

# IFC candidates address funding, child care at forum

By Michael Rivers  
Of the Emerald

Speaking before a sparse crowd of fewer than 20 people Monday, nine of the 10 candidates vying for the three one-year Incidental Fee Committee positions discussed issues ranging from criteria for student group funding to the Athletic Department-sponsored funding initiative.

The primary emphasis of the candidate forum was on the establishment of fair criteria for funding student groups. The most commonly voiced concern

was that more funds should go to organizations that serve large numbers of students as opposed to groups that benefit only a few.

Several candidates believe student groups should be required to raise "matching funds" in order to receive an IFC allocation. This would mean organizations would have to independently raise funds to match the amount allocated by the IFC before they could receive the funds.

Candidates also expressed concern about the provision of

child care facilities for those students who are parents.

James Hibdon, an IFC candidate and the father of three children, said he had "a real interest in providing adequate child care."

Katy Howard agreed, noting that child care is an important issue because the average age of the student body is increasing. She believes the IFC needs to be "wise, considerate and thoughtful" about spending student fees.

The lack of public information about the accountability of

groups spending incidental fees is one thing that prompted David McDonald, a pre-business major, to run for the IFC. "Students should know where their funds are going," McDonald said.

"Nobody should be left out at all," agreed Jodie Mooney, a first-year law student. IFC members need to be on guard against "group think" — we don't want clones who all think the same way," Mooney said.

John Smithson, a finance major, said, "Students are not as informed of IFC decisions as they should be."

Her experience with a "rich culture aside from the dominant culture" prompted Petra Constante to run for the IFC. Constante, a fine arts major, believes her diverse cultural experience taught her to be sensitive to the needs of all people.

Union believes the "arrogance of the established system today is a terrible thing." He listed a number of criteria he believes groups should meet in order to receive

funding, especially in view of the "many unjustified increases to groups this year."

David Karp, a sophomore majoring in speech pathology and special education, does not share support for matching funds. Karp said his candidacy "stems from my desire to be fair and represent the students."

Duane Dungannon, a journalism sophomore and assistant editor for the Commentator, said he would like to see the IFC work more closely with the EMU Board to reduce its operating expenses, thereby saving incidental fees for other uses. Dungannon also favors the "matching funds" criterion.

Benjamin Grote, who also is running for a one-year IFC position, did not attend the debate.



## Courtyard buildings demolished

The Courtyard, which until recently was the home of popular off-campus businesses like Lenny's Nosh Bar, was reduced Monday to a rubble of broken boards, pipes and concrete.

Staton Construction Inc., the company involved in the controversial demolition of the Mayflower Theater in March, salvaged some sinks and plumbing before knocking down the final wall shown here.

Sacred Heart General Hospital has slated the area between Hilyard and Patterson Streets on the north side of 13th Avenue for its expansion plans. They are expected to release a master plan for the area in the next few weeks.

Photo by Derrel Hewitt

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building prepared themselves for a stay in the county jail as the closing time approached. News of U.S. bombing attacks against Libya strengthened the resolve of those who were deciding not to give their names, and thus be taken to jail rather than be cited and released.

After news of the Libyan bombing, David Bowman and Tom Dierker, University students and members of the Latin American Support Committee, decided to withhold their names in hopes of a mass public arraignment.

Bowman and Dierker remained in the building until they were carried out by police, but

they were neither arrested nor given citations.

A major part of being successful with civil disobedience is communicating with the authorities about exactly what you plan to do, said Chris Oringer from the Council for Human Rights in Latin America.

The Federal Building rally was one of many held nationwide Monday, and was organized by the Central America Response Network, a coalition of organizations involved in the Pledge of Resistance. The pledge is to engage in acts of non-violent resistance to U.S. intervention in Nicaragua and El Salvador.

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