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Candidates clash, defend platforms at forum

By Carolyn Lamberson
Of the Emerald

About 120 students filled the EMU Gumwood Room Monday night to bounce questions and concerns off the four remaining ASUO presidential tickets.



Prior to the forum, Elections Board Chairman Carlton Clark announced that Thomas Stansfield, an independent candidate for president, dropped out of the race.

The evening's festivities began with the opening statement from Phil Levinson and his vice-presidential running mate Robert Ball. The audience then heard from Steve Frichette and Donna Cooper, followed by Kasey Brooks and Karen Gaffney, and finally Sarah Lachkar and Jodie Mooney.

Many of the questions raised by the audience dealt with issues the candidates were well versed in, such as child care,

parking, minority hiring and recruitment, and student government involvement in international issues.

But other topics ranged from Ballot Measure 8, which requests a 43 percent funding increase for the Athletic Department, to rent free office space for the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group in the EMU.

The hottest issue of the evening was the controversial Athletic Department ballot measure. Lachkar and Mooney, running on the Students for a Progressive Agenda ticket, said they were in support of the Athletic Department, but could not support a \$6.50 increase in student incidental fees per term.

"It's too much of an increase too soon," Lachkar said.

"Athletics are worthy of incidental fees. But not all students are athletes and not all students attend the events," Mooney added.

Frichette concurred with the Lachkar-Mooney ticket and stressed the best place for such a



Photo by Derrell Hewitt

(From left to right) President and vice presidential candidates Donna Cooper and Steve Frichette, Kasey Brooks and Karen Gaffney, Phil Levinson and Robert Ball and Sarah Lachkar and Jodie Mooney (not pictured) answer questions in the EMU Gumroom Room.

controversial issue is on the ballot.

Levinson said he supported the measure, but did not support raising incidental fees as a

whole. He talked about combining the ballot measure requesting a funding increase for the Athletic Department to rent free office space for the Oregon

Student Public Interest Research Group in the EMU.

The hottest issue of the even-

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EMU presents budget request

By Laurie Schwartz
Of the Emerald

EMU Board representatives presented a 6.6 percent budget increase for the upcoming year at the Incidental Fee Committee budget hearing on Monday.

The informational meeting laid the groundwork for sessions tomorrow and Thursday in which the IFC will vote on allocations to the EMU budget, which runs from July to July.

According to EMU business manager Susan Racette, 4.7 percent of this increase would be used to help cover a \$108,000 increase in salary and wages mandated by the state and an increase in utility expenses.

The EMU Board also is requesting roughly \$50,000 for program enhancement and \$13,600 for two additional staff positions —

one for the Outdoor Program and one for Club Sports.

This year, incidental fees contributed \$1.3 million to the EMU's total operating budget of \$3.4 million. The remaining revenue was produced by EMU organizations such as Food Service and The Recreation Center.

EMU Board Chairwoman Karen Gaffney, who did not attend the hearing, acknowledged the request represented a substantial increase.

"The problem is, in everyone's mind, that the state-mandated increase is so high," she said.

The \$50,000 in program enhancement is spread fairly evenly across EMU programs.

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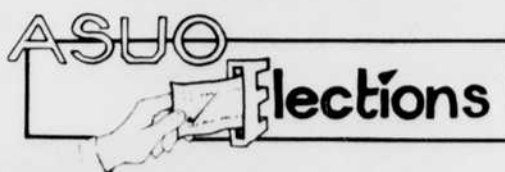
Ballot measures resubmitted

By Cami Swanson
Of the Emerald

ASUO President Steve Nelson placed three ballot measures back on the general elections ballot at an Elections Board emergency meeting on Monday.

The measures were removed from the ballot Friday by a Constitution Court decision.

Sponsors for the three are the Student Athletes Team Council, the University marching band and the Save Southbank Riverside Field coalition.



The court decided the signatures gathered by these groups were null and void because the wording of the petitions were not approved before petitioners gathered the signatures.

Because there is no constitutional deadline on when the ASUO Executive can place measures on the ballot, the president has the power to do so, Nelson said.

The controversial initiatives are Ballot Measures 5, 7 and 9.

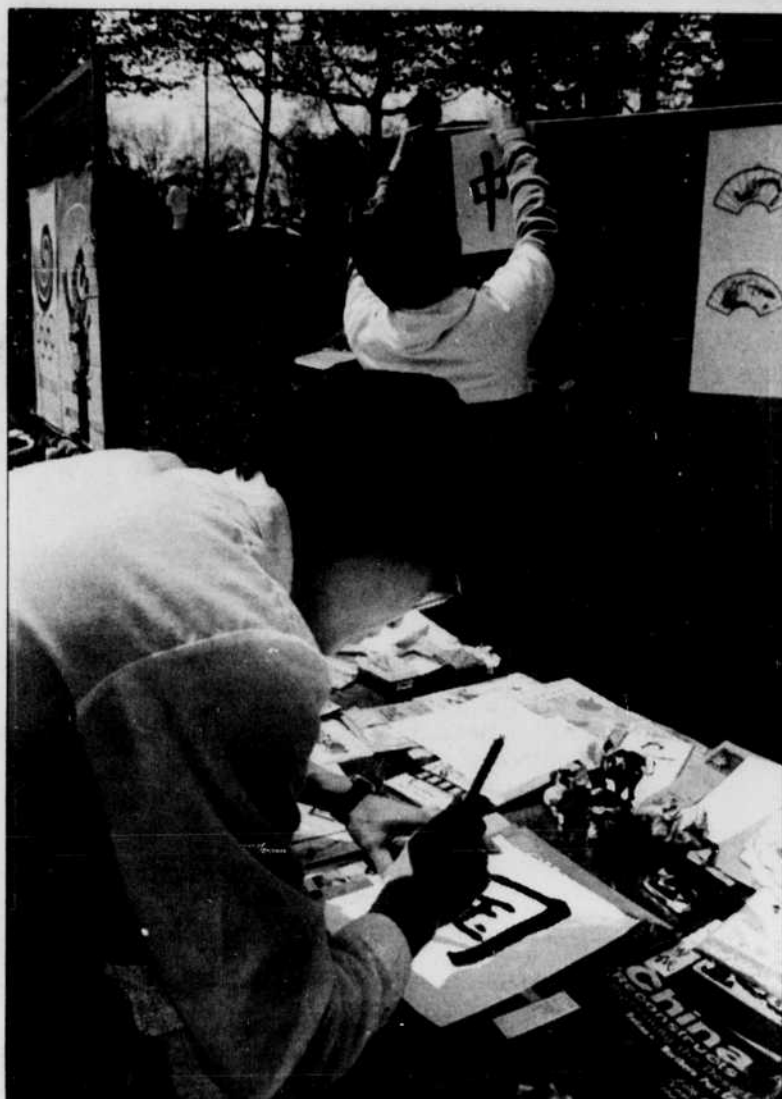
Measure 5 supports the preservation of Southbank Riverside Field, which is adjacent to the Autzen Stadium footbridge. Sponsored by the SSRF coalition, it asks that the University student body and the ASUO keep this area free of development or construction.

Measure 7 is a marching band request for a 115 percent fee increase in funding from the present year. It proposes each student contribute \$1.57 per term to subsidize a 12 percent increase the IFC previously granted the band. This would raise the group's budget to \$75,034, a 132 percent increase from last year.

Measure 9, sponsored by the SATC, is soliciting a 43 percent increase in fees to generate a total of \$1,155,000 for the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics women's and men's non-revenue producing sports for the upcoming year. Each student will be required to pay \$24.18 a term if the measure passes.

There are an additional seven measures on the ASUO general election ballot April 22-23.

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Celebration of cultures

Suixiong Cai hangs a poster while Wang Shin-nian writes 'China' in Chinese at the China booth during Asia day, held Monday at the University. Asia Day is one of the five days celebrated in the International Festival, an event sponsored by the Foreign Student's Association.

Photo by Maria Corvallis