

Reinstating Colson to IFC the right idea

"Hey, you got screwed, but we're not going to do anything about it."

So sayeth the ASUO Constitution Court in the ongoing saga of Mike Colson. Last Wednesday, the court ruled Colson was unfairly ousted last summer from the Incidental Fee Committee.

But in the next breath, they decided not to put Colson back on the IFC because, as they put it, "reinstating him to office would merely result in the IFC voting again to remove him from office."

That's probably true, but the Constitution Court has no right to make that assessment.

The court's decision was based on the IFC listing the meeting when the Colson vote took place under the banner of "general meeting" rather than announcing that a vote would take place. When Colson arrived at the meeting, he was ambushed and summarily booted.

The ASUO Constitution requires elected student officials to have adequate notice to defend themselves when faced with removal. Obviously, Colson didn't get that privilege.

Last year, Colson was subjected to one of the most slime-slinging investigations ever seen at the University. He was accused of tampering with IFC minutes, and the ASUO strung him up. Later, after new IFC elections, Colson was removed from his two-year seat.

Make no mistake, this is not a proclamation of Colson's innocence. Nobody is sure exactly what happened, and if by chance somebody knows, no one is talking. This is merely an assertion that Colson was not given the opportunity to defend himself adequately at the June meeting. The Constitution Court is merely lip-serving sympathy.

The same people who removed Colson from the IFC still sit on the committee, so it is likely that even if he is given his seat back, it will be for mere minutes. But if the Constitution Court wants itself to be taken seriously, it needs to reinstate Colson to the IFC instead of trying to predict the future.

LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor must be limited to no more than 250 words, legible, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is submitted.

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LETTERS

Repaid

I like to see justice done to the people who prey on our society, so I became curious about the cost of the theft of two candy bars from the University Bookstore.

Let us assume those candy bars cost 80 cents a piece. Let us further assume the number of students at the University is 16,000. What is the cost to each student? I calculated (2 x .80)/16,000 equals .0001 cents.

Oh my! We're all going to go broke! The fine for an equivalent theft was something over \$200. Personally, I think the debt was repaid.

Now, about those tuition increases to finance tax rebates for out of state corporate landowners, the S & L crisis and bank bailouts with my tax dollars, the mass murder in the Persian Gulf, the rape of our forests by GP, Bohemia, Champion, Weyerhaeuser, LP... When are these debts going to be repaid?

Ann Tattersall
Grad. Interdisciplinary

Privileges

From the Nov. 21 article in the Emerald regarding the Saferide policy:

"By saying that all men can't ride, they are saying that all men are rapists." Give me a break! Do you really think that all men would have to be rapists in order for it to be unsafe for women to ride the Saferide buses with men? How many rapists does it take to make the streets unsafe for us after dark?

The fact is that one in four women will be raped at least once in her life. A college-age woman has a greater chance of

being raped than any other aged woman. A recent survey of college men showed that one in three "would consider forcing a woman to have sex under some circumstances if they thought it was unlikely to be caught." Another one in three "would consider forcing a woman to have sex under some circumstances if they were assured of not being caught." Male violence is a reality to us.

I realize that some men on campus consider Saferide a denied privilege. Well, I am denied privileges daily. I cannot safely take walks at the hour I like to walk. If I find myself kept late at school or work, I have to call home for a ride as if I were a child. If I decide to take a chance and brace the darkness, I am subject to criticism by my friends for taking unnecessary risks.

I would gladly trade my privilege for theirs.

Molly Eness
Theater Arts

Watering

An on-campus matter which calls for immediate investigation and action --

Why is the enormous rubber tree on the steps leading down to the library in the science building being deliberately killed through lack of water? It is pathetic to see this poor tree subjected to such malicious mistreatment. Who is responsible? A lazy custodian of the building who is supposed to be taking care of it, but simply doesn't bother?

This tree was not watered once all summer long, and still has not been watered! It is obviously in a state of stress and will before long be dead if it is

not watered!

As no one else seems to care what happens to this tree, one may hope that someone on the staff of the Emerald may be able to get to the bottom of the matter and see that this tree is watered on a regular basis.

Jon Gregerson
Eugene

Reminder

I sure am lucky that J. Crow took the time to copyright his/her insightful "Daily Economic Affirmation" cartoon (ODE, Nov. 21).

You see, I was about to submit my George Bush and Dan Quayle as "Hans and Franz" and Mario Cuomo as "The Church Lady" cartoons without taking credit for my brilliant comic ideas.

Thanks for the reminder J., I'm sure neither one of us wants someone else to steal our jokes.

Bryce Ingman
English

Annoying

D.P. Corey, a friend I regard with the highest respect, once shared with me a philosophical finding that I feel would be revealing in this town, this school, and this newspaper:

"If you hate someone, it most likely is not because you nurse a psychological hindrance of confusion or fear. Most likely, you hate someone because that person is annoying. And if you are annoyed by someone, it is most likely that you are annoying."

I just felt like sharing.

Bryan Westby
Student

