

## Student fees might blast off into space

Next year more will go up than tuition. Actually, some things are blasting off into space.

Incidental fees will increase by seven percent next year. That turns out to be \$119 per student per term. The main cause for the increase are the ASUO ballot measures that passed in the last general election. ASUO programs also got an increase by less than one percent. It's all student money and all students are entitled to the services.

There are organizations for everyone too, from the Arab Student Union to Men and Women Against Rape, even the *Emerald*. And there is plenty of room for new ones.

For those student organizations that are new and looking for a few student bucks, a goal statement must be submitted to the Incidental Fee Committee. If this is recognized, the new organization can request funding for special requests or funding next year. And that is exactly what the Star Trek Information Center did.

The STIC recently took its goal statement before the IFC and sure enough, the IFC said the center was ready for flight, giving the OK for funding requests.

Thomas Huckaba, STIC captain, said, "It's a place where people who normally wouldn't be involved in things can be involved."

For Trekkies that walk the paths of the University, there may be a place in the future funded by other students who are or aren't fans. (There's really little say from anyone when it comes to funding decisions.)

Yes, a place where Star Trek fans can meet and talk about the perils that float through space may not be too far off. Maybe members can even convince the IFC, and it probably wouldn't be too hard, to kick in student money for a big screen TV complete with surround sound, a nice VCR and some leather couches on which to soak in every *Star Trek* episode.

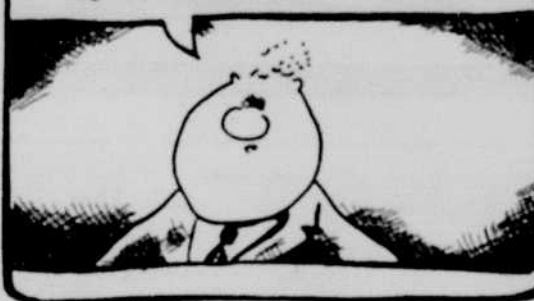
Looking for a new frontier, the STIC can search the bowels of the University for new members, and maybe if interest swells it can even get a room for its own use somewhere in the EMU. After all, it'll need a place to land its IFC-funded entertainment center. However, there needs to be a place in the STIC budget for a video library since the last episode is much closer than the hole in the ozone. The most ironic thing about it is the center is entitled to every penny granted to it.

It's nice to have a new student group on campus that isn't preaching an agenda and demanding money for trips going somewhere doing who knows what when its members get there. Every episode of *Star Trek* is a trip somewhere and it doesn't even take a plane ticket to get there. It's time to look to the heavens or at least to Capt. Picard for stimulating conversation broadening the minds of University students.

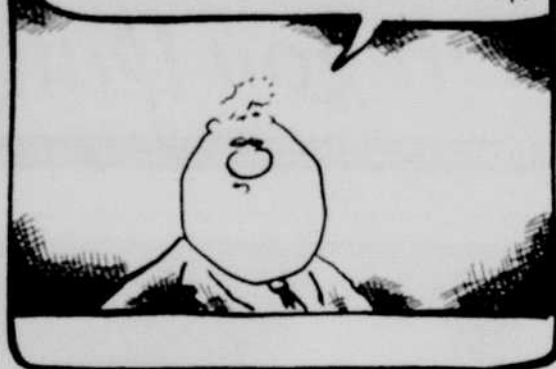
For those who are having difficulty coming to terms with their love for the age-old episodes, don't worry. The fearless leaders of the STIC have incorporated their main goal to harvest those concerns.

"STIC helps students come to terms with their *Star Trek* identity," states the STIC goal statement.

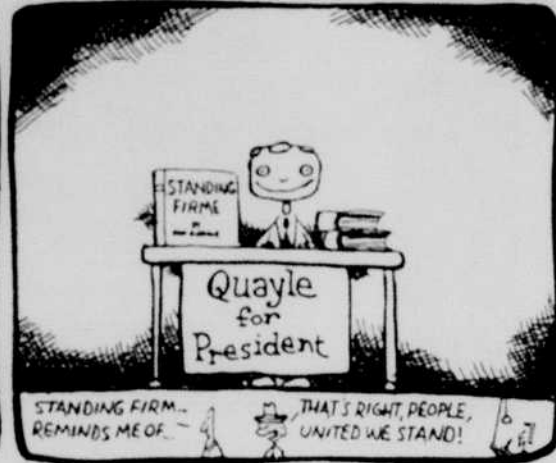
I'VE BEEN SCRUTINIZED, QUESTIONED AND CRITICIZED FOR EVERY LITTLE THING SINCE TAKING OFFICE, AND EVEN THINGS THAT HAPPENED BEFORE I TOOK OFFICE.



THIS KIND OF CONSTANT ATTACK IS DAMAGING TO THE PRESIDENCY.



IF THIS LEVEL OF CONSTANT ASSAULT CONTINUES, NOBODY WITH HALF A BRAIN WILL WANT TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT.



## LETTERS

### Hats off

Sometimes a picture can be worth a thousand words.

I picked up a copy of the *Emerald* last Friday and my eye immediately was drawn to the cover story photo of Omega Psi Phi fraternity brothers hangin' out with a handful of Whiteaker Elementary school kids. The fraternity is committed to reaching out to the economically depressed neighborhood by mentoring youngsters who might otherwise turn to gang activities and crime.

"They go twice a month to Whiteaker to talk to children about drugs, racism and crime," wrote Daniel West.

After reading that, my eyes moved to Wilson Chan's photo of Omega Psi Phi's Richard Hines-Norwood, who held a smiling John Beal in a bear hug. Beal is a fourth grader from Whiteaker.

Hines-Norwood and Beal were both smiling. They looked like they were laughing and having a good time.

Know something, folks? With great, make that beautiful, things happening like Omega Psi Phi working with Whiteaker Elementary school kids, I think there just might be hope for our hate-torn society.

Hats off and a standing ovation (or maybe someone could start a wave) for Omega Psi Phi for its version of hope for Whiteaker kids, for the *Emerald* for covering the story and for Wilson Chan who captured some stirring images on 35mm film.

David P. Bartlett  
Journalism

It would make more sense to me if people had selected a more significant holiday like Revolution or Independence Day. Mr. Moore, if you're not going to do some research and come up with a good answer (no rhetoric please), don't bother to write another letter.

David Miller  
Advertising

falls on the "other" students' shoulders. Once again we provide this service to the University. We have all worked hard on this and would like to invite everyone to come and join us.

Kevin K.J. Chang  
Student

### M.Y.O.B.

Regarding Stephen Crawford's commentary (*ODE*, May 10): How does one agree or disagree with homosexuality?

Perhaps it is like a right-handed majority not "agreeing" with left-handed people. Guardians of popular morality used to impose their uneasiness with that natural human variation by forcefully insisting lefthanders strive to pass as righthanders. No one benefited. Quite the contrary.

I remember the first time I understood what my parents really did to bring me into the world. Crawford's word "queasy" certainly describes my reaction. I also felt shock and disbelief. But, I got over it. I settled with the understanding that responsible sex was a natural and healthy human activity, procreative or not.

Crawford and others are free to think that there is something morally and ethically wrong with "the homosexual sex act" and I am free to think they are being deluded by a tragically counterproductive, indeed dangerous, cultural construct.

When I see a heterosexual or homosexual couple kiss or hold hands in public it doesn't mean I have to think about their bedroom behavior. I may instead feel some happiness for their joy. How wonderful for them to have a tender relationship that puts a song in their hearts!

Homosexuality, just as heterosexuality, has much more going on than the act itself. If I never have another intimate, sexual, psychological and emotionally powerful relationship with a man, God forbid, I would still be a homosexual — but not a very happy one.

Ron Schlittler  
Journalism/Sociology

### Proud to be here

May promises to be an important and exciting month for the members of the Asian/Pacific American Students Union and our campus.

It is Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month, and we invite all students at the University and surrounding communities to join us in what should prove to be an educational experience not found in the classroom.

Asian and Pacific Islander (APIs) people are not a silent majority. We wish to be heard; we are tired of being ignored. We have a history in the United States just as any other racial/ethnic group does. We are American, not foreign. Our descendants are from Asia and the Polynesian Triangle, and America is our home. Some Pacific Islanders are indigenous to the colonial state of Hawaii. Our cultures and our racial features are different, yet we are often seen as the same. Like any other citizen of the United States, we are trying to survive. We are not here to steal jobs, money or land. We live here and we are not planning to leave.

This month will feature video presentations and speakers on subjects such as Hawaiian history, racial myths and stereotypes, the state of Asian America, and our nation's first multiracial riot in Los Angeles. All events are free and open to the public.

Like the many other student groups on campus, we are funded in order to recruit, educate and create a safe environment for our people and the University. Due to the Euro-centric education that we we are all subject to here in "our" educational system, the burden of teaching about "other" Americans constantly

### History lesson

First I had fun celebrating Cinco de Mayo. Now I'm having fun receiving a free history lesson about its significance. If Bryan Moore decided to spend time answering my letter, at least he should have spent more time getting to the point.

My question remains unsolved. I still can't understand why Cinco de Mayo was chosen as the most important Mexican/Latin celebration in the United States.

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