



School surcharge sound-off

"I think it's hard we had to be in a position to choose between taxes and education." Amy Seidenverg, 17-year-old sophomore



Jennifer Bear
Campus/Federal Politics Reporter

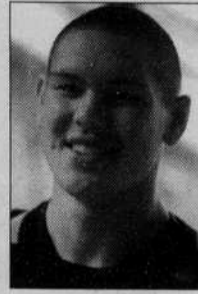
With Measure 28's failure, University students can expect to feel the pinch of increased tuition charges immediately. Students will face a \$10 per credit tuition surcharge — which applies retroactively to winter term — and there's still a possibility of future increases.

University Accounts Receivable Supervisor Dave Doerksen said students can expect to be billed for the current term in mid-February. Payments will be due March 1, with a 10-day grace period. Doerksen added that the University will bill students for the spring term surcharge in mid-April, and that the bill will be due in May.

Depending on credit load, students can expect to pay an extra \$120 to \$180 both this term and spring term. The Oregon Legislature will try to balance the budget for the next biennium July 1, and the University will likely replace the surcharge by tuition increases or eliminate it, depending on how much state funding it receives.

Measure 28 sparked a whirlwind of controversy throughout the University and surrounding community during the last few weeks, but now that the dust has settled, students take a step back to assess the situation.

Contact the senior reporter at jenniferbear@dailyemerald.com.



"I don't think it's too important to students in general. I haven't heard anyone talking about it or worried about any of the price changes." Mark Allen, sophomore economics major



"It will be very hard for us to study here as international students. I wish I could have voted." Vincent Konchellah, junior from Kenya



"It kind of sucks that tuition is going up. My loans are already set for the year, and I'm going to have to take extra money out of somewhere to account for that now." Megan Barrer, sophomore general science major

"I was a bit surprised. I thought it would pass because of all the emphasis you could see put on it at campus." Brian Smith, third-year physics graduate student



"I think the government obviously doesn't know what they're doing, and they're asking us to throw more money at them, which they'll just end up wasting." Kelsea Feola, freshman political science major



DPS finds gun ammo in Hamilton

DPS officers confiscated gun paraphernalia, including boxes of bullets, Monday night from a Hamilton Complex residence hall room

Caron Alarab
Crime/Safety/Transportation Reporter

Avid hunter and University freshman David Gantman aims to shoot down ducks at least twice a week when he has the time. But when he came home from a weekend away to find that the Department of Public Safety had confiscated all his ammunition, Gantman felt like he'd been shot down instead.

"I thought only firearms were an issue," he said. "I think (DPS) handled it well; I'm just glad to get it all back."

On Monday night, DPS reported the confiscation of several boxes of ammunition — among related items — from a room in Hamilton Complex. Gantman, who has hunted for more than nine years, said he stores his hunting rifle and shotgun at a facility off-campus, but had figured it was okay to keep ammunition in his room.

"I think it's ridiculous," his neighbor Mike Buchalter said. "It's not like he had a gun."

According to the DPS report, a student residence hall patroller — or community service officer — had been doing checks Monday in Tingle Hall when several boxes of ammunition were spotted at 9:25 p.m. through Room 102's open door. DPS Associate Director Tom Hicks said the Eugene Police Department was contacted for assistance before two complex directors, three DPS officers, three community service officers and an EPD officer proceeded to the location.

"Having ammunition is not a crime by EPD standards," EPD spokeswoman Kerry Delf said. "It just isn't permissible to store it on University property."

Turn to **Ammo**, page 14

Scheduling cuts leave LTD riders claustrophobic

Increased ridership along key LTD bus routes coupled with trimmed schedules has forced students to travel standing up

Caron Alarab
Crime/Safety/Transportation Reporter

Last year, junior Lacy Edwards got used to commuting twice a day on LTD bus Route 79, one of the busiest direct routes to the University. After three terms of constant bumping and cramped standing room, Edwards said she's glad she moved because she now can take the Breeze, a much roomier route.

By moving, Edwards just missed a ridership increase on already-heavy routes like 79. Despite a city-wide 5.3 percent decrease in ridership, a handful of routes continue to gain patrons.

Following last year's 9 percent reduction in service and last summer's 25 percent increase in the price of monthly bus passes, the Lane Transit District has reported that more people have stopped taking the bus, or simply take it less often. Although nearly all direct University bus service was maintained through the cuts, the overall reduction has meant fuller busses on

heavy routes, including those serving student housing in the Centennial and Kinsrow area — such as 79 and 79X — and the Westmoreland area.

LTD Service Planning and Marketing Manager Andy Vobora said the transit service has made a number of changes to maintain sufficient service through the current school year. By using reserve funds and cutting deeper into materials and services budgets, LTD will be able to maintain nearly 100 percent of citywide bus service. In cutting how late busses run on weekends and slowing the frequency of service in the middle of the day, LTD has been able to minimize the impact to any one location.

"UO riders have come to expect full busses, and we don't get many complaints," he said, "unless we are forced to leave people behind."

Vobora said the majority of riders who have issues with fuller busses tend to commute from areas with strong ridership, such as Westmoreland.

As a frequent commuter from Westmoreland via Route 76, sophomore Josh Palmer rides one of the few University routes to feel the sting of budget cuts. Due to

Turn to **LTD**, page 10



Mark McCambridge Emerald

The 79x, a popular bus route for students, has become more crowded because of route cuts.

PFC allocates more 2003-04 budgets

The Program Finance Committee hears requests for appeals and allocates thousands of dollars for new student group budgets

Ali Shaughnessy
Freelance Reporter

Emotions ran high and tempers ran hot at Tuesday's ASUO Programs Finance Committee meeting in the EMU Rogue Room.

The meeting started with a surprise — a singing telegram for PFC programs appointee Joy Nair in honor of her 22nd birthday. PFC members clapped and sang along, but as soon as the festivities ended it was time to get to work.

Oregon Voice's request for an appeal to

obtain more funding was turned down with a vote of 6-0-1, with the ASUO Executive strongly supporting PFC's decision. "I understand this is the very first appeal (PFC) is working on," ASUO Executive controller Beebee Tan said. "So whatever you set tonight is the precedent for the hundred-something other groups."

The Minority Law Students Association also requested an appeal; the PFC granted the motion, even though the ASUO Executive recommended no appeal. MLSA blamed the ASUO Executive for low funding, saying ASUO did not give it information on payroll paperwork, which resulted in payroll cuts for the group.

In response, Tan pointed out to MLSA that there were mandatory meetings in

which payroll was stressed, and she "believed (MLSA) was supposed to have a representative there."

The MLSA appeal proceedings will be held Saturday at noon.

Singapore Students Association and Japanese Students Organization also walked away with a second chance to ask PFC for more money, as well as the full support of the ASUO Executive.

Other groups, however, took hits to their 2003-04 budgets, however.

Project Saferide was allocated \$42,619, a 30.97 percent decrease from last year's budget. Night Ride's departure from

Turn to **PFC**, page 14

WEATHER

Today: High 55, Low 45, rain at times, slight wind

Friday: High 53, Low 42, rainy and breezy

LOOKING AHEAD

Friday
The University's Crisis Center offers students a place to turn to when times are tough

Monday
A look at the number of black athletes on scholarship at the University and in the Pac-10