

Hearing regarding elections scheduled

Officials: Constitution Court to decide fate of representatives' terms

By Edward Klopfenstein
Oregon Daily Emerald

An ASUO Constitution Court hearing is set for this Friday to determine if student government representatives already elected to a two-year term will be able to serve next year.

Representatives to the Incidental Fee Committee, the Student Senate and the EMU Board of Directors who were elected to a two-year term starting this year were not transferred to the new student government system approved by voters earlier this month.

The hearing is scheduled for this Friday at 3 p.m. in Room 121 of the Law Center.

If the court doesn't make a decision on this issue, those representatives will be out of a job May 25.

"This sets a bad precedent," said Joey Lyons, a two-year term member to the Incidental Fee Committee and one of the officials who complained to the court. "Students shouldn't be elected, then forced out."

Lyons said the request for consideration was placed before the court during the middle of last February.

People planning to speak need to submit a copy of their argument to the court no later than Thursday at noon.

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Hoops



Oregon's Sara Wilson fights for a loose ball with Santa Clara's Suzanne Ressa during the Duck's NCAA tournament victory at MacArthur Court on March 16.

MICHAEL SCHINDLER/Emerald

UNIVERSITY

GTFs dispute option under insurance plan

Complaint: Some students say they weren't notified about new policy before deadline

By Marius Meland
Oregon Daily Emerald

Graduate teaching fellows with their own health insurance are complaining that they were not adequately notified about a reimbursement option under the new GTF Federation health plan.

"The reimbursement option was only mentioned in the GTF newsletter," GTF Sandy Naishat said. "Because of lacking information, some of those who were eligible for reimbursement didn't find out before the deadline."

The health insurance is a benefit offered by the GTF to all eligible GTFs. The agreement between the GTF and SelectCare is one of the first such plans in the United States offered by a GTF union.

The University pays SelectCare \$90 per quarter for each student who is enrolled in the plan. If students wish to be covered during the summer quarter as well, they have to pay the \$90 themselves.

GTFs are automatically covered by this plan unless they notify the GTF by handing in a waiver form. Those students who are covered under another health plan are eligible to have their fee reimbursed. But some students complain that they weren't notified about this option before the deadline.

The reimbursement option was mentioned in the December issue of the GTF newsletter, the *GTF Voice*. The notification appeared in the fourth paragraph of a front-page article about the health plan.

"As far as I know, this was the only place that mentioned the reimbursement option," GTF Li-Chen Chin said. "I didn't read this particular paragraph, so I didn't know anything about my double health coverage before I noticed that the GTF deducted \$18 per month to cover health insurance for the summer."

"If I had known about the plan before the deadline, I could have collected \$180 in taxable income. When you're a student living on a yearly budget of \$4,000, that's a lot of money."

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Pair starts battle for ASUO seats

Candidacy: Two run for top positions on platform of better communications

By Edward Klopfenstein
Oregon Daily Emerald

Joey Lyons and his running mate Shannon Varney announced their candidacy for student body president and vice president today, officially starting the annual battle for the ASUO's most powerful positions.

Their platform rests on better communications between students and the ASUO and lobbying for student concerns both statewide and locally, said Lyons, a member of the Incidental Fee Committee, and Varney, the chapter chairwoman for OSPIRG, in an interview prior to spring break.

"Our goal is to empower more students by

showing them opportunities, available internships and ways they can get involved with ASUO and EMU programs," the pair said in their announcement today.

Lyons, who is running for president, has been a member of the IFC since he was voted to a two-year seat in last spring's elections.

The candidate also was secretary for the EMU board last year and a coordinator for ESCAPE. He also worked as an intern for Sen. Joyce Cohen, D-Southwest Portland, during the 1992-93 Legislative session.

Lyons said he transferred from Willamette University in spring 1992.

Varney has been with OSPIRG for the past three years. Besides her position as chapter chair-

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Two california students shot in carjacking

Students: Japanese ethnicity of one worries Japan on U.S. violence

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Flags at a tiny liberal arts college flew at half-staff Sunday for two stu-

dents, one of them Japanese, who were critically wounded by a carjacker.

"It's such an appalling event. It's just very difficult for all of us to comprehend," said Janet Bremseth, co-director of college relations at Marymount College.

Takuma Ito and Go Matsuura, both 19, were shot in the head Friday night and were declared brain dead Sunday at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Torrance, said Dr. Curtis Doberstein.

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GOOD MORNING

► FOUNTAIN VALLEY, Calif. (AP) — "Big Mike" Simpson says a sea gull almost broke up his marriage. Friendly firefighters saved it.

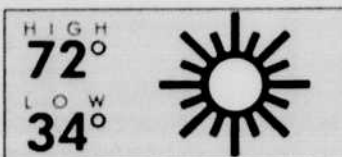
Simpson, a limousine chauffeur, was tossing stale pretzels to sea gulls Friday when his diamond ring slipped off his finger and a passing bird snatched it up.

After a chase around the parking lot that drew the interest of 30 onlookers, the gull perched on top of a light pole and deposited the ring.

"I didn't know what I was going to do," Simpson said.

Then he spotted a fire truck. It wasn't tall enough, so the crew called one that was. Firefighter Jeff Shockey was able to retrieve the ring.

"I've used the ladder to get a couple of parrots, never a diamond ring," said Capt. John Williams, whose company performed the rescue. "But hey, the people are paying our



salaries, so if we have nothing more immediate to do, we try to help where we can."

Simpson said the ring was worth more than the diamond.

"My wife gave me this ring 18 years ago," he said. "If I had come home and told her a sea gull ate it, she would have killed me."

► SPRINGFIELD (AP) — The Oregon Lottery Commission has removed its video poker machines from a tavern after police cited seven people for illegal gambling last week.

The action could cost Conletti's Tavern more than \$200,000 in annual profits from the machines, based on lottery estimates.