



Stand and be counted

Now is the time for all gay, fraternity members who are handicapped and are interested in Recreational Folk Dancing to stand up and be counted. Yes, the Incidental Fee Committee is about to begin the long and complicated process of allocating your \$1.4 million for the next year.

Students at the University don't seem to realize what cheap thrills budget hearings can provide on weeknights. Yes, when your late-night studying for mid-terms is getting you down, come over and hear student government members hassle over whether to cover the horse transportation cost for rodeo members. Actually, budget hearings provide more entertainment than that. Comments such as, "Sexist, racists, capitalists bureaucrats," have been thrown across the tables in student government's continual search to please the 50 plus programs.

Major controversies should surface in the athletic department's endless quest to sell basketball tickets to the fourth balcony of Mac Court, comply with Title IX, attend all sports events within two thousand miles and provide a competitive, revenue-producing Pac-8 team in underwater basketweaving.

The Erb Memorial Union will once again try and rationalize an increase in their allocation with the continual promise of a free jukebox and mediocre hamburgers. The minorities will once again try to force-feed maize, fortune cookies, bagels, burritos, poi and hominy grits, to the uncultural

WASPs seeking a cheap Oly. You should come just to answer the burning question that has haunted you from your freshman year — What is HPERDSAC? (High Perverts Eating Roasted Duck Sandwiches After Class?)

Seriously, the Incidental Fee Committee is beginning the process, Sunday, of dividing up your money and we need your advice and your voice to aid us. One of our only indicators in student enthusiasm and support is your advocacy, in person, at these budget hearings. To aid you in your attempt to "stand up and be counted," we are posting notices of the hearings in the Briefs section of the Oregon Daily Emerald and in the Daily Schedule Boards in the EMU. Or drop by and talk with us in our office in Suite 5, EMU, about the money, about your budget priorities, about your interests. We are here to represent and serve you.

Doug Benson
Member,
Incidental Fee Committee

Drop the charges

People for Southern African Freedom would like to add its voice to those calling for the dropping of charges against the 23 students arrested in the Jan. 25 occupation of Johnson Hall. Both the State Board of Higher Education and the University President are on record opposing U.S. corporate investments in southern Africa. Many of these investments violate U.N. sanctions officially endorsed by the U.S. government, yet these

violations remain unpunished. It seems to us that punitive action against those who are trying to carry out declared policies against apartheid is morally inconsistent and vindictive.

Our organization did not endorse the Jan. 25 demonstration because we did not believe that condemnation of the State Board of Higher Education was appropriate at this time. PSAF is currently involved in a legal effort to ensure that State Board divestment policy is implemented and upheld without any further delay imposed by the Attorney General. There is a possibility that the issue may go to a court for litigation, perhaps with PSAF and ASUO joining in support of the authority of the State Board on this issue.

Whatever the outcome of the legal route, however, the need for massive political demonstrations on campus and in the community will continue until the racist regimes in southern Africa are brought down by the liberation movements. In the future such demonstration should be well-organized strategically and tactically, center on a well-defined issue, and be planned through collective decision-making. Campus activity must also be seen as part of a campaign to build a broad movement of support for African liberation in the community.

Right now the most pressing need is for the organization of a broad-based defense movement for those arrested and facing criminal charges. If such a defense movement reaches out to the Eugene-Springfield community and does not demand political unity from those willing to join, PSAF would give high priority to building support for it.

A community-wide defense coalition would enable a number of organizations to link together in an educational campaign that

would relate the struggle in southern Africa to the struggles here at home. It would also be the most effective way of fighting the charges against the Jan. 25 demonstrators. Those who have risked their own liberty in the struggle for southern African freedom should not have to stand alone against the courts.

Walt Sheasby
for People for
Southern African Freedom

Frustrated

I feel so helpless up against the bureaucracy of this university, that I have to write this letter. I paid \$250 this quarter to go to school. As a consumer I feel humiliated and cheated. Not only am I not allowed to add a three credit class, I'm not allowed to sit in, even though there are only 15 people in the class.

I signed up for Writing 241 — fiction — and found that it conflicted with my mineralogy lab. So I tried to get into a Monday night class for the same course. It was crowded the first week and the teacher was not sure I would be able to add the class. The second week many people dropped. There are now fifteen people in the class and the teacher said there was room for me — that I could get in.

I never missed a class meeting and I bought all the materials. The third week of school I tried to add this class. The writing department has a rule stating that you can't add a class after the second week. This was not stated in my class. I went to the departmental office at least 10 times to see a woman who might be able to let me in. After a week of trying to see her, we finally met. She told me to see "Dr. Love-Joy" the department head. I went to see the good doctor and told him my story. He said they have a rule and he has to stick by it. I was getting emotional

and asked him why. He said, "We don't want people adding classes after they have already started. They are already behind in assignments, etc." I reiterated that I hadn't missed any class meetings, that maybe he could bend the rules a little for me. "No", he said. Humiliated, I left.

I decided to further my education anyway and planned to sit in on the class. This past Monday after class my teacher informed me that she has specific instructions not to let me sit in on the class! She explained that I "created a bad atmosphere for everyone", and there is nothing she can do about it.

The whole situation is a rip-off and dehumanizing. I feel like I'm being cheated out of education and money. (I have only 12 credits). The people in charge are so inflexible with their little rules and regulations. They are the bureaucracy, they make the university what it is — a myriad of departments and deadlines. This is wrong. It does not further education, but detracts from it. This situation should be corrected, but I know it will just get worse.

Dennis Moore
Senior, Geology

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. Both letters and opinion columns must be typewritten, using 65 character margins, and should be triple-spaced. Letters and opinions must be signed and the author's field of study (or faculty status) noted.

Washington today

Panama treaty critics focus on translation "problems"

By **WALTER R. MEARS**
AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Now the critics of the Panama Canal treaty say they're worried that it may gain — or lose — something in the translation.

What they're really looking for is any argument they can find against the pact in the Senate. Still, they may have a point, since translating is a tricky business.

President Carter discovered that in Warsaw, when his remarks became somewhat more colorful than intended because of a faulty translation from English to Polish.

When he spoke of Polish desires for the future, it came out as "your lusts for the future."

It would hardly do to have a treaty recording U.S. lust for the canal, although the point could be argued, given the ardor of the opposition.

Translations between English and Spanish are not quite so difficult, but it turns out that there is room for argument over interpretation of the words in the treaty.

"We must contend not only with conflicting interpretations of the English text, but also the Spanish meaning of every word in the documents," said Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, R-Utah, who opposes ratification. He has proposed an amendment to declare the English language text binding in case of

any dispute.

State Department translators and negotiators have spent about 400 hours studying the English and Spanish language of the treaties, and they say there are no substantive differences.

But translation is an imprecise science, and there is a treaty provision for consultation or mediation in case of disputes over the meaning of the words.

That is a problem in the negotiation of any treaty involving different languages. As one of the final phases of treaty negotiations, the diplomats call in their language experts to check the words in translation and try to make sure there are no significant differences in what they mean.

Sen. James B. Allen, D-Ala., claims there are not only ambiguities but errors in the canal

treaty translations. He argues that "errors in translation were very likely — at least in many instances — deliberate" so that Panama could claim the best of the bargain while U.S. negotiators could get their handiwork approved by the Senate.

His complaint, and Hatch's amendment, are based on a study of the English-Spanish texts by Sylvia Costellanos, research di-

rector for a conservative group that calls itself the Senate Steering Committee.

According to her analysis, the treaty translations could lead to questions about the U.S. role as manager of the canal, about the control of traffic and about future payments to Panama.

She contends that the treaty language does not give the United States clear authority to control canal traffic, even though it grants a U.S. right "to provide for the orderly transit of ships ..."

"In the Spanish text, this function is expressed as the right to provide for the 'fluid transit' of vessels," she writes. "Interpreted literally, the Spanish version of the sentence merely gives the United States the right to ensure that the ships going through the canal will have water or some liquid to sail on."

Presumably, the water will stay there, no matter what the treaty and the translators say. The treaty pronounces the Spanish and English texts to be equally authentic. That's the language Hatch wants to amend, to make the English version binding. If he were to succeed, which is not likely, the amendment would have to be rendered into Spanish so that the Panamanians could consider it.

An amendment to the treaty would automatically require further negotiations — and more translation.

