

ASUO hires lobbyists for Salem duty

Pair to push for release of course evaluations

By JIM ALLEN
Of the Emerald

With a \$1,400-a-month investment, the ASUO has hired a pair of lobbyists to work for the release of student course evaluations and passage of other pro-student bills in the Legislature.

David Jennings, 30, and Ronnie Friedman, 32, will take the student government's posts in Salem next month. Jeff Warren, vice pres. for State and Federal Affairs announced Wednesday.

Friedman will work exclusively on the course evaluations issue and will receive \$800 a month. Jennings will get \$600 a month for work on other issues.

Friedman, who worked as deputy financial manager in New York for Sen. Birch Bayh's 1976 presidential campaign, hasn't yet formulated her legislative plans.

"Right now I want to do a lot of reading, researching and talking to people," says Friedman. "I have no tactical or strategic plans yet." Friedman has lived in Oregon since 1975.

Friedman also worked as financial manager during Jerry Rust's successful bid for county commissioner in 1976.

Jennings, who served as president of the old ASUO Senate in 1971, will work on a variety of problems, and will also help Friedman on the course evaluation issue.

"I'm going to devote a great deal of time to the course evaluation issue," says Jennings, who has lived in Oregon for 10 years. "But I'm also going to work on killing Republican Rep. Bill Rogers' voter registration bill."

The lobbyists will also work "very closely with the Oregon Student Lobby," says Warren, who adds, "I think they'll be able to do a good job." The OSL recently hired former ASUO Pres. Jim Bernaw as its executive coordinator.

Warren, along with administrative aide Dave Hebert and a committee, used several criteria in selecting Jennings and Friedman.

"We chose our lobbyists on the basis of their knowledge of the Legislature, their experience in politics, their ability to get along with people and their knowledge of higher education," Warren says.

"I think we have the potential to get the job done this year," adds Hebert. "Both people are very intelligent."

"These two, working together with the OSL, will form a formidable lobbying team," says Warren. The pair will begin work in Salem in February.

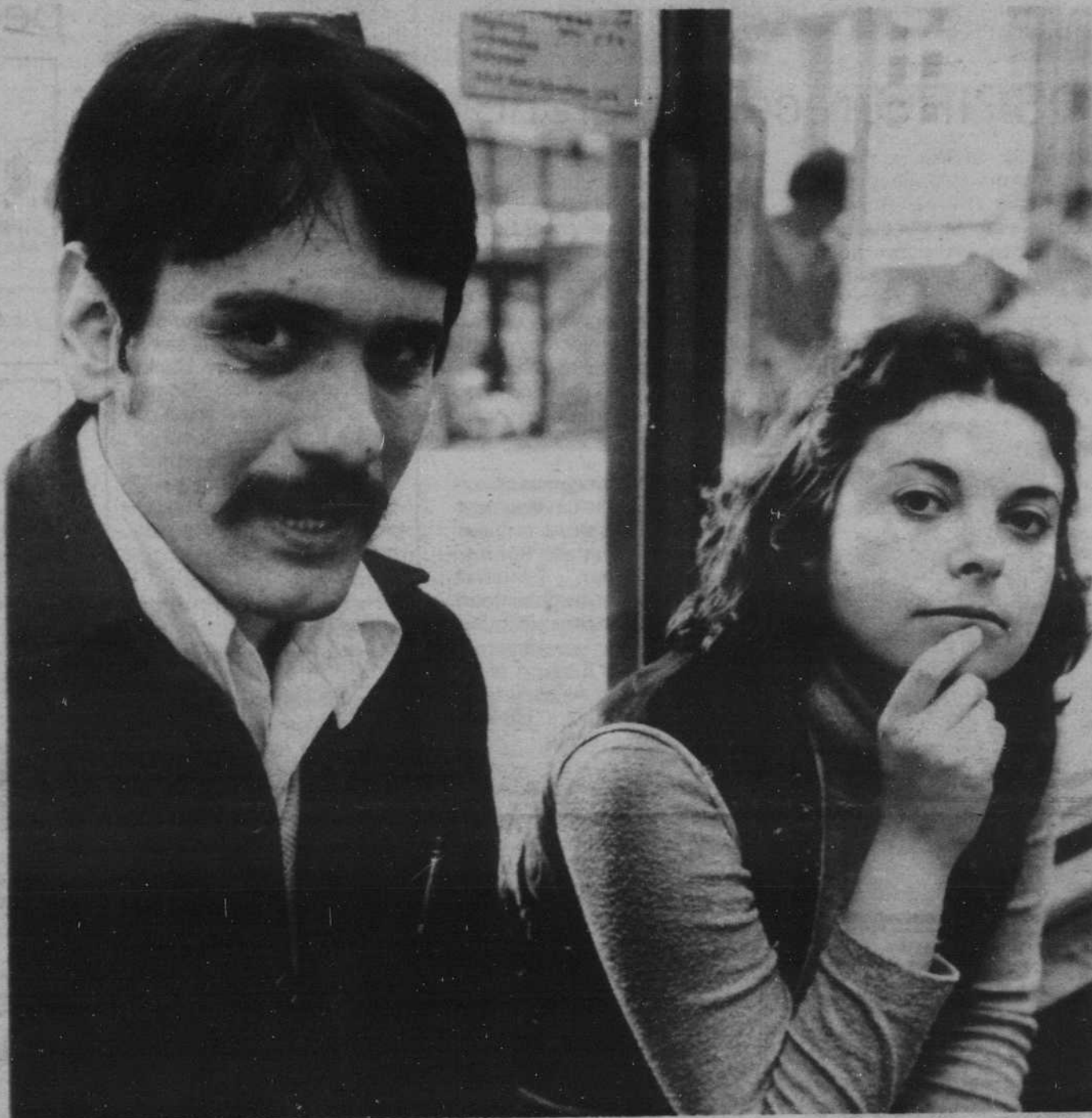


Photo by Doug Williams

David Jennings and Ronnie Friedman have been hired by the ASUO to lobby in Salem for the release of student course evaluations. Friedman will receive \$800 a month to

work exclusively on the evaluation issue. Jennings will earn \$600 a month to work with Friedman, as well as on other pro-student bills. The pair begins work in February.

Government gears up for 1980 body count

By RON TAYLOR
Of the Emerald

In 1980, four out of five Americans households will receive a four page census form asking 22 questions. That fifth house-

New form asks some personal questions

hold will be asked to answer a 20-page form making 100 inquiries.

The census forms won't begin circulating for another 15 months. But some legislators and concerned groups are already wondering about the highly inquisitive and often quite personal questionnaires, not to mention the \$1 billion price tag. The last census, in 1970, cost \$200 million.

The Constitution requires the federal government to count warm bodies each decade. But through the years, the questionnaires designed to do that job have become longer and more complex.

Some legislators are wondering whether the original intent of our founding fathers has been forgotten. But the process does have its advocates.

"The forms reflect the sheer complexity of our society and times," observes Larry Carter, a University demographer.

Once gathered, the information allows demographers and sociologists to chart social and economic trends. The information provided by the complex forms helps determine how nearly \$50 billion in federal funds are disbursed.

Also, the number of states' seats in the

U.S. House of Representatives and state legislatures are determined from census information, according to Carter.

The kinds of questions asked run from the mundane type to exacting personal inquiries about income. Other questions are merely expanded from previous forms.

For example, the 1980 forms no longer use the word "race." Instead, the Census Bureau gives 14 choices of ethnic origin plus a space for "other." The list includes Asian and American Indian, Hawaiian, Guamanian, Samoan, Eskimo, Aleut plus a selection of Oriental origins.

Ethnic differentiation is important, according to Carter. "The United States has been operating on an assimilationist theory too long," he says.

In collecting the data, the Census Bureau hopes to avoid the errors it made in 1970. According to bureau statistics, last time around nearly eight percent of American Blacks were missed. This was partially offset by a two percent error in the number of whites counted.

The Census Bureau also failed to differentiate Hispanic Americans in the 1970 count. Such discrepancies result in losses

of millions of federal dollars to those minorities not existing on the Bureau's tally sheet.

Census takers are already having problems obtaining data in several pre-test areas. Richmond, Va. residents returned only 79 percent of the forms to the Census Bureau, while lower Manhattanites only bothered to return 44 percent.

Carter says census counts are traditionally accurate, with as many as 96 percent of those questioned responding not uncommon.

If the return rates in the pre-test areas are indicative of the rest of the country, the bureau will have to decide how much to adjust the data for an accurate picture, officials say. The question is, where does adjustment stop and manipulation begin?

Problems generated by the low response rate may also prove to be exorbitantly expensive. Census officials fear this trend could produce a half-billion dollar cost overrun.

Low return rates increase costs because for everyone not returning a form, one of 250,000 hired interviewers must then visit the home in person.

However, census officials say more

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today

Leg-hold traps are unnecessarily harsh on animals and should be outlawed, the University Survival Center says. Jack Condliffe describes the center's presentation against the traps today in the EMU. See Page 3.

Crafts are as much a part of the Eugene scene as sprouts and jogging, Emerald entertainment editor Judy Emerson writes. She takes a look at Opus 5, a local crafts gallery that survived a shakey start five years ago to become one of the top galleries in the area. See Page 4B.