

# EDITORIAL

## Warren and Rhinard are the logical choice

Experience and a commitment to real and attainable goals are two of the reasons why voters should choose Leslie Warren and Mark Rhinard for ASUO Executive during the primary elections today and Wednesday.

Warren, who is currently serving as ASUO vice president, has the most practical experience among all the presidential candidates and brings the real strength to the Warren/Rhinard ticket. Since Warren was appointed ASUO vice president in January, she has acquired precisely the kind of knowledge that next year's ASUO president must possess. She has served as director and co-director of the Black Student Union and also has been a part of the Campus and Community Relations Task Force and the Building Community program. She was a recruiter for the University New Student Telephone Project and has been a student associate for the Dean of Students.

Rhinard also has worked in the Dean of Students' office. Additionally, he is director of University Day 1994, serves as vice president of the University Bookstore Board of Directors and is a member of the Freshman Seminars Advisory Board.

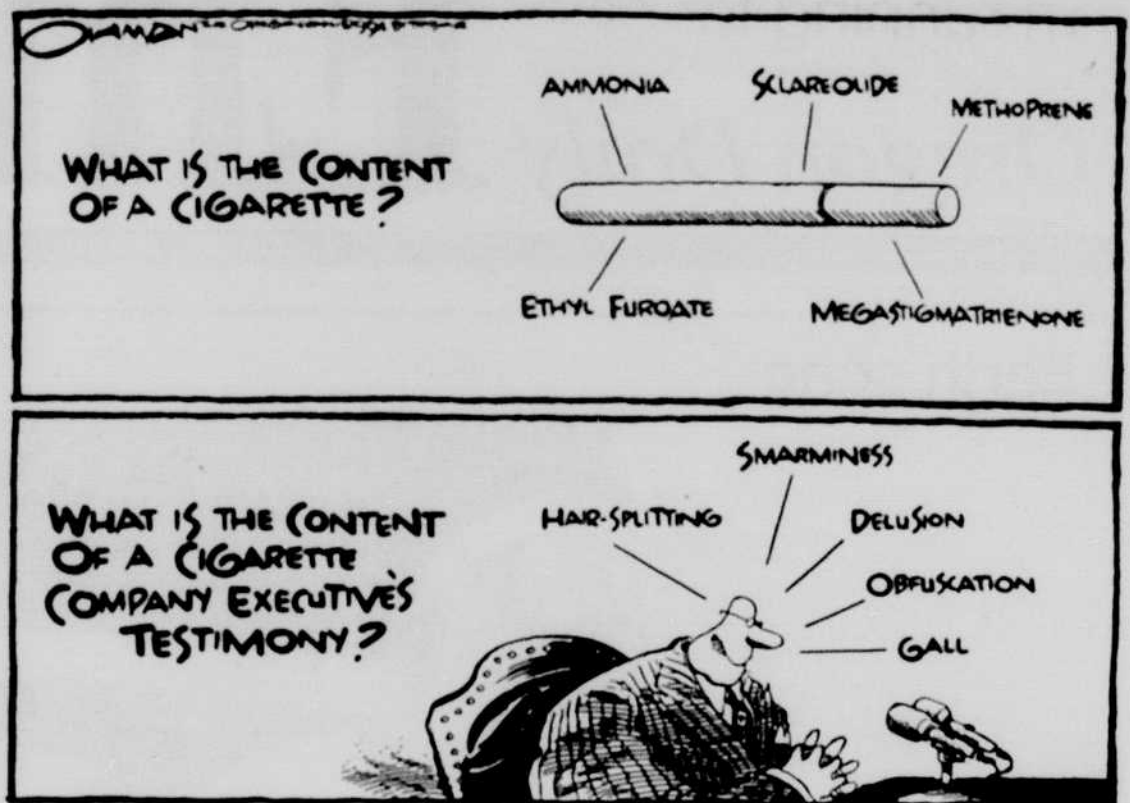
Beyond the strength of their resumes, however, lies their firm intention not to let personal agendas get in the way of their responsibilities. The vice president whom Warren replaced, Diana Collins Puente, resigned largely because she could not convince the campus to conform to her agenda. Other student officials have resigned this year for similar reasons. This quitters' pattern must not continue into next year. Warren and Rhinard appear dedicated to sticking it out.

These candidates possess the skills and the knowledge necessary to represent the students and to lobby on their behalf to the state government — vitally important in this age of budget cuts and Measure 5. While the other tickets possess many of those same skills, Warren and Rhinard stand out.

And their platform of goals, which include making a home for Project Safe Run on campus and bringing vote-by-telephone to student elections, are useful and innovative ideas that are well within the power of the ASUO Executive to help implement.

Their ideas are not as flashy as those of their opponents, but they aren't as hopelessly unattainable either. It is unclear whether the various opposing candidates are knowingly making empty promises, or are simply ignorant of the limitations to the ASUO Executive's authority. In any case, voters should not be swayed by such laughably unreachable goals as bringing a brewery to the EMU. In addition to insulting the voters' intelligence, such promises are nothing more than political pandering. They should not be rewarded.

For once, students in this election can pick from a broad range of candidates. This time, there is a real choice. Through the course of this campaign, Warren and Rhinard have shown they should be that choice.



## COMMENTARY

# If we're elected, we'll deal with it

By Owen Brennan Rounds and Jake Berg

Universities are becoming day care centers. Agenda-packing P.C. gurus are more concerned with what you think instead of how you think. Fee-paying students passively give their money away when the clenched-fisted bureaucrats demand it.

It is time for a change. It is not time for rhetoric of change; it is time for a genuine change in the attitude and purpose of student government. Students pay \$110 per term and they receive a daily paper, \$2 football tickets and access to the EMU. If the current student government can't do anything for the student body, at least it could get out of our way. The status quo needs to be thrown out on its ear, and a new regime needs to be installed.

New blood is an old theme, but our ticket has some new ideas that will bring back the college experience:

- Our ticket is running for the explicit purpose of getting people out to vote. We will consider our candidacy a success if 20 percent of the student body votes this week. If that happens and/or we get elected, *Emerald* Editor Jake Berg will be given a mohawk haircut in the EMU Courtyard. We can say all sorts of crap about the glory of voting, but nobody really cares. All we have to say is that a legitimate student government needs people to vote: the more the merrier.

- The University brings \$589 million annually to the city of Eugene. It is time for this backwater little town to begin treating students with the respect we deserve. We will set up a liaison student body to the city (a liaison that will not resign in the middle of the year). The City Council has a nasty habit of raising the fines associated with student-specific violations (noise complaints, open container and the rest) when they need some extra cash. If they are going to do this, they are going to hear from us first. Students need

community representation and the respect we deserve.

- In the late 1970s, there were an additional 20 greek houses on this campus. Since then, the system has taken punishment from every corner — the administration, the community and even the student government. We will begin reparations to the system by ending the keg ban. Kegs are a smarter, safer and less expensive way for houses to party. The ban is a joke, and it's time for it to end.

- Every ticket has its pipe-dream platforms. "We want to end racism, tough classes and mean people," they spew. We have our own vision. There are no voices in modern politics advocating a lower legal-drinking age. We will be that voice. Lower the drinking age.

- After everything else, this ticket supports the legalization of Oregon's No. 1 cash crop: marijuana. Many ASUO administrations have done their best to support this industry, and now it is time for student government to advocate it.

It has been rumored that our ticket is a joke, but the sad fact is that the other tickets are the joke. They are trying to pass themselves off as being student-advocated, when all they want to do is pad their resumes and take their turn running the money-go-round. Instead of the status quo rhetoric being offered by the other candidates, we will be your advocates. Quite frankly, student government jobs would look pretty stupid on our resumes, and we could get our hands on a lot more money if we just left this university.

We advocate a college experi-

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ence. This is the college experience our predecessors had, and it is the experience the current establishment wants to deny us. With the departure of University President Myles Brand, students are going to have the opportunity to play a major role in establishing a new attitude and purpose for this campus and its students.

Get out and vote, today and Wednesday. You don't have to vote for us — just get out and vote.

If elected, we will have a good time, and if elected, we'll deal with it.

Owen Brennan Rounds, publisher of the Oregon Commentator, and Jake Berg, editor of the Emerald, are candidates for ASUO president and vice president, respectively.

## COMMENTARY POLICY

The *Oregon Daily Emerald* welcomes commentaries from the public concerning topics of interest to the University community.

Commentaries should be between 600 and 800 words, legible, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is submitted.

The *Emerald* reserves the right to edit any letter for length or style.

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