

Oregon daily emerald

Vol. 79, No. 154

Eugene, Oregon 97403

An Independent Newspaper

Monday, May 15, 1978

Pets on parade

Elves, clowns, cowboys, goats, rabbits, horses, dogs and cats wound through the Junction City streets Saturday during the town's annual Pet Parade. The parade ended at a city park where Mayor Jerry Brown awarded prizes to the most beguiling pets and their owners. The kids were given cash prizes and popsicles. None of the pets were given prizes although one canine did make off with a popsicle.



Photos by
Adrienne Salinger

Warren wants run-off vote

By CAROLYN BEAVER
Of the Emerald

After three days of confusion, it appears University students have not yet elected a student body president.

Thursday evening, the tally proclaiming Ramon Herrera ASUO president was tentative. The students at the University's Institute of Marine Biology at Charleston had been sent ballots which were not expected until early Friday morning.

Of the 22 votes cast at Charleston, 18 went to Jeff Warren, one went to Herrera and three went to "no response." Those votes gave Herrera 50 percent, Warren 48 percent and "no response" two percent of the total vote.

ASUO Vice-Pres. Molly Devlin, head of the Elections Board, has ruled candidates must have 50 percent of the vote plus one in order to win the election. However, she had also ruled the "no response" votes should not be used in tabulating the results for which candidate has the majority.

"By marking 'no response,' the student has indicated his/her desire not to have his/her vote considered in the determination of the outcome," says Devlin.

If the "no response" votes are not computed, Herrera will have the majority. Warren has filed a petition with the ASUO's Constitutional Committee to challenge Devlin's ruling.

Warren says the "no response" votes "are bona fide votes cast." He continues that those persons actively cast ballots and they should be counted. Warren is asking the Constitutional Committee to "order and supervise another run-off election."

Warren says he's asking the committee to supervise the election because of bias shown by current ASUO Pres. Gary Feldman.

"Gary Feldman has threatened, in the presence of witnesses, to use his power as president to force his vice-president and members of the Constitutional Committee to carry out his view concerning the counting of 'no response' votes," says Warren in his petition.

"Mr. Feldman is also reported to have said that he wants to 'take care of things with the Constitutional Committee so that he can leave school and wash his hands of the whole matter,'" the petition continues.

Usually, the committee must wait seven days after a petition is filed to consider the issues. Both Warren and Herrera have submitted "petitions for immediate consideration," and the committee is expected to meet today.

If the committee decides the "no response" votes are valid and should be computed in the majority averages, the Charleston votes will be declared invalid, says Devlin, and another election will be held there.

Devlin says the votes will be ruled invalid because, of the 22 votes cast, only 18 were validated according to the ASUO system of punching numbers from the voter's fee card.

Simeral to end 'tortuous' relations

By MELODY WARD
Of the Emerald

Just three weeks prior to formal consideration of her contract renewal, Economics Prof. Margaret Simeral has announced she will resign from her position as assistant professor.

"I would prefer to remain at the University and feel I have significant contributions to make," she says. "However, I cannot continue in what has become a tortuous relationship."

Simeral, who specializes in labor economics, says, the economics department and the University err by "over-emphasizing published research in the evaluation of untenured faculty."

However, Gerry Bierwag, economics personnel committee chair, says the resignation is premature because "it's hard to resign from a position you don't have."

Simeral was given a one-year contract

last fall, after the department refused to renew her two-year contract. Previously, the personnel committee had voted unanimously to not renew the contract because her research was "inadequate."

"Simeral is not being let go because she is a non-neoclassical economist or anything else," Dept. chairer Henry Goldstein says. "If we had reconsidered her in the next few weeks, I'm not really sure how it would have gone. She's a super teacher."

But Goldstein says by any standards, Simeral's research performance and her attitude toward traditional research is "unpromising." He defines the department's priority to be hiring new people who are both effective teachers and researchers.

"Marxist economists are a pretty rare breed in this country," he observes. "Since the Vietnam war there has been a tiny growth in their numbers. The University economics department is reasonably representative of the profession."

Simeral says she believes her contributions have been under-valued by the department, specifically in the areas of teaching and service.

"The application of inflexible and escalating criteria creates an inevitable tension among the activities of research, teaching and service to the detriment of the latter two," she adds.

The department requires that scholarly research be published in national recognized journals, according to Goldstein.

"The stuff that she's doing is kind of a mixture of sociology and economics," Goldstein comments. "As far as I know, she's done one article that will be published in a recognized economics journal."

However, Simeral maintains her activities are indeed research or publishing-oriented.



Margaret Simeral

(Continued on Page 3)