

# Editorial

## Endorsement review gives election insight

The general elections start today. So for your convenience and easy reading we will review who and what we have endorsed over the past two weeks.

Kasey Brooks and Sarah Lachkar are the remaining candidates for ASUO President. Once again we feel Brooks and her running mate Karen Gaffney are the strongest candidates.

They have had the experience in student government to effectively head the ASUO Executive. The only drawback to the Brooks/Gaffney ticket is their connection to the Athletic Department. Rich Brooks, the head football coach, is Kasey Brooks' father.

We believe Ron Munion, Collin Farrell and Teddy Wallace are the most qualified candidates for the one-year IFC seats.

Munion already has served one year on the IFC. This experience is invaluable. He knows campus groups and issues as well as the IFC process.

Farrell's ideas for the IFC are his strongest points. He stresses lobbying the state for funding and setting priorities for groups.

Perhaps the most sensible and sincere candidate running for the IFC is Teddy Wallace. Although she does not have experience with the IFC, she has worked with the budgets of several organizations.

Unfortunately Joshua King, our only endorsement for the two-year IFC seats, was eliminated in the primaries. We felt King was the only candidate who showed the potential to become an effective IFC member. The remaining candidates do not demonstrate the qualities necessary to make dedicated, unbiased members.

Of the 10 measures on the ballot, we support all but two of them.

Measures 1 and 2 gain our support because they simply reword the ASUO Constitution to bring it up to date with the current process. Measure 1 changes the constitution to include the difference between one-year and two-year IFC seats and Measure 2 redefines the funding process for OSPIRG.

Measure 3 is a recommendation to the University to extend library hours during dead and final weeks. We agree with the concept of the measure but note that the cost of the process must be considered when research begins.

Extending the length of time between classes from 10 to 15 minutes is the recommendation of Measure 4. Because this measure would specifically benefit disabled students, we support the idea.

We approach Measure 5, the recommendation to lobby against the Riverfront Research Project, with caution. Care must be taken to preserve the landscape. We oppose the measure, however, because we believe the project is important for students.

Measure 7 asks for a 65 cent increase for the Marching Band. It is important for the University to reflect its support and pride it has for the band.

Measure 8 is ours. Need we say more?

We give a hesitant endorsement to Measure 9. It proposes a \$6.55 increase in student fees for the Athletic Department. Athletics has had to cut several programs already because of money.

Measure 10 would make the Counseling Center a non-incident fee group. We do not support this proposal because it would take away the regulating power of the IFC.



## Letters

### Editorial page

Your coverage of the ASUO elections can be summed up in two words: irresponsible journalism.

While readers expect an editorial page to be biased, it is misleading to editorialize on every page of the paper. It was clear which candidates you would endorse long before the official statement was publicized.

You have, in effect, insulted the students on this campus. In order to make an informed decision on who to vote for, we expect the school paper to provide us with information on the issues at hand, not who you perceive as having the freshest face.

Why weren't the students informed of the candidates' relevant experience and qualifications? Why did you endorse Ron Munion without mentioning his votes against Black Student Union or Amazon's childcare?

Why did you endorse Karen Gaffney without informing the students that she was instrumental in the effort last year

to remove OSPIRG from the EMU? Or that she and Kasey Brooks are committed to increasing funding for the Athletic Department even though such an increase will proportionally decrease funding for minority groups and childcare?

Why did you fail to endorse Sarah Lachkar without mentioning her active involvement with the Sister University Project or her experience with the ASUO Executive as Assistant Finance Coordinator? Why did you avoid Incidental Fee Committee Chair Jodie Mooney altogether?

As student fee payers who subsidize your publication, we deserve to be informed on issues important to us. The editorial page should be limited to one page. It should not constitute the entire paper.

Mindy Wekselblatt  
Law Student

### Wake up

I've got to hand it to Ron Munion for being such an adept politician. No doubt Munion and his CSRL cronies are rejoicing that I, as a principal childcare reform activist, was beaten out of my bid for the EMU Board position.

However, I am undaunted. The board position was only one link in the chain of influence for childcare reform. More important is the escalating grassroots activism of parents.

Eventually, families will be recognized as a significant part of the University community in spite of Munion and cronies.

Ironically, behind closed doors, SPA candidates including myself are not anti-athletics and not anti-Marching Band. The needs of non-revenue-generating athletics and the Marching Band are seen as legitimate. A 43 percent increase in the current \$700,000 for athletic event tickets, however, is outrageous.

The real issue is a matter of setting priorities. SPA can-

didates recognize the hard reality of parents in day-to-day financial crisis that often results in forfeiting education for a dead-end job; thus, the real issue is access to education.

Airfare for the wrestling team must take lower priority than non-restrictive access to education.

SPA has struggled with blood, sweat and tears in a six-year tradition championing the cause of non-restrictive access to education. How frightening it is to imagine all the efforts of all who went before us annihilated because of yuppie apathy.

Wake up people! Vote SPA — it's the least you can do.

James Munyer  
Journalism

### Poor execution

After reading the April 3 article by Scott Maben concerning Pete Frangos' tragic death, we of Tingle Hall felt that it was very poorly executed.

Here, therefore, are my own complaints and corrections; some are the fault of your sources, some are your own:

1) No reference was made to John Dixon's lifesaving first-aid at the scene. Bigelow made it sound as if she were the only competent person present. Bullshit.

2) Most of us find Ratti's comment ("basically dead") to be in extremely poor taste.

3) Tingle is not a freshman dorm.

4) What could Chris Chupa have said? You made it sound like he took the Fifth when he said he didn't wish to talk about it. I only wish he had been ruder to you on the phone.

5) You didn't interview any of Pete's friends or his roommate. The only people you interviewed seemed to be interested mainly in feeding their own egos and/or teaching us a lesson already learned.

Get a brain cell, Scott.

Finn John  
Undecided

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