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ASUO candidates face off before today's test

Final debate before the primary illustrates candidates' contrasts

By Darla Jackson
Emerald Associate Editor

The candidates for ASUO president and vice president grilled each other on various campus issues and expanded on their opponents' differences Wednesday night in the final debate before today's primary elections.

The format of the debate called for both sets of candidates — Steve Maples/Diane Cushman and Kirk Bailey/Sheila Stickel — to present two questions to their opponents, with questions from the audience coming afterwards.

During the face-off segment, Stickel raised a hypothetical situation in which the University administration decides to reinvest in financial interests with South Africa.

"The Black Student Association is very vocally opposed to this decision, and it is calling for immediate action from the ASUO" to respond to the matter, she said. Stickel asked what steps Maples and Cushman would take in this hypothetical situation if they were in office.

"The problem with that is that we could start with Coca-Cola, for example," Maples said. "So here is Coke, then there is Calistoga, then there is Nestle. What I'm saying is we're not sending a message (about economic sanctions) if we do it with just one company. We need a full program or no program at all."

In response, Bailey said the reason they posed such a question was to determine how the ASUO under Maples/Cushman would respond to direct pressure to take a stand.



Photo by Mark Vlen

ASUO executive candidates Steve Maples, Diane Cushman, Kirk Bailey and Sheila Stickel debated their positions on University students' concerns Wednesday night.

"This issue has been very heated across the country," he said. "Our position is that if our students have a real interest in something, the ASUO would take a full stand, be it rallying or protesting on the steps of Johnson Hall."

"We don't need a student body president and vice president waffling on an issue that seems very clear-cut to us," Bailey said.

Cushman then directed a question at Bailey and Stickel concerning the issue of fiscal responsibility. Student fees since 1983 have gone up 100 percent, Cushman said, and she asked what her opposing ticket would do about the issue.

Bailey said his administration believes that much of the problem relates to how the system of internal budgeting is organized, namely in the comptroller's

time period on the job.

"There is a lag time in the period when one comptroller leaves and one takes over," he said. "We propose a 12 month position that would go from September to September, so that lag time is not there anymore."

Maples agreed that the lag time leads to mistakes in the accounting process, but he said "that's just the beginning" of the problem.

"We want to make each of the programs more accountable for their budgets," Maples said. "We would develop a team to go around to make sure each group's funding reflects fiscal responsibility."

Audience members then participated in the debate by directing questions at the candidates. One audience

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Wheeler named Emerald editor

By Ashley Conklin
Emerald Reporter

Alice Wheeler was named Wednesday night as the Oregon Daily Emerald's 1990-91 editor-in-chief by the Emerald's Board of Directors.

Wheeler, 24, said she hopes to increase student awareness of the newspaper next year.

"I want to help orient the campus more clearly to the paper," she said. "I want more awareness from student groups and have them know where we're coming from."

Before being selected as the newspaper's editor, Wheeler served as managing editor of this year's Emerald.

A pre-journalism major who hopes to be admitted to the University's journalism school next fall, Wheeler also served as a reporter for *The Torch*, the Lane Community College newspaper during the 1987-88 school year and was editor of *The Torch* last year.

Besides increasing student awareness of the Emerald next year, Wheeler has several other goals she would like to accomplish.

"Better communication inside the newsroom between all of the departments and the news side is important," she said. "I would also like to

have a cleaner, hard news look."

One of Wheeler's other goals is to improve the graphic look of the newspaper by running more double-page spreads on issues that are important to the community and University students.

"I'd like to see more coverage of things like international students and different student groups," she said.

Wheeler said she believes that higher education funding and relations between the University and community are two issues the Emerald needs to monitor closely next year.

"Higher education funding is a real problem and we need to stay on top of that," she said. "We need to let the students know about the decisions that are made and how it affects them."

University and community relations is a problem that needs to be addressed, Wheeler said, citing the May 1989 riot and last month's tear gassing of a party at 14th Avenue and Ferry Street as two examples of strained University-community relations.

"Community relations has always been a problem," she said. "It's not something that will be solved overnight. We need to look into it and do



Alice Wheeler

some in-depth stories on what can be done to improve things."

With the Oregon Legislature back in session during the next school year, Wheeler said she plans to add a politics editor to next year's Emerald staff.

Other staff changes Wheeler plans to make next year include bringing back two editors to the editorial beat and changing the function of the Monday In-depth section to more of a features section.

Wheeler, whose term begins in June, was one of two people running for the editor position.

Hearing airs support for smoking, umbrella bans

By Chris Bouneff
Emerald Associate Editor

Two proposed rules restricting umbrella use and smoking at University athletic events received overwhelming support Tuesday at a public hearing held to discuss the amendments.

One proposed change to the University's administrative rules would prohibit open umbrellas in Autzen Stadium seating areas, aisles and standing room-only locations during football games.

The second rule bans smoking in all athletic facilities except for posted areas and tightens restrictions in campus buildings.

Athletic department officials proposed both rules after receiving numerous letters and calls complaining about umbrellas obstructing view of the field and secondary smoke.

"We feel that non-smokers have the same rights that people who smoke do," said Steve Hellyer, sports information director.

Moreover, Hellyer said open umbrellas pose a safety risk with pointed ends that could injure other fans.

"It was deemed that there are people who feel threatened when they have to sit behind someone with an umbrella," Hellyer said. "We had received complaints and decided to act accordingly."

No one at Tuesday's hearing testified against the umbrella ban, and of the four letters sent to the University about the proposed rule, only one opposed the idea.

Sandy Walton, assistant athletic director, submitted seven more letters concerning the umbrella ban and smoking regulations. Only one of the seven opposed either rule change.

Although the athletic department first proposed smoking restrictions, Assistant Vice President Muriel Jackson expanded the rule change to include campus buildings.

"(Expanding) was my idea based on an employee survey conducted the previous year at this office's request by the Office of Human Resources," Jackson said.

The 1989 survey showed that 50 percent of University employees favored a building-wide smoking ban.

Requests by Student Health Center and Knight Library officials to ban smoking from their buildings required that the rules be modified, Jackson said.

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