

Offensive phone message placed on office machine

SEATTLE (AP) — A racist phone message was left on Metro's phone information line for the public to hear on Martin Luther King Day, city officials say.

The voice message, in a caricature black inflection, said: "We are closed for the Martin Loooboo's holiday birthday bash, and we won't be in today, so please call back later."

Metro, the transit and sewage utility serving Seattle and surrounding King County, spent nearly \$750,000 over the last three years to improve race and cultural relations inside the agency, KIRO-TV reported.

King County Council member Ron Sims said he was very disappointed in the voice mail message.

"I'm going to find out how

that happened. It's an offensive message. I'd like to find out who did it, but I clearly want to see how they did it so that it will never happen again," Sims said.

No one can get into the utility's voice mail system without a password, KIRO reported.

"It was an insult to all African-Americans and all fair-minded people, and whoever the guilty person is needs to be found, ferreted out, severely and seriously reprimanded," said the Rev. Samuel McKinney of Mt. Zion Church.

Metro information officer Marsatha Counts finally shut the voice mail off Monday afternoon after she was unable to delete the message.

Metro officials said they don't know how the bogus message was planted.

Women in Transition Discussion Group

Has your return to school created a strain in your relationships?
Are you having difficulty balancing all of your commitments?
Do you want the opportunity to meet other women in a similar situation?

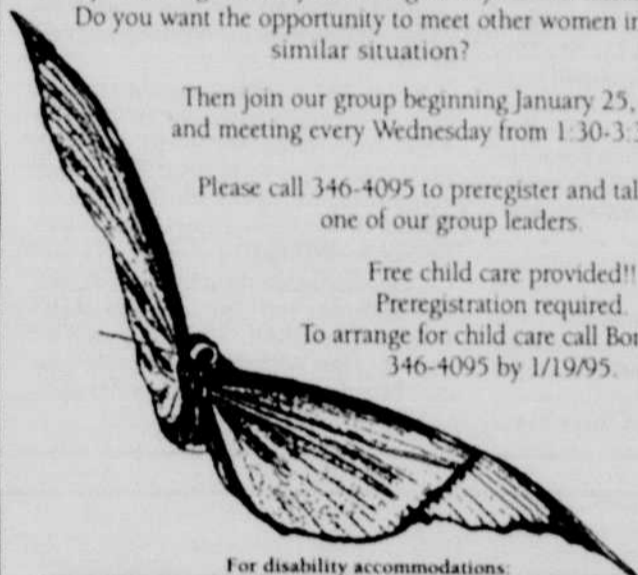
Then join our group beginning January 25, 1995 and meeting every Wednesday from 1:30-3:30 pm.

Please call 346-4095 to preregister and talk with one of our group leaders.

Free child care provided!!

Preregistration required.

To arrange for child care call Bonnie at 346-4095 by 1/19/95.



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To request accommodations for disabilities at this event, please contact Bonnie at the Women's Center, 346-4095, prior to Wednesday, 1/18.

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Pro-choice may lose funding

Friederich von Carp

Oregon Daily Emerald

The ASUO Programs Finance Committee rejected the goals statement of Students For Choice Tuesday night on grounds that the group might infringe on some student's First Amendment rights.

A group may not receive funding unless its goals statement is approved. Students For Choice, which advocates abortion rights, has received student fees for more than six years, including \$1,047 currently.

"I have a huge problem with your goals statement," committee member Matt McGinnis told the group. "To tax all the students to fund a political organization becomes difficult."

McGinnis, as well as Dolly Cho and Sarah Keech, opposed the goals statement in a vote that failed 3-3.

Further discussion on the matter — which is almost inevitable — may set a new precedent regarding whether groups promoting political or ideological positions can receive student fees.

"This is going to come up in a big way for groups like OSPIC who have considerably larger budgets," Keech said. "It's being more closely scrutinized this year."

Students For Choice may now ask the ASUO Constitution Court to hear its case.

"We'll definitely be consulting a lawyer," said Mandi Hood, group co-director. "I feel that there is a way to incorporate our

WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

ASUO Program Finance Committee hearing Tuesday, Jan. 17.

ORGANIZATION	AMOUNT	PERCENT CHANGE FROM LAST YEAR
Returning Stds. Assoc.	hearing postponed to Feb. 16	
Amnesty International	\$460	13.5% less
Hong Kong Std. Assoc.	\$1,205	10.1% less
DEPM-Grad. Std. Org.	\$540	15.6% less
Students for Choice	\$0	100% less
Money given this week: \$2,205		Money given to date: \$21,270

EMERALD

student organization into these newly-found guidelines."

Committee Chair Joey Lyons, who helped the group prepare its budget request, explained that he did not discuss these objections earlier because he does not deem them valid.

"You have to focus on educational activities," Lyons said. "I think that it is legal for us to fund this group."

McGinnis cited state law outlined in a 1985 Attorney General's opinion regarding the use of student fees.

"First Amendment interests in free expression and association are implicated," wrote then-Attorney General, and current University president, Dave Frohnmayer, "when an individual is compelled to provide financial support to an organization that advocates viewpoints with which that individual disagrees."

The opinion concluded, however, that "a campus forum for the exchange of potentially con-

troversial political and ideological viewpoints is both legitimate and compelling."

For a group to receive student fees, it must demonstrate that it provides for "the physical and cultural development of the student body"; that it "is under the supervision of the [Oregon State System of Higher Education]; and that it "will serve to enhance the ability of its students as a whole to express themselves, or that it will otherwise serve the collective interests of students as a class."

The opinion states, however, that "if, on the other hand ... the program will routinely advance only certain ideological viewpoints or systematically will suppress some opinions, use of the optional fee funding would be the better course."

In the past, fee committees have used a simpler guideline when approving goals statements, asking groups only if they "provide for the physical and cultural development of the student body."

Insemination bill criticized for rationality

SALEM (AP) — Rep. Kevin Mannix said Tuesday he was just trying to spark a debate over family values by introducing a bill to make it illegal for an unmarried woman to be artificially inseminated.

The idea drew outrage, though, from some of the Salem Democrat's colleagues and a cold shoulder from House Speaker Bev Clarno, R-Bend.

Rep. Gail Shibley, who is gay, said the bill discriminates against lesbians and is receiving far more attention than it deserves.

"It's ridiculous," the Portland Democrat said. "That bill isn't going anywhere."

Clarno seemed to confirm that. When asked about the bill's prospects for passage, the House speaker would say only that it was "not a priority."

Mannix said he thinks banning artificial insemination for unmarried women would "reaffirm the sanctity of marriage."

Mimi Luther, 36, a former Cascade AIDS Project education coordinator, is a lesbian who was artificially inseminated and gave birth to triplets last year. She and her partner, Sheila Robinson, a case manager for the Multnomah County Aging Services Division, raise the children.

"I purposefully have created this family, and it's

a family that many kids don't have the benefit of today," she said. "These babies have two loving parents; a very tightly knit extended family, including grandparents and friends."

Mannix, meanwhile, said he wasn't surprised by all of the publicity his idea has been receiving.

"If you combine motherhood, sex, and male-female relationships, it's bound to get attention," Mannix said.

Getting attention is something Mannix has proved to be good at. He has a reputation for introducing lots of bills and has already submitted 82 of them for consideration this session.

"It's my job to raise issues and get some debate going," he said.

The insemination bill is one of three he's introduced on family issues. The other two would prohibit governments from giving favored status to any sexual relationship other than marriage and ban surrogate-mother contracts.

David Schuman, who teaches constitutional law at the University of Oregon Law School, called the proposed law on artificial insemination stupid.

"People who are unmarried can adopt children," he said. "There's no logic, no reason, no rationality behind this."

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