Todd Barnhart criticized for emotional leadership style



Todd Barnhart

By Edward Klopfenstein

Oregon Daily Emerald

As the oldest candidate in the race for ASUO president, Todd Barnhart, 37, calls himself the candidate for student families and non-traditional students.

Yet, many doubt that Barnhart's emotional leadership style will sit well in student government's highest office.

In a November 1993, Westmoreland Tenants' Council meeting, Barnhart stormed out when Amazon and Westmoreland representatives wanted to form a joint task force on the Amazon Housing issue.

Pat Saisi, an Amazon resident who wrote a letter to the editor against the candidate, said Barnhart, "stomped his feet, sprang from his seat, threw his books, sucked his teeth, mumbled to himself, stormed out of the room and slammed the door" at the meeting, effectively blocking a vote for the

lack of a quorum.

A WTC officer, who did not want to be identified, said Barnhart is a very passionate student representative who defends his cause to the point of ostracizing other students.

Barnhart's passionate side was again seen last Wednesday when he nearly cried after being asked why he didn't attend the Associated Students Presidential Advisory Council meetings that he was voted to, saying that the meeting time conflicted with the time he has for his children.

"My passion overcame me," Barnhart said about the last November meeting, "I know how to go to people and apologize."

Barnhart said he made a mistake at that meeting and wasn't trying to block a vote, but instead trying voice his dissent.

Barnhart, who said he can take criticism on such issues, was also criticized by current ASUO President Eric owen.

Barnhart accused Bowen of withholding his application to the University's Child Care and Development Center committee, which Barnhart said is illegal, instead of forwarding it to the appropriate Student Senate selection committee.

Bowen said he held the application and would do it again.

"Todd is, well, Todd," Bowen said.
"I don't think Todd is representative of students on this campus."

Bowen said it's not his responsibility to get an application to the appropriate committee.

With all this criticism, Barnhart said he still has a large group of students who support him and believe he would make a good student government representative.

Barnhart's platform centers around fighting the effects of 1990's Ballot Measure 5.

If elected, Barnhart wants to join

forces with schools statewide — including public schools — in lob-bying Salem for revising their funding priorities.

Concerning issues of diversity. Barnhart said that as a white male, he can't represent minorities, women or lesbian, gay and bisexual students. His role on this issue would be to allow those groups freedom to represent themselves, he said.

Barnhart also said that because the role of ASUO vice president has changed by having that officer chair the Student Senate, he didn't believe choosing a running mate was important now. He said he would change the way a vice president is chosen in student government, if elected.

Barnhart also said that if elected, he would advocate for the Family Housing Board to become a decision-making body instead of the advisory role it now holds.

Lecturer at art museum describes medieval texts

By Gayle Forman

For the Oregon Daily Emeral

It is sometimes difficult to decide whether the *Books of Hours* are prayer or picture books.

The Books of Hours, though used for private worship, were modeled after the church's practices, Father Hugh Feiss said at a lecture at the University Art Museum Sunday.

Feiss, a native Oregonian, has been the Mount Angel Abbey library director for the past seven years and first went to Mount Angel in 1953.

His lecture accompanied an exhibit titled "Margins and the Medieval Imagination," which has been running at the

The Books of Hours, named after the eight daily prayers prescribed in the Bible, are a collection of psalms, sayings, prayers and pictures. Feiss describes them as "a way of sanctifying the hours of the

day by interspersing them with prayer."

These books have the typical Latin calligraphy found in books of medieval times, but around the margins of these text are illustrations in colors so bright, the ink seems as though it is still wet.

The writing is an intricate calligraphy, and certain words, such as the names of holidays, are highlighted in different colors. In the margins around the texts are scenes from the Bible, such as Mary and her newborn child surrounded by the three wise men with flowers and angels and dueling knights abound.

The Books of Hours represent a change in the commercial use of books in medieval Europe, Feiss said. The first books were made for — and used by — monks and the clergy. The Books of Hours, however, were intended for private devotion.

Todd Hamilton no laughing matter

By Edward Klopfenstein

Joseph Daily Emerald

Some students say Greg Hamilton is a joke, and others might believe it if they saw him last Wednesday campaigning under his Nixon mask and parading his Hunter S. Thompson, pro-beer platform.

But this ASUO presidential candidate is serious about his run and serious about generating interest into a political process buried by student apa-

"Students are paying \$111 with every (tuition) check and many don't even think about where that money goes," Hamilton said in a Sunday interview. "Hey, that's groceries."

A true outsider to politics, he compares his race to that of famed "gonzo" journalist Hunter S. Thompson who tried to run for sheriff of Aspen, Colo., in the mid-1970s.

Hamilton, unlike Thompson, doesn't support mescaline use and is shying away from shaving his head and wearing the American flag in public.

Beer is this man's motto, and a vote for Hamilton is a vote for a microbrewery in the EMU, he said.

"Beer is something to a campus that students have a past-time with," Hamilton said, "and a microbrewery would put the University on the map. Just think, we could have classes in brewery science. It would be a packed house every term."

Hamilton's political resume is short, filled with just one high school race where he lost miserably, he said.

The journalism major, who transferred from Mount Hood Community College last year, said joining this year's political race started as a joke when a friend wrote a mock news release on Hamilton for a journalism class.

Then the idea of a get-out-the-vote platform gained steam, and now he's put his beer bottle down long enough to talk issues.

On incidental fee increases: "We should keep fees as low as possible. I think there's enough money at hand," Hamilton said.

On the new multicultural curriculum: "I don't think this solves the problem of racism on campus," he said, adding that classes on multicultural issues should be taken voluntarily. "This does more to bring up a multicultural agenda than solve racial conflict."

On keeping student power with students: "I would let students know about the goings on on campus," he said, "to make people aware of those trying to take the power out of student hands."

Hamilton also sees the student government position as being a watchdog against government waste, noting the United States Student Association's illicit phone expenditures last fall term.

Whether he will win or not, Hamilton still sees his run as having purpose by getting the University's unpolitical student population to think about politics.

Hamilton said many students compare college elections to those in high school and then carry that political attitude through their post-college life.

"If that (my campaign) promotes them to vote, whether for me or for somebody else, then I've done my job," Hamilton said. "That's what is satisfying for me."



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