



Abe Hepner, who filed a complaint against Saferide for discriminating against men, argued his case Friday before the ASUO Constitution Court as a crowd of about 200 listened. Photo by John Sloop

Court upholds Saferide policy

By Kirsten Lucas
Emerald Reporter

The ASUO Constitution Court unanimously upheld Saferide's policy of excluding men from its nighttime shuttle service.

The decision was announced Sunday, but the court's ruling won't be official until Monday morning when the ASUO secretary prepares it for release.

University student Abe Hepner filed a complaint with the court on Oct. 18, claiming that Saferide's policy unfairly discriminates against men and should therefore be denied ASUO funding until it includes men.

Hepner based his complaint on the section of the ASUO Constitution that prohibits student fees from

supporting activities that are "defined for reasons of sex, race, religion, age, sexual orientation ... or any other extraneous considerations."

The court held that Saferide does, in fact, discriminate on the basis of sex; however, this fact is overshadowed by other important interests.

In the court's opinion, Chief Justice Steven Briggs wrote: "A woman's interest in having access to evening activities is compelling, and that access can only be assured by excluding men from Saferide vans."

"Conversely, a man's safety interest can be satisfied by (resorting) to alternatives such as the Office of Public Safety."

The court found that women's fear of rape and

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Petitioners force recall election

By Daralyn Trappe
Emerald Associate Editor

Students will vote in a special election to decide whether ASUO Vice President JoSonja Watson will remain in office. Members of the College Republicans say they have collected enough signatures to force the election.

College Republicans members Jason Wilson and Don King turned over petitions with 1,844 signatures to the Constitution Court Friday night.

Ten percent of the student body is required to sign such a petition for a recall election. 1991 fall term enrollment figures stand at 16,905. Ten percent is 1,691, so the number of signatures gathered is 153 more than necessary.

"The College Republicans have lead the recall effort, but the recall effort has been bi-partisan, as evidenced by the number of people who have signed," Wilson said. "Students know that the issue is about integrity and the lack of it in student government."

Wilson and King began the effort after it was revealed in two student publications in early November that Watson had been arrested in November 1990 for attempting to shoplift \$7.27 worth of merchandise from the University Bookstore. She failed to appear in court at one point, but has since met the conditions of her sentence, including fines and community service.

Watson has said she did not disclose her legal problems during her election campaign because she believed it was a personal situation that would have no bearing on her job performance.

Members of the College Republicans disagreed, saying it should have been the right of the student body to determine whether the arrest and subsequent legal problems were relevant. The recall effort began Nov. 6. Members had one month to collect the signatures.

"Obviously, a large number of students are angry over her actions," Wilson said. "I believe students want integrity in their student government. I think the outcome of the election will reflect that desire."

ASUO President Jennifer Bills said she is not surprised that the necessary signatures were obtained but believes the election outcome will favor Watson.

"In all honesty, I would say that a lot of people signed without really knowing what it was about," Bills said. "This is not an indication of how many people want her

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Library hours

During winter break from Dec. 13 to Jan. 5, the Knight library will be open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and noon to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

News break

This is the last issue of the *Emerald* for fall term. Publication will resume Jan. 6.

Cat call

A student's struggle to find her cat has resulted in chaos that involves University housing and the police and may soon include the D.A.'s office.

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Staying away

Increased tuition is the reason most former students gave when asked why they chose not to return.

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New work rules affect international students

By Hasan Jafri
Emerald Contributor

Newly introduced off-campus employment and internship regulations would adversely affect more than 90 percent of the University's international students, said Margo Ramsing, international student adviser.

These changes, introduced by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, affect international students with F-1 visas, residents of other countries who come to the U.S. to study.

Under the new regulations that went into effect Oct. 29, international students will be eligible to work off-campus after one year without establishing financial need. Previously, international students had to obtain permits to work off-campus if they were in financial need.

But, unlike the old regulation, that allowed these students to work anywhere, they can now work only for employers who have permission from the Dept. of Labor to hire inter-

national students. Also, they can only take those jobs that have not been filled after being open for 60 days.

International students, however, cannot take jobs for a few months until the Dept. of Labor publishes the paperwork necessary for employers to hire them.

Under the new off-campus employment regulation, "there will be less opportunity for quality jobs for international students," Ramsing said. "[The new regulation] is to have a pool of employees available for the fast food chains."

Christian Frank, director of the International Students Association, said he sees more than that.

"International students have been pulled out of higher paying jobs and forced into lower paying jobs where there is a labor shortage," he said. Frank said he feels the new regulations "border on discrimination."

The International Students

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Simulcast conference set

To alert the community to new regulations that restrict the off-campus jobs international students may apply for, the International Student Association and ASUO will be holding a simulcast press conference with other Pac-10 schools this Thursday.

A representative from the International Student's Office, the International Student Association, and ASUO President Jennifer Bills will attend the conference.

Lilla Macharia, ASUO International Affairs Coordinator, said the press conference is aimed at informing lawmakers of Oregon students' objections to the new regulations.

"The only way we can have an effect on the law, because this is a federal law, is to show unification of international students and publicize it in a way that it comes to the attention of those who implemented it," Macharia said.

Christian Frank, ISA Director, said all the Pac-10 schools have expressed interest in the simulcast press conference except Oregon State University. He said the room and time of the press conference have yet to be set.

Bills called the new regulations discriminatory.

"As far as bringing the world closer together, international students won't have the same opportunities as domestic students," Bills said. "As far as employers hiring international students, they won't be allowed to and they won't want to because of all of the extra paperwork."

The new legislation is not University legislation, Frank said, which means if international students "want to shake things up" they need to get the word out to the community.