

Voters defeat Measure 28's tax hike

Students' tuition will rise during the winter and spring terms as a result; \$26.9 million will be slashed from higher education in Oregon

Oregon votes 2003

Jan Montry
City/State Politics Reporter

University students' tuition was headed for an increase Tuesday night as voters rejected

Measure 28, the hotly disputed income tax increase. The measure's apparent failure drew criticism from University officials and praise from detractors.

Although many analysts had speculated the measure would ultimately fail, polls released last week showed higher support than anticipated, sparking hope among supporters.

But the outcome spoke for itself, with more than half of voters casting ballots against the measure. At press time, the Emerald had compiled 88 percent of the statewide vote, with 54.6 percent of voters rejecting Measure 28

and 45.4 percent supporting it.

"Obviously, I'm disappointed because it means we'll have to implement tuition surcharges on students and make additional cuts to programs and services," University President Dave Frohnmayer said.

Frohnmayer added that, despite the inevitable cuts and surcharges, class options will still remain intact, and funds will be available to support the neediest students.

"We don't want students to feel they are at risk," he said.

Throughout the past few months, agencies

in charge of state services and public education have reported staggering cuts to their budgets if Measure 28 were to fail. Now, the Legislature will likely have to work toward a funding plan to avoid these cuts.

Oregon University System officials said they will have to slash \$26.9 million from higher education — about \$6.1 million of which will be cut from the University's budget. The average University student taking 13.5 credits now will face \$135 surcharges for each of winter and spring terms.

Turn to **Results**, page 8

Building his case

Bush speaks on economy, disarming Iraq

David Jackson
The Dallas Morning News (KRT)

WASHINGTON — With war looming and the economy sagging, President Bush vowed Tuesday to "answer every danger and every enemy that threatens the American people" — especially Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

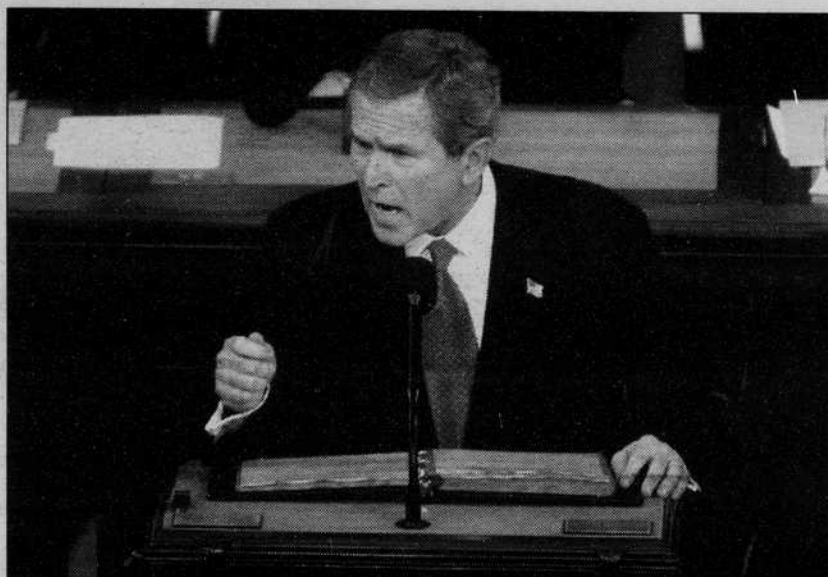
In his annual State of the Union address, Bush said he would dispatch Secretary of State Colin Powell to the United Nations on Feb. 5 to present evidence that Saddam is hiding chemical and biological weapons and has links to terrorist groups willing to use them.

"We will consult," Bush told a joint session of Congress, "but let there be no misunderstanding: If Saddam Hussein does not fully disarm, for the safety of our people, and for the peace of the world, we will lead a coalition to disarm him."

But as if to illustrate that Iraq is not distracting him from the nation's domestic worries, especially the sluggish economy, Bush spent the first half of his address arguing for new tax cuts, welfare changes, restrictions on medical malpractice lawsuits, government help for faith-based charities and changes to the Medicare system that would include a prescription drug benefit.

Republicans in the House chamber repeatedly cheered these and other proposals, while Democrats often sat stone-faced. Members of the opposition party later said that while Bush promotes economic and domestic security, the tax cuts he seeks would deprive the government of the money needed to make those goals a reality.

Turn to **Bush**, page 8



Chuck Kennedy KRT

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President George W. Bush addresses a joint session of Congress as he delivers his annual State of the Union address Tuesday.

Oregon officials, students react to Bush's speech

Roman Gokhman
Campus/City Culture Reporter

U.S. President George W. Bush delivered his 50-minute State of the Union address on Tuesday night, drawing praise from many Republicans and criticism from many Democrats.

Some students even watched the address for class credit. Students in Professor Joel Bloom's Introduction to U.S. Politics class improvised, watching the speech through a donated laptop computer after realizing they did not have access to a cable television connection or TV reception.

Bush's main topics included the fight against terrorism and conflicts in Iraq and North Korea, human cloning, partial-birth abortion and foreign aid to Africa.

The president said terrorism and states that sponsor it — such as Iraq and North Korea — pose threats to the United States, but individual countries need to be treated differently. He stated his opposition to all human cloning and partial-birth abortion and, in a move that surprised many Republicans, proposed \$450 million for a mentoring program, \$600 million to fight drug abuse and \$15 billion in aid to Africa.

U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Eugene, said the address was little more than political rhetoric.

"The reality is that the Bush

Turn to **Reaction**, page 4

PFC reduces OSPIRG funds for this year

PFC denied the group's request for a funding increase, saying it didn't support using fee money to support a new OSPIRG campus position at OSU

Jennifer Bear
Campus/Federal Politics Reporter

The ASUO Programs Finance Committee denied OSPIRG's request for a 24.2 percent funding increase Tuesday night, and instead slashed the group's budget by 31.87 percent, allocating \$82,320 to the group for 2003-04.

The Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group has been advocating environmental and consumer interest issues at the University for more than 30 years. OSPIRG has five chapters at colleges across the state, and the group has recently engaged in efforts to start a new chapter at Oregon State University. PFC members said they did not support using student incidental fee money to contribute to a new OSPIRG campus organizer position at OSU.

Representatives for OSPIRG pointed out the other four college chapters would also be contributing to a chapter start-up at OSU. Tim Johnson, an OSPIRG intern, said the public interest organization operates at a statewide level and pools the resources it receives from each university to fund one overall budget for the organization.

"It allows us to buy in bulk," Johnson said. "We're the Costco of students, you might say."

PFC members were wary of this type of funding system because it prevented the committee from examining OSPIRG's budget for exact figures dealing with how much funding goes to programming at the University. OSPIRG representatives tried to address PFC concerns and pointed out that even though some of their funding is sent off-campus, students all over the state, including University students, receive the benefit of their efforts.

Johnson said the group is valuable to University students because it uses statewide resources to advocate for public interest issues on their behalf. He argued that the most effective way for the organization to accomplish its goals is to organize and fund OSPIRG at multiple locations.

"We don't have geography on our side when we want to address issues that are statewide," Johnson said.

Representatives for the group said the University chapter of

Turn to **OSPIRG**, page 4

WEATHER

Today: High 50, Low 43, rain increasing with slight wind

Thursday: High 52, Low 42, rain at times and breezy

LOOKING AHEAD

Thursday LTD ridership has dropped

Friday Affirmative action and the UO

University e-mail undergoes needed changes

Oregon.uoregon users will soon have accounts on Gladstone or Darkwing that will replace the current server

Andrew Black
Environment/Science/Technology Reporter

More than 4,600 University students, staff and faculty will soon lose an old friend — their e-mail addresses.

User Services and Network Applications Director Joe St Sauver said 4,637 folks with "some-

body@oregon.uoregon.edu" e-mail addresses will have to create an account on Darkwing or Gladstone. Old e-mail messages can be transferred to the new account, as well.

Affected users have plenty of time to prepare for the change, which won't take effect until fall 2004. University computing consultant Patrick Chinn said the early announcement will help provide a smooth transition, but he admitted many Oregon users might find the switch confusing.

"No matter how perfectly you plan things, there will always be rough spots," Chinn said. "We're going to end up having to help a lot of folks."

The changes are due to the retirement of a 15-year-old server which is the size of a commercial fridge. The affected operating system, which serves mostly University faculty and staff, is known as Open VMS and is being phased out because of a lack of available hardware and application support.

St Sauver said the older system competes against other operating systems such as Solaris, Linux and other types of Unix, as well as windows-based servers such as Windows 2000. Most government laboratories, universities and colleges moved away from using the Open VMS platform in the mid-to-late 1990's.

St Sauver said no new accounts will be created on oregon.uoregon.edu and, by fall

Turn to **E-mail**, page 3