

Prime time for IFC leadership example

Because of the entire Colgate note-tampering issue, the ASUO Incidental Fee Committee has basically shut down. Members voted to indefinitely suspend meetings until IFC Chairman Mike Colson resigns or the matter is resolved in some way.

Although he has questioned the fairness of ASUO President Kirk Bailey's investigation and argued whether Bailey has the authority to make such an investigation at all, Colson has offered to temporarily step down from his position as chairman until Colgate is settled. Because of the ambiguity and lack of a "smoking gun," Colson has refused to temporarily vacate his position as a voting IFC member.

Bailey's investigation offered no clear evidence that Colson was the person who tampered with the notes. The documents released Wednesday by the ASUO left many questions still unanswered. There are large spaces missing from dialogues between investigators and witnesses, and the notes from interview sessions contain thinly paraphrased responses from the interviewees.

Colson's arguments on both the fairness and authority of Bailey's investigation should be heard. The question of whether the ASUO Constitution gives Bailey the authority to make such investigations should be answered by the Constitution Court when Colson presents his case.

Now would be a good time for IFC members who are concerned about the students' interests to prove it by getting the IFC moving again.

As to the fairness and possible bias of the investigation, only the IFC members can decide that issue. Other than a student recall, the only way to remove an IFC member is by a vote of five of six, or six of seven committee members. If the Constitution Court decides Bailey's investigation is OK, IFC members alone will have to look at the report and decide whether to act on its recommendation to remove Colson.

But somebody's got to do something quickly.

The ASUO Incidental Fee Committee is at a stalemate; no one appears willing to make the next move. There are four 1991-92 ASUO Executive candidates on the IFC. Now would be a good time for those concerned about the interests of University students to prove it by getting the IFC moving again.

If committee members do not meet for three weeks, they face mandatory removal under the non-fulfillment of duties clause. Incidental fees would then be distributed by the ASUO rather than the officials elected for that purpose. Moreover, students depending on funds for activities scheduled during those three weeks, such as Earth Week, would also suffer.

In the interest of students who pay incidental fees, and without admitting guilt, Mike Colson should offer to step down from his seat until the matter can be resolved. Or the IFC could resolve this issue at their meeting tonight.

Whatever happens, the true test of "student-concerns-first" government will be spotlighted as IFC members and candidates clean up their own house.

LETTERS POLICY

The *Oregon Daily Emerald* will attempt to print all letters containing comments on topics of interest to the University community. Comments must be factually accurate and refrain from personal attacks on the character of others.

Oregon DAILY EMERALD

P.O. Box 3159, Eugene, Oregon 97403 • (503) 346-5511

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published Monday through Friday except during exam week and vacations by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon. The Emerald is operated independently of the University with offices on the third floor of the Edith Memorial Union and is a member of the Associated Press. The Emerald is private property. The unlawful removal or use of papers is prosecutable by law.

Managing Editor	Christopher Blair	News Editor	Chris Bourneff
Editorial Editor	Red Ward	Editorial Editor	Pat Malach
Public Editor	Joe Wood	Sports Editor	Ashley Conklin
Graphics Editor	Sean Poston	Entertainment Editor	Layne Lakatos
In Touch Editor	Anna Rombek	Night Editor	Denise Dalton

ON DEPTHS OF THE NEW JOURNAL
BEATIE
GARY DARBY



"An endurance record shouldn't be a problem, Mr. President. Just keep talking about the new world order."

LETTERS

Law bias

I was appalled at your failure to cover the law school's recent Public Interest and Environmental Law Conference — an annual event which is arguably the most significant gathering of domestic and international environmental minds in the country.

When Gov. Barbara Roberts presents the first major environmental policy statement of her term, and when David Brower, the father of the late 20th-century environmental movement, delivers an insightful commentary on the state of affairs, it would seem reasonable that the *Emerald* would print such news.

To the contrary, your March 8 and 9 issues contained nothing about the conference. In deriving substantial support from the student funds, the *Emerald* should feel an obligation to report on events, such as the conference, that significantly impact the student body.

Your unexplained failure to cover such a legitimate news event suggests you are either engaged in a wholesale campaign of selective journalism aimed at undermining the law school's credibility, or you are completely incompetent. While past experience doesn't preclude the second possibility, your recent coverage of the school points to the first.

There was no shortage of coverage last spring, as the University gay community rode the law school administration down the murky road of academic freedom. And your one-sided coverage of the American Bar Association's heightened scrutiny of the school, coupled with your recent editorial on the school, strongly suggest that the *Emerald* is engaged in overtly biased reporting which effectively suppresses any opportunity for informed debate on the issue of whether the school is worthy of continued state support.

In the future, why don't you balance your coverage by mentioning the school's internationally known ocean, coastal and environmental programs?

Or perhaps the high caliber of students and faculty attracted to the school?

If not, the *Emerald* will continue to reek of the very maladies so often denounced in the past — academic censorship.

Bob Shavelson
Law

Talk to Bob

The war is not over. The Nazis are crushing Warsaw. Once I had a revelation listening to Bob Marley sing "I Shot the Sheriff." I asked myself why he makes such a point of saying, "but I did not shoot the deputy" when he's willing to stand up and admit, "I shot the sheriff." (Though he swears it was in self-defense).

"Why protest, they want to bring me in guilty, for the life of a deputy" when shooting the sheriff was almost a point of pride? Because the deputy is a tool! The sheriff is the instigator! In short, he is saying "I will defend myself and slay the persecutor, yet not the lackey deputy — he (though there are, of course, degrees) is a recipient of repression too."

Bush (wimp) sings a different tone: "I shot the deputies (a bunch of them anyway), but I will not shoot the sheriff."

Kyle Christopher
Eugene

Leave it alone

First Amendment Rights: free speech.

Some persons or group have been removing the publication *For Men* from the public distribution racks at the EMU and around campus.

This is a violation of the First Amendment governing free speech. Just because some people do not like what we print does not give them the right to censor the newsletter.

As of May the newsletter will be renamed *Men Today* and we will continue the rights of free speech. This includes threatening people that support or advertise with us.

Gary Darby
Student

It's about pride

As pointed out in a recent letter, Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Pride Week is indeed upon us. Judging from the tone of his letter, Jon Wollander is less enthused about the prospect than I am. Unfortunately, Wollander did not address the issues surrounding Pride Week, so I would like to explain the event from my point of view.

Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Pride Week is an annual spring event at the University. This year, Pride Week promises to be the biggest yet, stretching from April 20 to May 4, and including panels, literary readings, local performers and two dances. Among other events are: a state-wide pride rally, a speech by Gail Shibley, Oregon's first openly-lesbian elected state representative, a day-long Queer Fest in the EMU courtyard, and a shop-in at Valley River Center.

Pride Week is planned with several goals in mind:

- Visibility — We are everywhere, and for a week we're especially going to be on campus.

- Education — There is a common historical heritage that lesbians, gays and bisexuals share, yet there exists an infinite variety amongst our communities that most people do not even begin to comprehend.

- The creation of a positive, supportive atmosphere for the area's lesbians, gays and bisexuals, as well as visitors from around the Northwest.

Wollander's letter is so full of presumptions about "homosexuals" that I doubt he would be interested in attending the events of the Pride Week. However, if other readers would like more information, please call the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance (LGBA) at 346-3360. "We're Here, We're Queer and We're Having A Party!" Hope to see you there!

Marina Wolf
co-Director, LGBA

Friday, April 12, 1991