

Bassett merits top ASUO post

General elections for ASUO president begin Wednesday and the Emerald reaffirms its support of Scott Bassett for that post.

Nothing in the actions of Bassett or his sole remaining opponent since last week's primary have given us reason to doubt our earlier endorsement of Bassett. If anything, we hold that opinion more firmly.

In his two years on the Incidental Fee Committee and during the ASUO campaign, Bassett has demonstrated leadership qualities — maturity, administrative competence, organizational skills, knowledgeability about University operations and articulate, programmatic approaches to understanding and solving problems.

Last week students gave Bassett a plurality of primary election votes; this week they should finish the job by giving him a majority in the presidential election.

yours

'Only one' for job

Determining which name gets the vote in the ASUO presidential election is no easy task. For some persons the task is too easy. They vote for someone just because his name is plastered on everything in sight. They vote for someone because his campaign is humorous. They vote for someone because their friend is voting for him. These are all bad reasons to vote. They suggest voting for the outward appearance of the candidate, which is not important at all.

What is important is what the candidate has to say.

Scott Bassett seems to have his presidency well mapped out, with everything carefully scrutinized and prepared for study. Bassett says he has patience and can work through channels. He also would poll students periodically to make sure HE is representing THEM fairly. It seems Scott Bassett will hold the entire ASUO and university in his grasp and handle the job with utmost brilliance.

Amy Tobias does not pretend to know the students' interests;

she actively searches for opinions through polls and other methods. She has not mapped out an intricate but unrealistic plan for office; she is completely open to the unknown course ahead with a unique but totally necessary concern. She is concerned with maintaining quality education. With this one concern and her belief in student desires, Tobias will be able to whip through student projects for the benefit of all.

Both candidates have ample experience to be able to function as president. Both articulate themselves well. But only one has the qualities of someone who can get beyond plans and get student programs working. Only one has the representation of every student in mind. Her name is Amy Tobias, and I'm voting for her today.

Byron Caloz
junior, computer science,
journalism

Editorial insulting

I was a candidate for the EMU Board and I am writing concerning the candidate endorsements which appeared in

last Tuesday's issue of the Emerald. I received a somewhat unfavorable recommendation, and yet, this is not the major object of my concern. My concern lies in the process in which these endorsements were made.

I received a brief, five-minute interview with two of the members of the Emerald staff. In this short time the two staff members decided that I, and I quote, "because of his (my) inexperience, unfamiliarity, and seeming lack of ambition at reversing both disadvantages, would be the least desirable addition."

This being my first attempt to gain student office, and because of the general lack of publicity concerning EMU Board functions, it would be expected that I would be somewhat inexperienced and unfamiliar with the job. I will not argue with that. But, I find their further statement, as to my lack of ambition, to be shocking and insulting. On what basis, I ask, could they, in one five-minute interview, make such a deep judgment of my character.

I ran for the office because I want to get involved in student

government. If I didn't feel that I could be an effective and informed member, I wouldn't have run at all.

I have long felt that the Emerald, having a monopoly on the news media on campus, should take an impartial stand on student elections. And after my own personal experience with the Emerald's endorsement procedures, I must strongly question whether the Emerald is actually performing any service for the students with such hastily prepared endorsements.

Bob Chestler
sophomore, biology

Backs Tobias

I respect the right of the Emerald to express its own opinion. I feel very strongly, however, that the paper should not be running a campaign of its own. The purpose of the Emerald is to inform the students — not to persuade them. I am writing this letter for that reason. I would like to add some information that I feel has been neglected or misunderstood concerning Amy Tobias.

One of Amy's greatest assets is her incredible amount of

energy. Not only is she energetic, but I want to assure the students that she is, contrary to popular belief, full of good ideas. The issues that are of utmost concern to Amy are academic quality, student input on faculty hiring committees, anti-draft, a feasible course-evaluation system — and many more.

Another of Amy's strongest assets is her involvement and the experience she has behind her. She has not only been a member of the EMU Board, but she has gained much experience from directing the Information and Grievance Center, interning at the state legislature, Orientation and Academic Requirements committees, and the Dorm Governance Committee, just to name a few.

I would strongly urge people to stop at the Information and Grievance booth, or at the various tables around campus, to ask specific questions concerning her intentions and ideas. If no one asks, then no one will hear... and Amy is too good of a candidate not to be heard.

Barb Stanton
junior, rhetoric



'WHO'S THIS SAINT HOWARD THE JARVIS THEY ALL KEEP PRAYING TO?'



greg wasson

a quorum of one

Guess when you are dealing with something that is going to be around 250,000 years, immediacy doesn't seem very important. But by failing to consider the abbreviated approach endemic to the broadcast media, those leading the fight against the atom have not gotten the response they want from the press.

At Friday's nuclear rally, Dr. John Goffman, the big gun from California, was preceded by a parade of anti-nuclear legislators and music and didn't speak until the demonstration was an hour and a half old. By the time Goffman directed the crowd to concentrate on the economic woes of nuclear power, most of the TV and radio people were back in the press rooms, filing stories or preparing to hot-foot it for Portland.

It's the same lack of punch that plagued a news conference called early

in the session to support a utility rebate of money many think was collected illegally. A number of organizations joined in demanding the rebate and the media listened to a representative of each group publicly confirm the request, even though the charge had been made 10 days before.

For many, stopping nuclear proliferation is the only item on the legislative agenda. But that's not a universal commitment. Few reporters can or will spare the time to sit through a three hour demonstration or listen to the rehashing of old charges. If Goffman was what anti-nuclear types wanted to get on the news, they should have released him early.

What was needed was two events: one staged for the media, the second for the

crowd.

Electronics insures information dispersal on a mega-scale and the opportunity to use it shouldn't be ignored or dismissed.

Since the early 1900s, Oregon's death penalty has been an on-again off-again proposition. In November, voters turned it back on but some legislators feel the ballot measure reinstating capital punishment subjects more people to the death penalty than the voters wanted.

As approved, the law requires death or life in prison for any murderer regardless of the situation. A bill recently OK'd by House Judiciary would create a non capital crime of second degree murder, requiring neither death nor life in prison.

A member of the committee, Rep. Norm Smith, R-Tigard, explains why

changes should be made.

"The murderer could, theoretically, be a young mother with two small children who has a decent job but had a domestic conflict with her husband that ended in a death. This alteration gives us something between manslaughter and life in prison."

Prosecutors have complained that the new law might make it difficult to get a conviction at times because a jury would be reluctant to subject the defendant to such harsh punishment.

Concern was expressed about tampering with the people's mandate but Smith and most of the committee felt it was justified. However, Rep. Joyce Cohen, D-Lake Oswego, voted against the changes calling it bad precedent to repair faulty legislation passed by the voters.