

Measure 13 could create 'rainy day' fund for schools

■ The May 21 primary election may affect the University when Oregon voters decide on proposed education budgets

By Brad Schmidt
Oregon Daily Emerald

Oregon voters will decide in the May 21 primary election if Ballot Measure 13 is worth busting open the state's school system piggy bank, a move that could directly affect University students.

Measure 13 would convert the state's existing education endowment fund of an estimated \$278 million into an education stabilization or "rainy day" fund. The two funds differ in that the endowment fund spends only the revenue earned on interest while leaving the principal untouched. The stabilization fund could be tapped at any time, perhaps wiping it out completely. With its passage, Measure 13 would authorize the legislature to use any portion of the endowment fund with a three-fifths approval from each legislative house.

If approved, \$220 million will go directly into the state school system in May 2003 to counteract the recession and Oregon's budget shortfall. The Oregon legislature cut school budgets by \$332 million for the 2002-03 school year.

University students will be directly affected by Measure 13, said Chip Terhune, spokesman of the

Our Kids Deserve Better committee. If the measure passes, many scholarship funds will be cut, unless the legislature allocates a portion of the remaining fund to scholarship programs, he said. But Terhune said that given the situation, the odds of the legislature routing money to scholarships are "next to none."

"If you're looking for long-term solutions and making no attempt to help school funding, why would you raid the one fund dedicated to school funding?" Terhune said. "It doesn't make any sense."

Supporters of the measure say that, despite cutting the fund to \$58 million, it will grow to more than \$600 million over the next 10 years. Each year, 15 percent of the net proceeds of the state lottery, or about \$50 million, are deposited into the fund.

State Rep. Lane Shetterly, R-Dallas, is a member of the committee that proposed the measure during the legislature's second special session. Shetterly called the measure "a wise use of resources available to fund schools" and said he's "passionately" in favor of Measure 13 because it would create a long-term stability fund and it represents the best option to fill the financial void caused by budget cuts. While the possibility remains that Oregon may not pull out of its recession, Shetterly said it is "highly unlikely" that the proposed fund would

be completely drained.

But because Measure 13 proposes the immediate allocation of such a large proportion of the existing fund, the measure has its share of opponents.

State Rep. Phil Barnhart, D-Eugene, said Measure 13 fund would build up only about half as fast as the current fund.

"A rainy day fund has to build up fast enough so that the next time it rains you have money to spend," Barnhart said.

Ballot Measure 13 was created to meet the desire for a stability fund and to prevent tax hikes, said Bob Applegate, press secretary for Gov. John Kitzhaber, D-Oregon.

"It would be better for about six months," Applegate said of the measure. "Then it would fall off a cliff in about a year."

The endowment fund, established in 1995, has generated interest that has been used for technological advances, facility upgrades and opportunity grants, with the principal remaining untouched. Ken Rocco, legislative fiscal officer for the state, said the current fund will earn about \$15 million in interest from July 2001 to July 2003. Of that total, he said, 75 percent will be used to pay off outstanding bonds with the remainder given to the scholarship commission.

E-mail reporter Brad Schmidt at bradschmidt@dailymerald.com.

all in McKenzie Hall room 240A, today and Saturday.

Wright is a physician earning his doctorate in philosophy. His work focuses on why standard medical protocols do not give a complete picture of a patient's condition and why a philosophical shift in the system is necessary to provide better treatment.

To set up Wright's findings, Johnson will explain why viewing the body as an organic whole, rather than a machine with parts to be fixed or replaced, will benefit patients.

"Human beings are not just bags of symptoms," Johnson said.

Saturday at 9 a.m., Ken Himma

and Ronald Moore, a team from the University of Washington, will present "Resurrecting Legal Positivism."

Then at 11 a.m., Donna Marcano and Ronald Sundstrom, a pair from the University of Memphis, will present "Racial Categories and Subjectivity."

Ryan Spelley and Leslie Francis from the University of Utah will give the final presentation, "Legitimate Expectations and Advance Directives," at 2 p.m. Saturday.

Sessions are free and open to the public. For more information call 346-5547.

—Serena Markstrom

American Fiction

Since 1960
SUMMER 2002 • HC 311H

We will be studying representative authors from each of the four decades, 1960s, '70s, '80s, and '90s: Ken Kesey (1960s), Alice Walker (1970s, 1980s), Raymond Carver (1980s), Toni Morrison (1990s), Robin Lippincott (2000). The course will define recent literary trends in our country, some of them as they are happening now. There will be discussion, some lecture, along with assigned papers.

Monday through Thursday

2:30-4:20 P.M.

June 24-July 19

307 Chapman • Professor Henry Alley

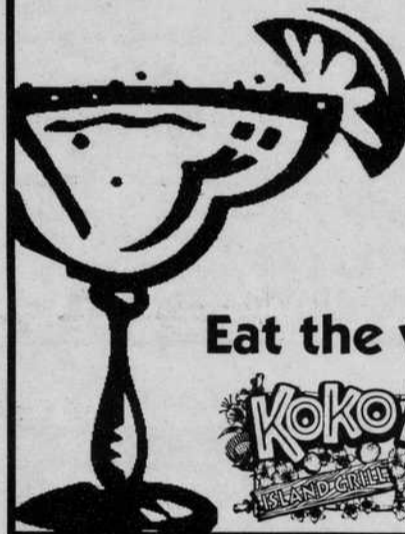
Open to all students with sophomore standing or above. You do not have to be an honors student to take this course.



Cinco de Mayo Party

SATURDAY, MAY 4TH • 8 PM

Largest tequila bar in Eugene



Break the \$100 pinata and win cash!

Prizes and contests all night long!!

Eat the worm contest



Rock 'n Rodeo
44 E. 7th
683-5160

News brief

Four research universities to present findings

Today the annual "Philosophical Collaborations" conference begins with University graduate student Gary Wright and philosophy Professor Mark Johnson presenting "Rigor or Rigor Mortis? The Survival of Clinical Judgement in an Age of Economic Rationality" at 7:30 p.m.

This year's theme is "Values, Categories, and Practical Deliberation." Graduate student and faculty pairs from four research universities will present on various topics,

VOS Virtual Office Systems, Inc. Computers

In Partnership with UO Bookstore!



"Ultimate" AMD
Athlon™ XP 1700+
\$929.99

AMD Athlon™ XP Processor
1700+ with QuantiSpeed™
Architecture outperforms
Competitive 1.70 GHz

Check us out at:
www.voscomputers.com

- MSI K7T266 Pro2 Board
- 30 GB 7200 RPM Drive
- 32 MB GeForce 2 MX
- 256 MB PC2100 DDR
- 17" .27 CTL Monitor

Custom built for
you with the upgrades
you want!

Extreme Performance
For Windows® XP!

System includes ATX case, 340 Watt power supply, Windows 98 SE, ME, or XP, 52X CD, 56K V.90 modem, floppy, mouse, keyboard, sound, and stereo speakers

Microsoft
OEM System Builder
Gold Member 2002

3131 West 11th. Ave.

Call us at 343-8633

Open Mon-Sat 10-6

VOS Inc. Systems are also available at the UO Bookstore. Prices good through 5/11/02. Trademarks property of their respective companies. Prices subject to change.

To earn a 4.00
in Brewology
all you need to
know is
STEELHEAD.

- 9 Award-Winning Micro-Brews
- Soups, Salads Ribs Fresh Pizza
- Sandwiches Pastas Burgers
- Spirits Home-Made Rootbeer

TAKE A BREW HOME IN STEELHEAD'S BOX O' BEER



Steelhead Brewing Company

199 East 5th Avenue Eugene, OR Phone 686-2739

Eugene, OR - Burlingame, CA - Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco, CA - Irvine, CA