

## We recommend five in ASUO primary

Students will have ample opportunity over the next 10 days to demonstrate their commitment to participatory democracy. A large turnout for the ASUO elections Wednesday and Thursday, and April 23 and 24, will not only ensure that campus government is truly representative, it will defy those naysayers who proclaim the death of student activism.

We have recommendations for several offices after interviews with candidates and a review of their response to written questions. Regardless of which candidates students prefer, we strongly encourage everyone to vote.

The following is a summation of our recommendations:

• **ASUO President/Vice-President — Kevin Lewis and Doug White.** This choice stems from our belief that Lewis and White offer students the best opportunity to change the focus of ASUO. Their agenda calls for greater attention to issues affecting the majority of students, coupled with a vigorous attempt to involve more students in the government process.

Also, they clearly recognize the need to maintain the University's status as a refuge for the airing of all ideas and opinions, no matter how objectionable. Their practicality may be their greatest asset, and should help overcome the often sluggish pace of ASUO.

• **Incidental Fee Committee — Katy Howard, Ron Munion and David Karp.** Despite an overall lack of experienced candidates for one-year IFC positions, both Howard and Munion are outstanding choices. If elected, they would improve the ability of the fee committee to represent student desires. Howard offers a background of practical experience, while Munion's interest in the IFC funding process is thorough.

Karp has wisely stated his belief that any decision to eliminate funding for a student organization would come only after a careful examination of the consequences of such action. Reason and an understanding of the limited resources available for campus groups characterize all three.

## Newspaper measure fight raises possible answers

Both ASUO President Lynn Pinckney and the Oregon Commentator raised valid points for their positions at Monday's hearing before the ASUO Constitution Court.

Pinckney wants to assess student support for the Commentator via a funding measure. The Commentator wants to avoid the ballot, objecting that as a newspaper it should not have to please the majority.

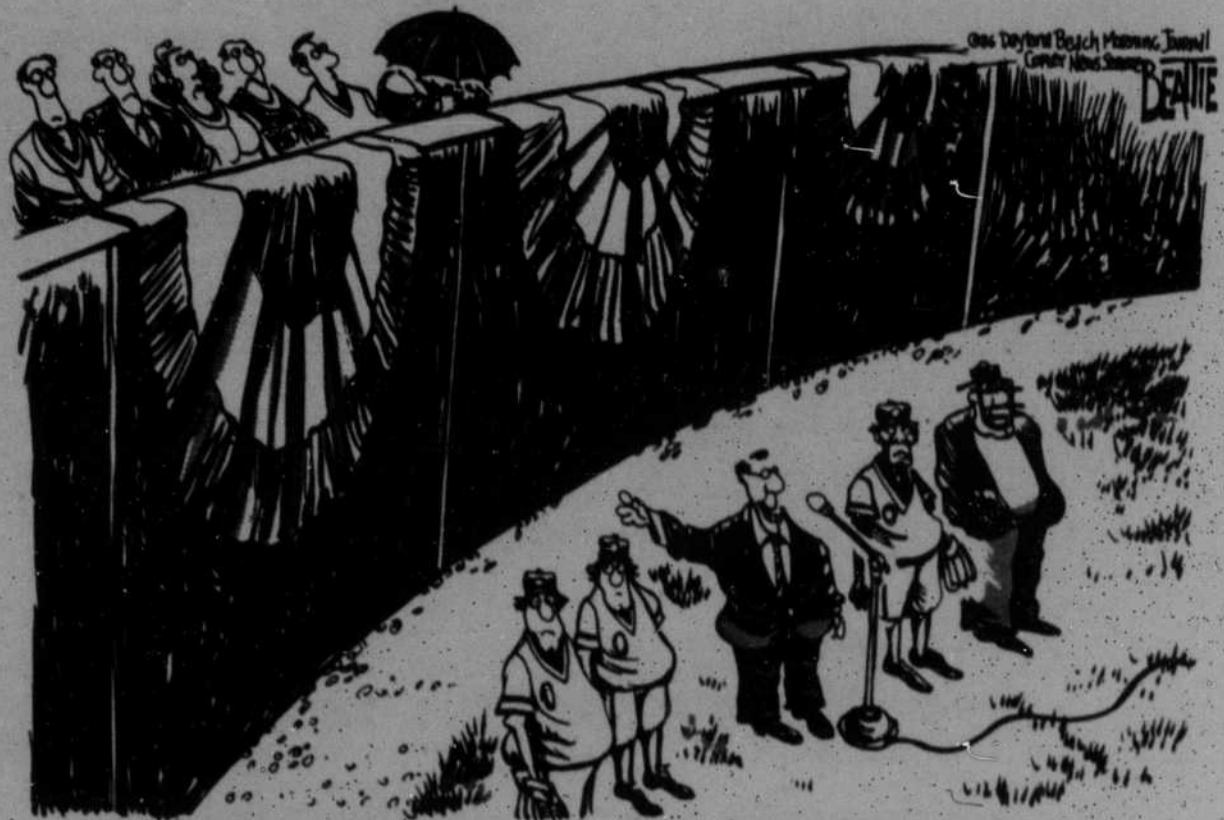
We agree with the Commentator's position, but Pinckney accurately fingered one problem. Should the IFC be required to support everyone who wants to put out a newspaper? We don't think so.

The best approach may be to let publications raise their own funds for a year. This is what the Commentator did.

Placing a publication on the ballot *once* at the end of this "probationary period" may be a way to find out if anyone reads it. Such a measure should be advisory rather than a funding measure.

The Commentator has already gone through a similar process. It received "yes" votes from one-third of those voting, enough to show basic student support.

The IFC should move ahead with Commentator funding, and develop a standard policy for dealing with new publications in the future.



"Commissioner Ueberroth will start the 1986 season by throwing out the first urine sample..."

## Letters

### Highly ironic

I find it highly ironic that the Emerald editors and Kevin Lewis are alleging that this year's SPA student government has been non-productive. It appears that the Emerald has made a decision to minimize, if not ignore, coverage of ASUO activities.

In October, an ad hoc committee of students demonstrated at the Emerald office to protest racism in advertising. The Emerald covered the event one week after it occurred.

The Emerald's reporting has been inadequate on a number of major issues this year, including: the Autzen Dome project which potentially could cost the ASUO millions in student fees to build and operate; the Attorney General's opinion on the use of student fees in the South African divestiture suit; the complex issues surrounding the Riverfront Park project; the distorted reporting of the SafeRide van project; and the inadequate coverage of the statewide computer proposal.

Is this mere coincidence or did someone decide that the real issues and the activities of the SPA should be censored?

Katherine Gorham  
Pre-Education

### Misunderstood

I read with interest Joan Bitterman's response to my recent commentary on Classical music (ODE, April 9). Because I believe Ms. Bitterman has misunderstood some aspects of my argument, I am prompted to make these additional comments.

Bitterman thinks it is "unrealistic to expect a layman in any field to react in the same way as the specialist." I certainly agree. My comments in no way suggested that I had any such expectation. The great majority of "dedicated music lovers" I referred to in my commentary is made up of people who are far from being specialists. Yet the fact that they find in classical music a rich combination of inspiration, pain, beauty and yes, *fun*, seems clear from their own responses.

Bitterman asks me not to "begrudge the delights" of music listening to those "seeking nothing more than fun and relaxation." I surely don't. Each listener to any type of music has a unique response to it, and that is as it should be.

All I am asking for is the right for each listener to experience whatever she/he experiences without the intrusion of an inappropriate style of presentation.

Why not let the music speak for itself?

Robert I. Hurwitz  
Music

### Disgusting

Wednesday, April 9, the Emerald endorsed Kevin Lewis for ASUO President. They accuse Steve Nelson and Caitlin Cameron of not being aware of current problems facing student government. Nelson and Cameron are presently involved in the ASUO, Cameron as Finance Coordinator, while Lewis was only Assistant Finance Coordinator a year ago.

However, what follows is plainly disgusting. The Emerald chastises the Elections Board for allowing Cameron to appear on the ballot, due to a family emergency faced by Nelson's original running mate, a decision not even challenged by Nelson's opponents. I hope none of the Emerald editors will ever have to deal with such insensitivity if a similar situation should occur in their family.

Thursday's editorial showed that the Emerald's real target is Students for a Progressive Agenda (SPA). Having endorsed many SPA candidates in previous years, the Emerald suddenly sees SPA as the root of evil. Obviously the Emerald knows little about SPA; no Emerald reporter has shown up at any SPA meeting. Also, they quote "some SPA-affiliated officials," "a highly placed SPA official," and so on, without naming anybody.

The level of attack is exemplified by criticisms of the shuttle van service. The Emerald perceives it as violating the ASUO Constitution, although University lawyer Swan certified that a "women drivers only" rule is legal. Recently hired editorial page editor Alan Contreras, an ex-law student, should know that.

A newspaper must have opinions, but it shouldn't pour out hatred over a group providing important input into student government.

Joern Wettern  
GTF, Political Science  
SPA Member

### Letters Policy

The Emerald will attempt to print all letters containing fair comment on topics of interest to the University community.

Letters to the editor must be limited to 250 words, typed, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is turned in. The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length or style. Letters to the editor should be turned into the Emerald office, Suite 300, EMU.

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