

LETTERS

Bad Masat

On March 22, I attended the Constitution Court hearing regarding ASUO President Bobby Lee's complaints against the Incidental Fee Committee. I was appalled at Steve Masat, the IFC chairman, who appeared to be extremely manipulative.

Masat constantly was interrupting the court proceedings with petty concerns regarding his tenuous position. He showed no concern for the students' well-being at all.

The IFC's current allocations are causing student fees to rise to approximately \$116 per term. This conservative estimation reflects a \$10 increase during the 1992-93 incidental fee period and does not include possible increases that would be the result of upcoming ballot measures in the general election.

If all of the measures passed it would result in an additional \$10.19. Of course, the students of this campus are responsible for the latter amount, but now the IFC has gone on to increase the EMU's budget by 4.6 percent.

I was always led to believe the IFC intended to compensate for all student program increases with budget cuts in the EMU and athletic department budgets. The plan may have worked. The EMU and Athletic Department make up \$3 million out of the \$4.6 million the IFC allocates.

At the hearing, IFC members Anne Wagoner, Efreem Mehretab and Ed Carson seemed to be the only ones attempting to rectify the current situation. Ultimately, the problem as I see it is that Masat is only concerned about his position as the IFC chairman and not about the general welfare of the student populace.

Steve Thoennes
Psychology

Thanks

The ASUO would like to thank each and every student who participated in lobbying for higher education March 3.

Phone banking and calling, letter writing, picketing signs and rallying had a tremendous impact at the state Capitol. Larry Campbell, the speaker of the house, called in and cried, "Stop this! We got the point!"

Leading up to March 3, the legislators realized that we, the students, were taking our education very seriously. Via lobbying, we were able to awaken them to the realization that any proposed University cutbacks and increased tuition would face great adversity.

Unfortunately, now through June, Oregon legislators will be dealing with many cutback issues affecting the University. There is no time to rest. We must continue to pressure our elected representatives: We need an education.

Our next opportunity to save our education is May 14. Transportation will be provided to and from Salem, where you will personally meet with representatives of your choice or respective districts. Letters will be written to your professors explaining the importance of your absence.

If you are still unable to participate on May 14, please lobby on campus by phone banking and calling, letter writing, picketing signs, videotaping and rallying.

To all students: Please make a concerted effort to be involved in lobbying for your future. Only you can make a difference.

Samir Kumar
Stuart Platt
ASUO

No re-vote

The University has finally approved the revised multicultural curriculum requirement and now must work on developing the courses that would fulfill the integrity of the revision.

But wait — a member of the University Assembly has decided that she or he would like to change his or her vote; therefore, the entire assembly must participate in a re-vote. Under the guidelines of our governing

body, all members have this right.

What kind of absurd catch is this?

It does not seem fair for one individual to "make" us all vote over again. Those voting members that attended did so because they were ready to vote or wanted to hear debate and then vote. On both sides of the issue, faculty members made tremendous sacrifices to attend. It is not often that we get such a large turnout. Debate was made and the assembly moved with resounding unity to "call the question."

Now how legitimate is it to vote on a motion that has already passed? Also, will that one vote make a difference on a decision that won 175-155? We have a flaw in the system and in the procedure if, in essence, a motion can possibly never pass as long as one person wants to change his or her mind.

I am asking the University to move on. Let us quit our squabbling and make this already-passed motion a quality requirement for our students.

Dick Lee
English

Get a life

I'm still trying to fathom the motives of the four guys who stood outside the LGBA Pride Dance trying to harass and intimidate its participants.

Their own explanation, from what I overheard of their discussion with a very patient University Office of Public Safety officer, was that they were exercising their First Amendment rights. They didn't like "faggots" and had a right to be "intolerant." Although they felt very strongly about this, they seemed reluctant to identify themselves to the officer. You can always tell people's commitments to their beliefs by their willingness to proclaim them anonymously.

It was suggested that these gentlemen might have had more planned than harassment. If this

is so, I guess they changed their plans once they got a look at the crowd. There were some big, strapping, muscular people at the dance. Some of the guys were pretty tough, too.

Among the would-be victims of their harassment, there was general agreement that it was pathetic these guys had nothing better to do. Maybe Blockbuster had rented out the last copy of *Porky's II*, making this their optimal Friday night entertainment value.

Personally, if the Oregon Citizens Alliance or some other radical organization with a militant agenda had a dance, I'd probably not try to crash it, and this isn't just because the idea of listening to Willie Nelson eight-tracks doesn't appeal to me. I simply have this philosophy of live and let live.

Then again, that's easy for me. I have a life.

James Wittenbach
Law

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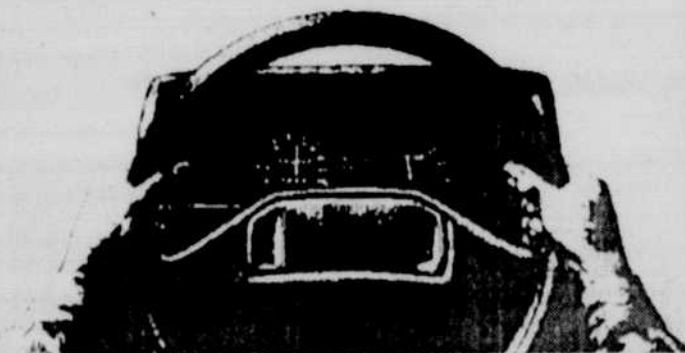
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