

opinion

IFC endorsements

The Incidental Fee Committee allocates more than \$2 million in student fees each year. Next year's committee will be as powerful as ever, particularly if impending budget cuts due to declining enrollment trends prove true.

The Emerald endorses the following candidates because we feel they have the fiscal and/or political awareness to deal with the budget and the student groups:

Laurie Abraham, Julie Davis, Lois Day, Leslie Dewson, Mary Shrauger, Marc Spence and Eric Stillwell.

These candidates show an awareness of the IFC process, advocate a prepared board with understandable, strong criteria for funding eligibility and they seem to possess the ability to compromise.

Laurie Abraham, Julie Davis, and Lois Day, all law students, see the need for an IFC that supports cultural and social issue-oriented groups.

Mary Shrauger, endorsed by the Greeks, is a current member of the committee, the EMU Board and the EMU budget committee. She will lend continuity and experience to the board.

Marc Spence, endorsed by the Greeks and the law students, impressed the Emerald editorial board with his knowledge of the fee process. He does his homework.

Eric Stillwell, a somewhat conservative independent, has organized a professional campaign based on non-partisan lines. He advocates a freeze on fees.

Leslie Dewson, a member of the student advisory committee of Recreation and Intramurals, shows promise in her dealings with the IFC and the ASUO this year.

Election reminder

The Emerald reminds students that Wednesday and Thursday are the ASUO general elections. Students need to vote, if they are to be effectively represented.

The Emerald endorses Mary Hotchkiss, the SPA candidate who received the most votes in the primary, for ASUO president.

Students should vote Yes on ballot measure No. 1 which calls for a nuclear free zone, ballot measure No. 2 which gives OSPIRG \$1 per student per term to rekindle their flame and ballot measure No. 4, which surveys the students on their support of recent petitions to enforce affirmative action in the ROTC program on campus.

letters

Appreciated

I am writing in response to the many letters of support for OSPIRG's funding that have appeared in this column recently. The letters have urged students to vote in support of reinstating the traditional \$1 per student per term funding. We appreciate the support we have gotten; however, students may not be aware of the support that is already out there.

During winter term, OSPIRG ran a petition drive and within two and a half weeks, approximately 3,200 students and more than 120 faculty

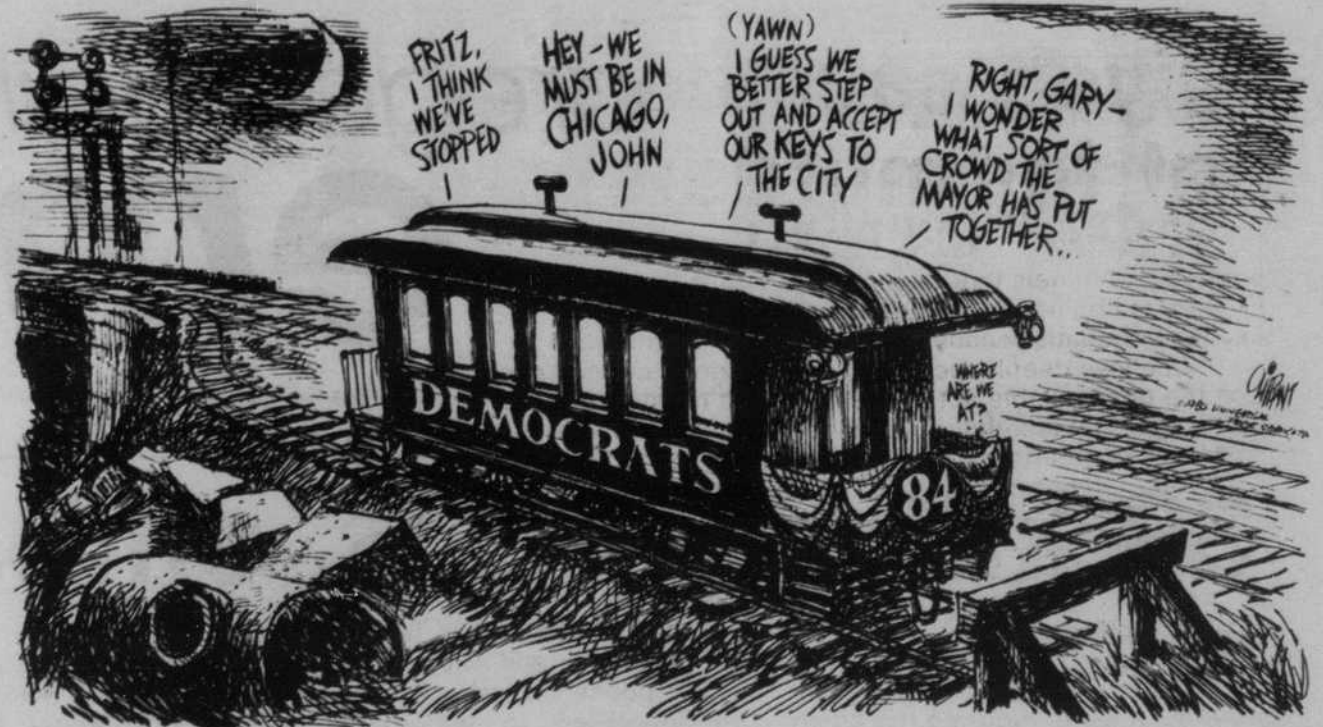
members signed in support of OSPIRG and the reinstitution of its funding.

We hope that student will show their support in the upcoming elections.

We are aware that many students are still uninformed as to the activities of OSPIRG. We encourage students to stop by the OSPIRG office, Suite 1, EMU with any questions about the organization or the upcoming referendum.

Remember, it's an important to exercise your right to vote. Participate in the University elections. The general election dates are April 20 and 21.

Amy Greder
OSPIRG



letters

Close vote

Mary Hotchkiss has to face David Gibson in the general election on a petty (yet legal) technicality. The Webster's Dictionary defines "majority" as "the number greater than half." Hotchkiss got 49.85 percent of the total votes cast. Gibson got 49.23 percent and the remaining 25 votes went to write-in candidates.

Hotchkiss did not get majority by 15/100 of a vote. Why so picky?

Paul Rudinsky is the ASUO executive vice president in charge of elections. He also was part of the Greek system. He legally supports no candidates, yet looks for ways out of a close election in which the "other" candidate comes up ahead by 17 votes. Does that upset you?

Do you think it is right? Whatever your answers are is fine with me; just don't forget to vote on Wednesday or Thursday.

Brian Lewis
political science

Uninformed

I worked in a booth last week for the elections and I was amazed and annoyed at not only the small number of students that voted, but at the number of uninformed students that voted. I listened to many students say they didn't know who to vote for, or they voted for someone they didn't know a thing about.

Why?

Each of you pays \$52 a term to ASUO, so each of you should be concerned — or at least curious — about how your money is used. Obviously most of you can throw away \$156 a year, since only 18 percent of you voted for the people who allocate and distribute

that money.

College is more than a time to party and prepare for a job. It's a time to prepare for life, to become a better adult. That entails learning about all aspects of adult life and becoming involved in the decision making processes that dictate your life. Apathy just doesn't fit well in the real world.

Take an interest in your future. Don't let a few students dictate where your money should go or what student services should be offered to you. Most of you are here for one or more years, so you should care about the government that will run things on this campus.

Don't be fooled, your vote counts. It's not too late — vote on Wednesday and Thursday. ASUO is close by, they'll hear you.

Educate yourself and vote.
Randi Thompson
senior, journalism

Experience

As we return to the polls on Wednesday and Thursday of this week, let us think consciously about why we are voting for the ASUO presidential candidate of our choice. Surely it's not because she is a woman or because he's a Greek. These are by no means the qualities we should be looking for in the better candidates for such an important position.

Experience and practical leadership should be the focus of our attention. As usual, many students are advocating change, which in fact can be very healthy. David Gibson represents the best kind... change with experience.

Having worked within the Balfe administration, Gibson stands head and shoulders above Mary Hotchkiss in having the knowledge and ability to choose which new steps to take and which old ones not to repeat. Gibson has an undisputed track record in directing his leadership and administration toward financial efficiency while preserving the best interests of all students and ASUO programs.

It's not the Greek male stereotypical ASUO executive image which stands to justify a vote for David Gibson, it's his high standard of excellence and overwhelming

sincerity and concern for what is best for all students of the University. The choice is clear. Practical leadership. David Gibson.

Gary Peiss
junior, computer science

Ill-conceived

Many wild and unfounded rumors have surfaced concerning my recent EMU Board campaign. I take this opportunity to answer these allegations.

First, it has been suggested that I am opposed to women's rights; in fact, the label "woman-hater" has been used. This is completely ridiculous and far from the truth. I am in favor of equal pay, day-care centers for working mothers and the ERA. Last year I signed a Women's Law Forum petition in support of the ERA. I read, understood and agreed with the women's rights portion of the Students for a Progressive Agenda platform.

I am very much in favor of women's rights and am in no way a "woman-hater."

Second, it has been suggested that I "infiltrated" the SPA in order to discredit their campaign. Again, this is completely untrue. I sought the SPA endorsement since I sincerely believed in their "message," i.e. that a serious change in student government was (and is) the only way to cure student apathy. I still believe this. I was disappointed when I lost their endorsement (and when my money for their advertisement was returned), but I can understand why.

Finally, I admit that my campaign literature was outrageous, but it was designed to create controversy and attract attention. Why? Because 82 percent of the voters failed to vote last week. Why? They're apathetic. Why? Because nothing stirred them up. My literature did stir them up, and caused them to evaluate the EMU Board race. My actions were perhaps unwise or ill-conceived in doing this, but certainly not immoral, unethical or repugnant as some have suggested. It was never my intention to "buy" the election — just to attract some attention to a largely ignored campaign race.

Steve Pesante
law

oregon daily emerald

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