



## If you could add any holiday, what would it be?

"National Alaska Day."



**ERICK AULABAUGH**  
science, senior

"National Free Meat Day."



**CHIP THE DOG**  
feline studies, Ph.D

"National Hug a Tree Day."



**GRETCHEN HASSEL**  
undeclared, sophomore

"National I Don't Like Doing It Day."



**JOHN FUNK**  
japanese, sophomore

"National Student Day."



**SUZETTE SPINDEN**  
marketing, senior

"Catch-Up Day."



**GREG KLAGEN**  
sociology, senior

Compiled by Susanne Steffens/Photos by Thomas Bergstrom

## USSA

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Neo is currently negotiating with the accounting fraternity Beta Alpha Psi to conduct the official audit on the account.

One example of mismanagement discovered by the ASUO accounting department includes a phone budget overspent by about \$500, Neo said.

The group was originally budgeted \$200 for long distance phone calls but then spent an additional \$500 of ASUO money for more calls.

USSA members then petitioned, and received, \$700 from the IFC then repaid the ASUO with that money, Neo said.

An undetermined number of those phone calls were personal with several five-hour long calls to Michigan made by former ASUO Vice President

Diana Collins Puente, Neo said.

Though Collins Puente allegedly has a boyfriend in Michigan, Neo said he has yet to link the calls as personal.

Troy Shields, also a USSA member, has already admitted to using his USSA long distance account to make personal calls.

Neo said Shields has already reimbursed the ASUO for those calls.

Another concern centers around USSA Member Mitchell Parks.

Neo said that according to "a reliable source," Parks was not a student during the fall term.

He said that is only speculation at this time because Parks placed a privacy restriction on her student file.

## MEETING

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meetings with the student unions and that Board members revise its selection process for editorial applicants to include questions that address the responsibilities the editor has to the readers.

Washington also asked to have the *Emerald's* diversity policy circulated to representatives of the student unions so the students could see the effort being made in diversifying the newsroom and could "monitor how much progress the *Emerald* is making to those ends."

The appeal to the Board was sparked by a Nov. 3, 1993 story in the *Emerald* which featured mugshots of three black University of Washington athletes charged with sexual abuse of a University student.

The Black Student Union accused the *Emerald* of bigotry and insensitivity in a press conference and supplied *Emerald* editor Jake Berg with a list of requests to improve the newspaper's coverage. Washington said the BSU was dissatisfied with Berg's response and consequently took the matter to the newspaper's Board.

Representatives from MEChA and the Asian/Pacific-American Student Union also supported the Black Student Union's proposals, saying they were dissatisfied with the *Emerald's* coverage of minorities.

Kevin Chang of APASU said he felt that the newspaper's reporters either have negatively portrayed Asian-Americans in their articles or that stories featuring members of the minority group have been placed on the back page. Other members of the union complained about the *Emerald's* lack of coverage about a swastika being burned into a bulletin board outside the APASU office until three weeks after the incident.

Lydia Lerma, a representative of MEChA, said the *Emerald* could achieve its goals of diversity if the news stories become more sensitive to minority issues.

"Minorities will be encouraged to work for the *Emerald* when it writes more sensitive articles," Lerma said, adding that she wouldn't work for the *Emerald* as a result of its insensitive reporting.

Zeenab Johnson, a representative of the Black Student Union, asked the Board what sensitivity training its members have had — and what role diversity plays in the hiring process — since the

10-member Board decides who to hire as editor of the newspaper.

When Board member Joe Kidd said that part of the diversity problem in editorial positions is that few apply. Last year, only two students applied for the position as editor-in-chief.

Johnson asked if the Board would hire a racist individual if there were no other applicants.

But Tim Gleason, a member of the Board, said that scenario would never happen.

"If we felt the person was not committed to the goals of the paper, we wouldn't hire them," Gleason said.

Trent Spradling, a member of the Board, said he thought that sensitivity training was a good idea and one that should be implemented. In terms of diversifying the newsroom, however, he felt that student unions need to take an active role in encouraging minorities to apply for positions if diversity is to be achieved.

"When we hire staff members, we have to have a pool of candidates," Spradling said, asking members of the student unions to encourage minorities to apply for staff positions.

Gleason also told the speakers that while the "wheels are in motion" to make the *Emerald* more diverse, but that changes cannot happen immediately.

"This is not a process where amazing results will be seen in two to three weeks," Gleason said. "The process is in place, there are things being done, and there are more things we can do."

The Board has not made a decision regarding the policy suggestions, as discussions are "ongoing," said Richard Rofsky, chairman of the Board.

Rofsky said that although he feels that the Board has already been making an effort at doing some of the things that Washington proposed, he admitted that the Board can always do more.

"We have a lot of learning to do," Rofsky said.

Members of the BSU stated in a letter to the Board that although they are cognizant that the proposed measures will not instantly change the situation, they felt that with the cooperation of the ODE Board that they are optimistic about the results.

"Hopefully, this will affect some change as to the way the *Emerald* relates to student unions on campus," Washington said.

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