

Election complaints delay IFC switch

By MARK MATASSA
Of the Emerald

The newly elected Incidental Fee Committee members didn't begin their term of office as scheduled at the IFC's Monday meeting.

Although the new committee was scheduled to take office at the beginning of the meeting, the present committee decided to hold its seats until election complaints against some of the new members have been settled.

Scott Bassett, ASUO president, recommended that the former IFC remain intact until the election results are complete.

In order to complete the election, the ASUO Election Court must first rule on complaints filed against new members during the general election. It is scheduled to do so this Thursday.

General election complaints have been filed against John Neiderbach, Mark Stapke, Ken Brittain and Chris Moore. All are charged with illegal postering during the general election campaign.

A primary election complaint was filed against re-seated IFC member Adam Cohen. Cohen was found guilty of misrepresenting himself in an Emerald classified advertisement and was sentenced to one hour of volunteer work for the ASUO.

At the opening of the IFC meeting, Chairer Rocky Schatz explained Bas-

sett's position that new members shouldn't take office until the Election Court hears the complaints.

"What if the new committee takes over today and then is removed from office?" Schatz asked. "Then any decisions it makes today will be made by a committee that is not supposed to be in office."

Neiderbach objected to the IFC's methods.

"The way this is being decided is not appropriate," he said. "I could argue the reverse case — that if we are found not guilty, the present committee will be making decisions today that it wasn't supposed to make."

According to Neiderbach, the only group with power to decide whether the new committee should be seated or not is the Constitutional Committee.

Several present committee members said that since Monday's agenda items were all routine business, the decisions would probably be the same with either committee in office.

After that debate, the present committee approved a couple of line-item transfers and switched a work-study and stipend position.

It allocated \$88 for the ASUO to send Shawn McManus to a grant-writing workshop. McManus is an administrative assistant to Dennis Mohatt, ASUO vice president for administration and finance.

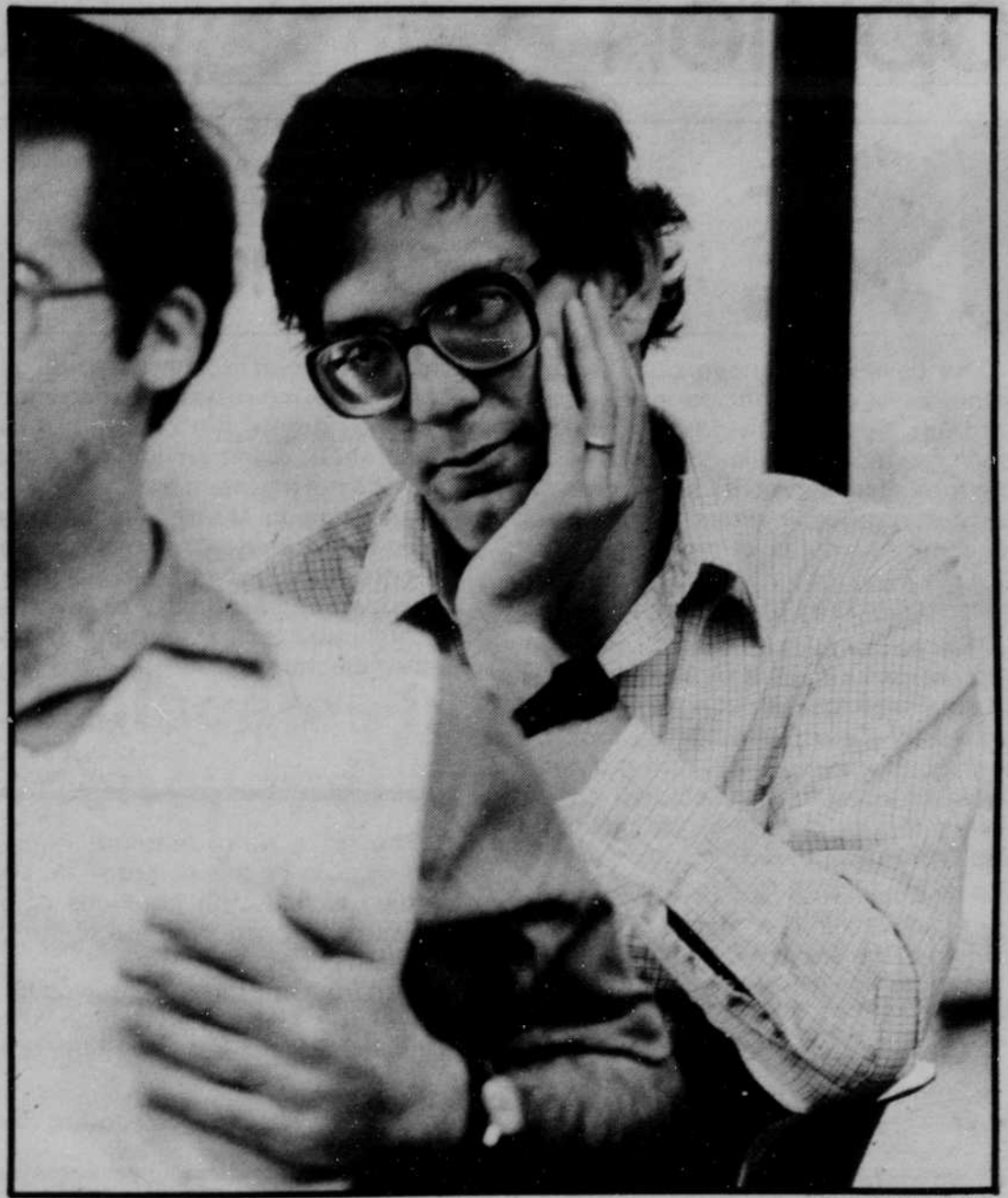


Photo By Bob Baker

At a Monday meeting, John Neiderbach disagreed with former IFC members who decided to keep their positions until the ASUO Election Committee rules on complaints against newly elected IFC members. Neiderbach contended that the ASUO Constitution Committee should make that decision.

Court vindicates ASUO officer

The ASUO Election Court found ASUO Vice Pres. Mylene Simons not guilty Monday of a primary election complaint filed by John Scharf.

Scharf alleged that Simons violated ASUO election rules by providing an ASUO voter's guide to voting booths Oct. 24 and 25. Simons, the vice president for University and State affairs, runs all ASUO elections.

Scharf was an unsuccessful Incidental Fee Committee candidate in the primary elections.

He says the voter's guide is a form of campaign material and posting it violates an election rule prohibiting campaigning within earshot or eyeshot of election booths.

Simons says voter's guides have traditionally been available at ASUO election booths.

"I don't see how voter's guide statements can be interpreted as campaign material," she

says. "Every candidate is given an opportunity to submit a statement."

The election court, composed of three law students, ruled in agreement with Simons. In a written decision, the court said Simons acted without intent to impede the elections or to campaign for any candidates.

The decision recognized a gray area in the election rules definition of campaign material and advised the ASUO to amend the wording for clarity.

The court found IFC member Adam Cohen guilty of misrepresenting himself in an Emerald classified advertisement.

Cohen, who was appointed to the IFC in June to fill a vacancy, used the word "re-elect" in the ad. Since he was never elected, the wording was misleading, he admits. Cohen says he changed the ad three days after it first ran to say "re-seat Cohen."

The court ruled that Cohen must do one hour of volunteer work for the ASUO.

Simons filed five complaints against primary election candidates for not turning in expense statements on time.

The court sentenced David Jones, Wendy VanElverdinghe, and Eric Gardner to one hour of volunteer work for the ASUO, and it sentenced Bonnie McCown and Haley Peoples to two hours of work. McCown and Peoples did not appear at the court session.

Thursday the court will hear general election complaints, including complaints against four newly elected IFC members. John Neiderbach, Mark Stapke, Ken Brittain and Chris Moore all face charges of illegal campaigning.

The court will meet in the EMU, room and time to be announced.

Appeal

(Continued from Page 1)

McKeen says impact statements are supposed to analyze effects of activities on all resources protected by federal acts, including the fish, birds and many others. The EISs "failed again and again and again to consider these," he says. "We have to wonder if

they really gave any consideration to resources."

The appeal was filed with the Forest Service Nov. 1, and asks the head of that agency to "give substance to the policies of multiple use and resource protection which Congress has seen fit to prescribe for public

lands.

Legally, the Forest Service has 30 days to reply to the appeal, unless it asks for an extension, Bonine says. The final decision on whether or not to go ahead with the proposal rests with the head of the agency, he adds.

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- Carl Hosticka — Candidate for Democratic State Representative
- Oakley Glenn — Campus Security; and a representative from Eugene Bicycling Committee.

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Place: EMU Student Union Building

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Minorities and women are encouraged to attend.