

Student takes action

Education better use for lottery funds

To the Editor,

The State of Oregon is at this time suffering from the deterioration of its school systems. The time has come for the voters of this state to make some tough decisions on how we as a state shall continue to fund education. A petition is about ready to be circulated to the voters to put an amendment to the constitution of the State of Oregon on the November 1992 ballot of the state's general election. The subjects of this amendment are on how the state should best utilize state lottery funds. At this time, the state legislature is required to spend lottery funds on economic development. At this time, there are not rules or guidelines established to indicate what economic development is. The state legislature determines what economic development is without any guidelines to follow, which in the view of the author of this amendment does not benefit the general

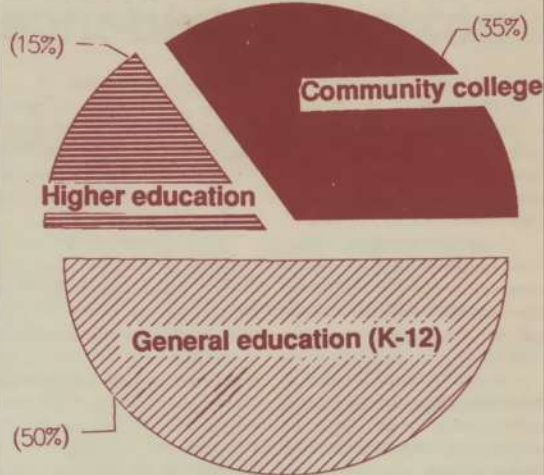
population. Lottery funds would best serve the residents of Oregon if the state lottery funds are spent on developing a strong educational base for the three state educational systems: general educational (K-12), the community college system and the state's higher education system.

The state cannot expect to remain economically strong and competitive in the world market when we are not training our residents to compete on an equal educational level as those with whom we are competing. At the beginning of the 1991-92 school year, Chemeketa Community College had a 23 percent increase in full time enrollment while the college general budget increased by only 4.7 percent. Many students were unable to enroll in the classes they needed because of overcrowding. Oregon is losing thousands of jobs in the timber industry each year. If we no longer have the ability to

take these productive Oregonians in and retrain them to once again be a continuing asset to our state, they shall become a burden this state cannot afford to support. Our best chance for economic stability is to invest in our future, investing in the education of the people that shall carry this state to economic stability.

The voters should be aware that supporting this amendment to the state constitution will not by any means solve our educational funding problems, but it will take funds that the state already receives and make the best use of those funds to benefit the most Oregonians. Lottery funds will only make up a small portion of the funds that are required to operate our school systems, but it is a right step towards true economic development.
Linn Hilderbrand
 President, Associated Students of Chemeketa Community College
 Salem, Oregon

Proposed utilization of Oregon lottery funds



ASG backs proposed state amendment

By Jennifer Lessard
 News Editor

CCC's Associated Student Government (ASG) voted to support a proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the State of Oregon calling for a 100 percent of allocations of lottery funds going towards education in the state, in their meeting on Jan. 23.

According to Lauri Mayfield, ASG President, not all members were in support of the amendment, but the majority agreed to support it. Mayfield explains that even if the amendment does not pass the Oregon vote in November, "just getting it on the ballot will increase awareness. It is a step in the right direction." She explains that the amendment portrays the effort of college students to take part in solving governmental problems and making a difference in their's and many other's future.

According to Linn Hilderbrand, President of the Associated Students of Chemeketa Community College and the author of a proposed amendment to the State Constitution regarding the utilization of lottery funds, the main objective of the amendment is to "use lottery funds in a more efficient manner."

Hilderbrand has purposed that 5 percent of the lottery funds to go toward the general education (K-12) system, 35 percent to go toward the community college system, and the remaining 15 percent to go toward the state higher education system.

The Legislature approved lottery allocations for 1989-91 in the sum of \$131 million. According to those figures published by the state in last year's budget, 14.5 million dollars out of the approximate \$131 million went toward the three divisions of education. The Workforce 2000 was dealt 6.7 million to work with, while the Department of Higher Education was dealt 1.8 million and the general fund for the Department of Education received approximately 6.0 million. In all, 11.07 percent of the lottery funds in the state last year were earmarked for education. The remaining funds went toward helping fund the Department of Corrections, economic development, regional strategies, special public works, the strategic reserve fund, tourism, small business development and other state agencies.

Hilderbrand explained that "this isn't good enough," schools are lacking adequate funding and Ore-

gonians are suffering because of this.

According to Hilderbrand, he "wanted to make a difference."

Hilderbrand believes that using the lottery funds in a different way "will benefit the state." Hilderbrand compiled information, visited the state building on several occasions and drew up a proposed amendment to the state constitution of the State of Oregon. He submitted the proposal to the Secretary of State's office to ensure his amendment was legally and formally correct. He also passed the petition through the Attorney General's office.

According to Hilderbrand, the lottery money has created, under the title of Economic Development, a \$100 million "slush fund for the Government."

Hilderbrand quoted an estimated \$200 million will be raised through the state lottery this year.

Hilderbrand will be speaking before a congregation of the state college presidents on Feb. 13 regarding his proposed amendment.

He is also scheduling lectures throughout the state educating Oregonians about the amendment and the current allocations of lottery funds.

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the State of Oregon

All Oregon State lottery funds shall be utilized to support the Oregon educational system. Fifty percent of funds shall be utilized by the general education (K-12) system, thirty-five percent of funds shall be utilized by the community college system, and fifteen percent of funds shall be utilized by the state higher education system.

All lottery funds shall be utilized strictly for the expansion of facilities, new construction, renovation of existing facilities, the purchase of new equipment, and for targeted job training, excluding facilities and equipment utilized exclusively for inter-school or intercollegiate athletics of any of the school systems.

The Oregon State Lottery Department shall set up an account as of January 1st, 1993, in which the state lottery funds shall be deposited throughout the year. The State Lottery Department shall distribute the aforementioned funds to the three separate Oregon education systems on December 31st of each year. The administrators of each of the three state educational systems shall be responsible of the proper distribution of their lottery funds.

The Oregon State Legislature shall not take into consideration the use of state lottery funds when determining the state educational system's yearly operational budgets. State lottery revenues vary from year to year and cannot be considered a constant source of income.

Mexican Chapas Mayan Slide Show
 Tomorrow 12:30-1:30 in B239

Join intrepid explorers Nancy Mikleton and Rebecca Nielsen as they dive into the jungles of southern Mexico. Visit the ruins of Bomampak, Yaxcutilan and Palenque via backroads, rivers and hiking trails to some of the least accessible Mayan Ruins on the Guatemalan- Mexican border.

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Legislative Approved Lottery allocations for 1989-91 (\$131million)

