

+ EMERALD EDITORIALS +

A Vote for President



The Oregon Daily Emerald will support Darrel Brittsan for president of the Associated Students of the University of Oregon.

It was a difficult decision to make. Both Brittsan and Doug Basham are eminently qualified for the job. Both have three years experience in the workings of student government. Both have definite ideas about how the ASUO should be run, and what could be done to improve it.

There are no clear-cut issues in the campaign, although each has a program to carry out. Both are agreed that the election should be more than a personality contest.

However, we believe Brittsan has a slight edge in two important areas.

1. Brittsan has a more specific program in mind. He has definite plans for the ultimate development of the Millrace, starting with a fund-raising drive, the inauguration of classes in rowing and canoeing, and ending with the eventual construction of an anchorage on the 'Race.

He is working on a compromise plan for selection of yell kings that would include screening by the ASUO senate, followed by popular election.

He is aware of the problems created by the late selection of chairmen for major weekends and has plans to select them earlier in the year. For example, he believes that Homecoming chairmen might be chosen in the spring, instead of in the fall.

None of these is exactly an earthshaking problem, but we believe it does indicate Brittsan has a firm grasp of the problems most likely to face him. Basham has limited his program to more general suggestions around the theme of "organization and cooperation." George Wingard lacks the experience necessary to formulate a specific program.

2. Brittsan appears to be a slightly better administrator and organizer. One of his greatest assets is efficiency — a characteristic that is necessary in anything as complicated and sprawling as Oregon student government.

He has shown excellent administrative ability as a member of the Millrace committee and chairman of the 1956 Canoe Fete. In addition, he has excellent ideas on how to make the ASUO more efficient while creating interest at the same time. He has suggested using a number of people from outside the senate on various ASUO committees, thus freeing the senators from many time-consuming projects, and at the same time increasing the number of people involved in student government.

Brittsan probably won't be a spectacular president. He does not give the impression of being dynamic. But he will be an excellent and conscientious leader.

Senate for Action

Action — action that comes as a result of thoughtful study and constant questioning of ideas — is the element we think the voters should consider when electing an ASUO senate.

This, of course, refutes both the theory and the reality of campus elections as popularity contests. If our aim is to show that we really haven't matured any since high school — then we should vote for the "neatest guy" or the girl with the most activity points.

But this type of voting will result in a senate that reflects the maturity of the electors — they won't question things, they'll just raise their hands or mumble "aye" when called upon to vote.

Using record and potential for positive action as a basis, we've worked out what we believe is the best senator-at-large slate for next year. It contains persons both experienced and inexperienced in student government — all possessing what we believe are the necessary qualities.

Assuming that Brittsan and Basham become president and vice-president, respectively, as we believe they should, here is our idea of the best nine senators-at-large:

(1) Jim Lynch, (2) Jim Hilands, (3) James McKenney, (4) Sue Ryder, (5) Sue Sandoz, (6) George Wingard, (7) Gordon Summers, (8) Larry Hughes, (9) Chuck Cowen.

It's a senate that would be likely to question the things they're asked to pass upon — rather than just raise their hands mechanically. It would, in our opinion, be most likely to argue and discuss intelligently the issues at hand.

Capacity, Potential

The same qualifications we have looked for in the senator-at-large candidates are necessary in class officers. Aside from working on one major class activity each year, the class officers are little more than glorified senators.

The senate needs students who either have proven their capabilities for leadership, or have given strong evidence of potential ability. They must be willing to question every thing that comes before them, and they must be willing to devote much of their time and energy to student government.

Accordingly, here are our selections for the class officers:

SENIOR CLASS. Our vote for president goes to Bruce Brenn in a close decision over Phil Hill. Hill has put on a tremendous campaign, but Brenn has a slight edge on his record as vice-president at Boise JC and as junior class vice-president.

For representative we like Betty Anderson, former rally board chairman, and Quincy Powers, a former hall and pledge class president at Stanford.

JUNIOR CLASS. Another very, very close decision, with our vote going to Brian Booth, mostly because his administrative abilities are needed for Junior Weekend. Louie Blue is only a shade behind.

Our choices for representative are Rob Roy and Sue Walcott. Roy should be running for something more important, but the junior class president should be very thankful to have him available for next spring. Miss Walcott has a wide experience in activities and should be an asset to the senate.

SOPHOMORE CLASS. Bud Titus is a man of proven capabilities, and tremendous interest in student government. He has been unselfish in giving his time and energy to student government the past year.

Jerry Ramsey and Judy Ecklund are our selections for class representatives. Both have made excellent records in the first year.

Drawing and Painting



Letters to the Editor

Emerald Editor:

During last year's ASUO elections only 51 per cent of the student body cast votes. Unfortunately, too many people feel that campus politics and elections are unimportant and unworthy of their support. This was especially true during the voting on the proposed ASUO constitutional amendment — not enough students marked ballots to decide its fate.

Tomorrow, we again go to the polls — this time to choose from among the candidates, those whom we want to represent us. Support by everyone is important and vital both now and to the future life of our University. This year's campaign has been characterized as one of personalities rather than policies — people rather than platforms, and correctly so.

When you go to the polls, ask yourself, what does this candidate stand for? Is he or she the type of person who will work for the general improvement of the University with all of the resources at his disposal?

Think . . . what has each candidate said during his flying speeches, in his campaign literature, and in the Emerald? Will the person that I vote for be pledged to the best interests of the University and take his duties seriously? Lastly, one of the most important qualities that everyone must consider before placing his preference on the ballot . . . is whether the person that I am voting for sensitive to student opinion? When we have "gripes" what is done about them? Other channels besides the ASUO suggestion boxes should be established. Act — your vote is the most

important single thing you have to do tomorrow . . . Vote!

Birger Brandt
Junior in Liberal Arts

From the Files

May 1, 1947

In an editorial titled "TNE at OSC — and Here," the Emerald reprinted an editorial from the Barometer and added some comments of its own, both to the effect that Theta Nu Epsilon, secret political fraternity, was operating on both campuses and that thoughtful Greeks would think twice and abandon their pledges to the harmful, exclusive organization.

The Emerald had, earlier that year, printed a statement that TNE existed on the University campus and added to the Barometer's editorial on May 1 that "TNE is still in operation."

Both campus newspapers had been stressing all along that the "underground political pressure group" was most harmful to the fraternity and sorority systems, upon which it depended for a "blind, complacent, self-satisfied" Greek bloc.

May 1, 1952

With winner's statement "She was a worthy opponent. It was damn close," newly-elected ASUO president Pat Dignan, ASSOC Greek Students' candidate, received the news that he had been elected the night before.

His "worthy opponent" was Helen Jackson (now Mrs. William Frye), who received 889 first-place votes to Dignan's 1012. She became vice-president of the student body for 1952-53.



The Oregon Daily Emerald is published five days a week during the school year and during examination and vacation periods, by the Student Publications Board of the University of Oregon. Entered as second class matter at the post office, Eugene, Oregon. Subscription rates: \$5 per school year; \$2 per term.

Opinions expressed on the editorial page are those of the writer and do not pretend to represent the opinions of the ASUO or the University. Unsigned editorials are written by the editor; initialed editorials by members of the editorial board.

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