

Ordinary folks



MICHAEL CRISP/Emerald

Nassir Fair and his mother, Laura Fair, listen to the bands Chata Addy and Susuma Saturday evening on the East Lawn of the EMU. The 27th Annual Willamette Valley Folk Festival ended Sunday.

Miner, Unger working on task force

■ **COMMUNICATION:** The group would explore how administrators address the concerns of students

By Laura Baker
Multicultural Issues Reporter

ASUO President and Vice President-Elect Bill Miner and Ben Unger are not wasting any time. Before their term in office has begun, they have begun work on a Communication Task Force, which will examine how much of a voice students have in the University administration.

This task force, which is made up of students and faculty, is a response to recent student demands to reinstate the position formerly held by Gerry Moseley — a position that "advocated for students in the administration," Miner said.

The position was eliminated during the restructuring of jobs, Miner said, and Moseley's duties

were divided among various administrators.

Miner said the function of the task force is to examine the current administration to assess whether students' needs are being taken care of as well as to make recommendations on what needs to be changed.

"We need to have one person to deal with student issues," Miner said. However, he said he is not sure whether reinstating the old position is the solution or if existing job descriptions just need to be further defined.

Miner and Unger said the University has been "incredibly open and supportive to the task force idea." And Miner added that Dan Williams, vice president for the administration, said he was open to making changes, should the committee find the current staff does not benefit students.

"We want students to be clear about who they can talk to about their concerns in the administra-

tion," Unger said. "We see some flaws in the system, and we're looking to implement something new."

The committee will meet throughout the summer in order to have a proposal to present to Williams by September 1.

Miner said the committee will be looking at job descriptions and doing informative interviews to assess what the general feeling is about the "current level of student input."

This task force is in conjunction with Miner and Unger's plans to restructure both the ASUO and the Student Senate as well as to improve communication with the administration.

"It is time for some changes, and this is the year to get it done," Miner said.

Miner said these changes are necessary for the student government to run smoothly and to have "more of a significant impact on campus."

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