

## \$89,000 for EMU is a wise decision

The University will soon receive about \$94,000 earned by the State System of Higher Education from interest on student deposits and agency accounts. ASUO vice-president Molly Devlin and Ralph Sunderland, the University Management and Budget Director, decided after some discussion that the money should be divided between the EMU and the Incidental Fee Committee emergency fund. About \$89,000 of the money is scheduled to go to the EMU, and the remaining \$5,000 will go to the emergency fund.

Good choices, both. With the EMU presently the largest eater by far of incidental fees, and yet a vital student service, placing the interest money into the EMU may keep other IFC money available for other student services and programs. The money is to be used to counteract the effects of EMU deficits of the last two years. And placing the remaining money in the IFC fund frees the IFC's hands a bit to meet next year's IFC budget, perhaps without program cuts and without raising the student's incidental fees, which are currently \$31 per term. The interest money is a God-send.

Offsetting the EMU deficit from years past will in itself help keep student fees down. The building has been showing more of a healthy business this year, and the food services, which have been big money losers in the past this year are now turning a profit. So writing off some of the past deficit will mean that less student money will be needed to operate the building in the future.

It is also interesting to note that the State System of Higher Education is returning the interest made on student money for the first time. It's a great idea. In the past, students have paid their deposits and received them at the end of the year, but the interest made on the deposit — interest the students could be making in their own banks if the deposit were not charged — has not been used for student benefit. Returning the interest money to the students (as a part of returning a percentage of the interest earned from all institutions is the right thing to do.

The return of the interest money is a real break for the IFC and the allocation of the money has shown that the ASUO can work with the administration to develop the best business decisions for such money. We have no doubt that the use of the money to offset the EMU deficit is a wise decision.

## ASUO needs to know

Today's Emerald carries an ASUO advertisement that is basically a student survey. The ASUO is trying to get student input in a variety of areas, and the effort of returning the survey to the ASUO is well worth the time and trouble.

Without student input from as wide a variety of students as possible, the ASUC is left in a vacuum; they have to guess at what the students really want. The ad on page 8-A of today's paper will give you the opportunity to tell the ASUO what you do want, information that will let them make intelligent decision and perhaps give them ideas to develop over the rest of the year.

The ASUO survey includes both specific and very general questions, which will give you an opportunity to vent your frustrations on a wide variety of subjects. The ASUO needs your ideas, and even your frustrations, in order to operate effectively as the student government of this university.



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## McCall: a crafty strategist

The race for the Republican Oregon primary election for governor, which now appears likely to be one of the most exciting political races facing the voters in May, so far seems to hinge on one question: Is the inimitable Tom McCall, who served as governor two consecutive four-year terms beginning in 1966, going to run for office again?

In most of the news stories featuring the other candidates for the Republican contest in the primary, the question has been played down by the candidates. Most of them say McCall won't matter to their campaign, and they tend to down-play McCall's chances for the office.

The two strongest contenders for the Republican side of the governor's race — State Senator Vic Atiyeh of Portland and State Representative Roger Martin of Lake Oswego — say the public is tired of old-style politics; they want something new. Recently, Martin said Oregonians are tired of the "Tom (McCall) and Bob (Straub) show."

But judging by the pervasiveness of the question of McCall's candidacy, McCall is at least one of the biggest question marks of this campaign. That question is keeping him at the front of the voter's minds.

If, indeed, McCall is planning to run for governor, and we think he is, he is playing his cards exactly right and showing the kind of political skill and cunning which gets anybody behind the governor's desk.

McCall presently works as a television commentator in Portland, a job that not only keeps his income rolling in, but keeps his face in front of the public. However, the moment he officially files for political office, he must by law resign his commenting because of a conflict of interest. If he files, the only way he'll get his face on television after that is to either pay for advertising or be the subject of news stories.

McCall, again with his impeccable sense of timing, recently published with a co-author an autobiography called "Tom McCall: Maverick." The book was published in 1977, and McCall appeared in Eugene in December to autograph copies of the book. McCall may not have intended to use the book as a campaign ploy, but

nonetheless, his timing is perfect.

McCall's statements so far about the governor's race indicate no more than a "serious consideration" for the race. Otherwise, he has remained silent. He has said nothing. But by remaining silent, he has managed to make his candidacy the most talked about thing among the voters.

McCall still has time on his side. The deadline for filing for office is April 15. So he can still tantalize the voters for awhile, and with a crafty sense of timing, he may pop into the campaign at a crucial time. By bursting into the campaign, he may come out strong on the issues at a time when the only issue seems to be whether or not McCall will run. That would be a piece of political finesse to behold.

In spite of the efforts of other candidates to hold the public attention with issues, the public seems more concerned with McCall. So far, Martin has said that the public is tired of Straub (which may be true) and of McCall (which is something no one can be sure of yet). But McCall is making sure that no one does get tired of him. Martin is promising to "shake things up" in the governor's office, including the promise of a 20 percent cut in bureaucracy, a move that is not only unlikely but unwise. In Oregon, where the population is rising and with it the need for services, 20 percent of a bureaucracy is a lot of bureaucracy to do without. Martin may damage his credibility by promising such a cut.

Atiyeh, on the same hand, criticizes the administration of the governor's office for the past three administrations, but concentrates his attacks more on Straub than on McCall. He also tends to keep more with issues such as the economy, energy, and crime. But even in Atiyeh's campaign the question, which must be bothersome to Atiyeh, is whether or not McCall will run. At the outset of his campaign, he said he would bring Straub under "close scrutiny."

But the clever McCall is playing his cards beautifully, and if he does run he will give both Atiyeh and Martin, as well as the other candidates, something to contend with.

Even if you don't like McCall's politics, you have to admire his political strategy.

## Letters

### EMU facts

The IFC and the Emerald are on the right track in trying to make the incidental fee paying public more aware of where \$1.4 million of incidental fees are spent. People's opinions do matter and reducing apathy by increasing awareness is a step in the right direction.

But the Emerald editorial of last Friday is a little misleading, so I'd like to clarify where incidental fees are spent in the EMU.

There is no incidental fee support for the EMU Food Service, Print Shop, Recreation Center or Oregon Wilderness Supplies. If these enterprises incur deficits, then the deficit is added to the EMU's revolving debt with the State System of Higher Education. If the enterprise turns a "profit" then this is deducted from the revolving debt.

The revolving debt has risen to just under \$200,000 largely due to losses incurred by the Food Service in prior years. But with changes in hours and menus, the Food Service this year will very probably break even, which is no minor accomplishment. Tuesday's Emerald reported that \$89,000 in interest earned on student deposits will be distributed to the EMU, to reduce cash flow problems and reduce the revolving debt.

The Main Desk receives some incidental fee support because it acts as an information center. The EMU's budget of \$784,037 covers more than administration and house keeping costs: the budgets for the Child Care and Development Center, Cultural Forum, Club Sports, Outdoor Program, EMU Child Care, Recreation and Intramural Programs, Craft Center, and Program Office are included in this amount.

Dusty Rhodes  
EMU Board  
Budget Committee Chair

### You can help

Let's stop nuclear wastes from being stored in Oregon! Portland General Electric's Trojan nuclear reactor has applied to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for permission to store two and one-half times as much spent fuel in the same size spent fuel pool.

There is only one set of hearings on the matter in front of the NRC, and they started January 4. The more citizens who make limited appearances or submit written testimony expressing their concerns, the more likely the NRC will listen to our concerns.

For information on how you can help, please call 345-5796.

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### letters policy

The Emerald will accept and try to print all letters and opinion columns containing fair comment on ideas and topics of concern or interest to the University community. Letters and opinions will be run on a first-come first-served basis.