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September Experience Courses meeting Sept. 2-12:

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Register using DuckWeb: http://duckweb.uoregon.edu

OSU student VP criticizes increasing education costs

Blasting 'financial gerrymandering,' Danielle Cox said the hikes would prevent students from starting or returning to OSU classes this fall

> By Chris Godwin Daily Barometer (Oregon State U.)

CORVALLIS — Associated Students of Oregon State University Vice President Danielle Cox recently testified before a public hearing in reference to the Oregon University System's proposed 2003-04 academic year fee book.

Cox testified before Jim Lussier, pres ident of the Oregon State Board of Higher Education, Richard Jarvis, who is the OUS chancellor, and the administrative assistants of the State Board of Higher Education, saying "This current assault on affordability is far more than a mere tuition increase in the minds of the students."

Cox continued to compare the tuition increase to "slight of hand" and "financial gerrymandering" where the

During a five-nation tour, Bush

discusses options for Liberia

defends American action in Iraq and

By G. Robert Hillman

The Dallas Morning News (KRT)

growing worldwide demands on U.S.

military forces, President Bush said

Wednesday that he intends to honor

his commitment to African leaders to

help enforce a tenuous cease-fire in

Liberia but will not push America's

"We won't overextend our troops,

period," he said during a joint news

conference with South African Presi-

Again, Bush stopped short of com-

mitting troops to Liberia, saying he was

awaiting an assessment from an advance

But he made it clear that he intend-

"It's in our interest that we contin-

ed to continue to support the training

ue that strategy," he said, "so that we

As he travels across Africa this week,

Bush is increasingly finding that his

messages of trade, aid and health care

to combat the AIDS epidemic ravaging

the continent are competing with per-

sistent questions from African leaders

of African peacekeeping forces.

don't get overextended."

military team in the war-torn country.

military beyond its limits.

dent Thabo Mbeki.

PRETORIA, South Africa - Facing

increase "condenses the boundaries of full-time students for no apparent reason other than to generate more revenue from those who fall outside the top end of the plateau."

"I think the issue here is not the tuition increases because the tuition increases were approved in March at the OUS meeting," said Andy Saultz, president of ASOSU. "The issue here is, basically, manipulation of the numbers because the OUS approved numbers in March, they gave those numbers to the Legislature and let students know about those ... and then they went back and they decided to change the tuition plateau.

The tuition plateau breaks down what kind of tuition students pay. Students who register for credits ranging from one to 11 pay tuition for an hourly rate. While, for students taking 12-18 credits, the tuition rate is a constant. And if a student takes more than 18 credits, there is a surcharge on top of that.

"What they did" Saultz said, "was

after the proposed tuition rates, after they told the students, after they approved the tuition rates for OSU and every other school and they gave them to the Legislature, they said 'We're going to now change our plateau from 12-18 to 12-16."

This change means that students registering for over 16 credits would have to pay an additional hourly rate just as a student would if they were to take 19 credits under the current plan.

In her final statements, Cox asked the Board to take into consideration the effect increases would have on certain people.

"Please remember," Cox said, "the students who will not be returning to campus this fall, and likewise the student that will never set foot on campus, because they were priced out of the market. For these students, this proposal does not represent a new plateau, but rather an eroding ledge."

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and others about his commitment to help ensure stability in Liberia.

Bush meets with African leaders

On Tuesday in Senegal, the issue arose during Bush's meeting with Senegalese President Abdoulaye Wade and other West African leaders. And on Wednesday in Pretoria, it arose in a meeting with Mbeki and again during their news conference.

"He asked whether or not we'd be involved, and I said, 'Yes, we'll be involved," Bush said. "And we're now determining the extent of our involvement.

While the South African president welcomed the U.S. commitment, he emphasized that "We're not saying that this is a burden that just falls on the United States.'

"It really ought to principally fall on us as Africans," Mbeki said. "Of course, we need a lot of support, logistics-wise, to do that, but the will is there.

Bush again called on Liberian President Charles Taylor, who has been indicted for crimes against humanity in neighboring Sierra Leone, to leave the country. But in Liberia, there were no signs of a quick Taylor departure to Nigeria, where he has been promised asylum, or to anyplace else.

Bush is ending his five-day, fivecountry sweep of Africa on Saturday in Nigeria. And aides indicated it would take considerably more time for members of the military team to complete their assessment in Liberia.

"They've got some thorough work ahead of them," White House press secretary Ari Fleischer said.

The U.S. military is already deployed in large numbers in Iraq, Afghanistan, South Korea and the Philippines, among other places. But Bush brushed aside new questions about whether his administration had deliberately misled the public with his State of the Union assertion since acknowledged to be false - that Iraq had tried to buy uranium in Africa to build nuclear weapons.

"There's no doubt in my mind that Saddam Hussein was a threat to world peace," Bush said. "And there's no doubt in my mind that the United States, along with its allies and friends, did the right thing in removing him from power.

The president said he remained confident that "when it's all said and done," he would be vindicated in his decision to topple Saddam.

'One thing is for certain," Bush said, "he's not trying to buy anything right now. If he's alive, he's on the run. And that's to the benefit of the Iraqi people."

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California mulls athletes' rights bill

California Senate Bill would expand athletes' rights, but some critics say it would jeopardize the state's involvement in NCAA competition

> By Angelee Field Daily Californian (U. California-Berkeley)

BERKELEY, Calif. - Collegiate sports in California are facing an uncertain future with the introduction of Senate Bill 193, also known as the Student Athletes' Bill of Rights.

Introduced by Sen. Kevin Murray, D-Los Angeles, and Sen. John Burton. D-San Francisco, in conjunction with Ramogi Huma and Ryan Roques, cofounders of the College Athletes Coalition, the bill addresses the student athletes' grievances with the NCAA system

But in the eyes of the NCAA, the

bill would make California student athletes ineligible for participation due to violations of the extra-benefits rule under current NCAA guidelines.

The intention is to make the NCAA and student athletes' environment better and we applaud that." Cal's Executive Associate Athletic Director Dan Coonan said. "But the method used to achieve that end is what we have a problem with."

Bill 193's main points are to remove limits of scholarships and stipends, giving athletes more money for cost of living expenses as opposed to covering only the cost of tuition, and offering health care during offseason training.

The NCAA expressed disappointment with the legislation and could not only make California student athletes ineligible but also deem California schools ineligible for participation in games against NCAA-eligible teams.

"If allowed to run its course, (the bill) will force California out of the NCAA, the NCAA said in a statement. "The bill ignores the rights of colleges and universities across the nation to deliberate and act on intercollegiate athletics."

Being eliminated from the NCAA also means a loss of a \$327 millionper-year industry through advertising, television revenue and bowl payouts.

If the bill passes into law California athletics programs are placed into a compromising situation.

"It puts us in a position where we have to choose between California law and NCAA rules," Coonan said. "Obviously, we'll have to follow California law.

(U-WIRE)

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