hall), for example, students might be drawn to walk there because they think it's safe," she said. "Rather, we should put a lot of lighting in designated areas to keep traffic" there.

She said all the organizations involved want every decision to be well thought out. But right now, no concrete decisions about where and when the money will be spent have been made.

Another question that has arisen is whether adding more lights conflicts with ASUO's "Doin' it in the Dark" campaign to reduce energy costs and ultimately eliminate the energy fee.

Electrical supervisor Bob Springer said because the new lights will be more energy efficient, the additional costs will probably be minimal. Operations manager Ron Bloom said facilities is waiting for student input before deciding

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EWEB considers another rate increase

■ The utility may have to raise residential rates modestly through 2004 to pay off debts incurred during last year's energy crisis

By Brook Reinhard
Oregon Daily Emerald

Students may see their electric bill go up for the second time in six months.

Eugene Water and Electric Board commissioners met Tuesday to discuss increasing residential rates by 2.6 percent to bridge EWEB's \$40 million budget deficit. The board is expected to reach a final decision at their March 5 meeting. They will also continue to examine pay cuts, pay freezes and short term bonds as other funding options.

EWEB implemented a 36 percent rate increase in November 2001. The proposed increase would average \$2.25 on a monthly bill and be eliminated by the end of 2004.

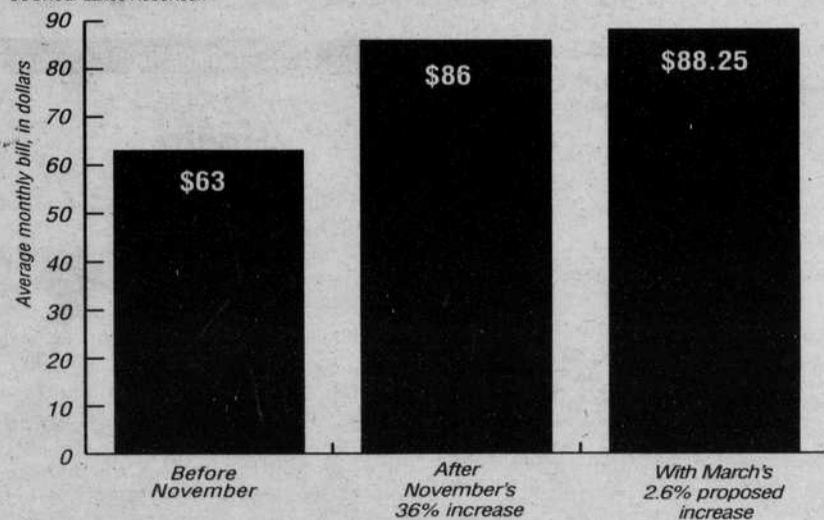
"It's not something that would be long-term," board president Dorothy Anderson said.

Energy consultant and former EWEB board member Jeff Osanka said EWEB's talk of another rate increase is troubling.

"I think rate increases hit those least able to pay, like students and seniors," he said. EWEB, like many other Northwest utilities, is struggling to raise cash

Residential EWEB costs

EWEB is proposing a slight rate increase in March
SOURCE: Lance Robertson



Nick Olmstead Emerald

to pay off loans taken out during last year's energy crisis.

Energy deregulation and a severe Northwest drought drained the local utility's coffers and left EWEB struggling to overcome a \$40 million debt.

EWEB buys nearly 10 percent of its power on the open market and was hurt last year by energy brokers such as Enron who sold power at prices as high as

\$1,000 per megawatt-hour. The situation worsened with last year's drought because EWEB generates most of its own power through hydroelectricity.

Northwest Power Planning Council spokesman John Harrison said the water shortage was also severe in the Columbia River Basin, where the Bonneville Power Administration provides

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