

Political nominations

Two Democratic candidates with no prior political experience will challenge Gov. Kitzhaber in the primary election, May 19

PAGE 4

"Old coaches never die"

Bill Dellinger ran his final victory lap and shook hands with Bill Bowerman Friday evening before officially stepping down as track and field coach

PAGE 7

TODAY

It is the first day to begin registering for fall term classes.

WEATHER

Today
Partly cloudy
High 64. Low 41.
Tuesday
Mostly cloudy
High 66. Low 41.

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Elections official; Unger reprimanded

The Constitution Court said election rules were violated, but it did not order a special election

By Doug Irving
Student Activities Reporter

The ASUO elections are over — finally.

The Constitution Court agreed in a series of decisions that none of the grievances brought against the elections warranted a special election.

In fact, the court's strongest sanction was a censure against ASUO Vice President Ben Unger.

The court agreed the elections were marred by violations that, in many cases, required some sort of response. Many of the grievances, though, asked for sanctions that did not fit the severity of the violation.

The court also pointed out that some complaints had come too late for the court to take any action.

The court heard elections grievances on Wednesday and Thursday. It deliberated throughout the weekend and released its decisions Sunday.

Brewington and Gross vs. Unger and ASUO Elections Board

Selena Brewington and Matt Gross argued that Unger had violated elections rules by acting on behalf of the elections board even though he was clearly linked to political campaigns.

Unger had said the election rules only require that people not work simultaneously for the elections board and campaign. The court rejected that argument.

Unger had also asked for and received permission from the board to remove Kelli McCartan's campaign posters for the presidency. The court found Unger guilty of a conflict of interest because he was linked to a rival campaign.

Gross had asked for Unger's impeachment and a special election. The court found both options far too drastic.

Brewington and Gross also had asked the court to rewrite the elections rules. The court agreed that was needed but found it does not have the authority to write elections rules.

The court unanimously agreed to censure Unger from the Student Senate — a sanction that removes his voting

and debating powers in the Senate.

McCartan vs. ASUO Elections Board

"The only facts not in dispute is that all of the facts in this case are in dispute," Justice Heidi Barker wrote in the court's opinion.

Four grievances made up this decision: the elections board had not handled McCartan's voter guide statement properly; it had illegally seized tennis balls McCartan was using for her campaign; it had removed her campaign leaflets without enough notification; and Unger had inappropriately received authority to remove the leaflets.

The court said it was "deeply troubled" by the board's treatment of McCartan.

"If we could look at this treatment in a microscope, however, we would order a special election," Barker wrote.

But the court also took into account the damage such an election would do

to the student body: the disruption of the "educational atmosphere," the procedural problems of a special election, and a price tag that could run more than \$3,000.

The court also faulted McCartan for not bringing her grievances until too late in the elections.

"She should have returned the board's serve with a strong backhand," Barker wrote. "This tennis match ends in a draw."

Tabizon and Poons vs. ASUO Elections Board

Marisa Tabizon and Mark Poons both complained they had heard people working at the poll booths tell voters to vote against the OSPERG funding measure.

The court agreed the elections board had taken all reasonable steps to combat such influence. It had responded as quickly as it could to the complaints and had tried to educate poll workers about the elections rules.

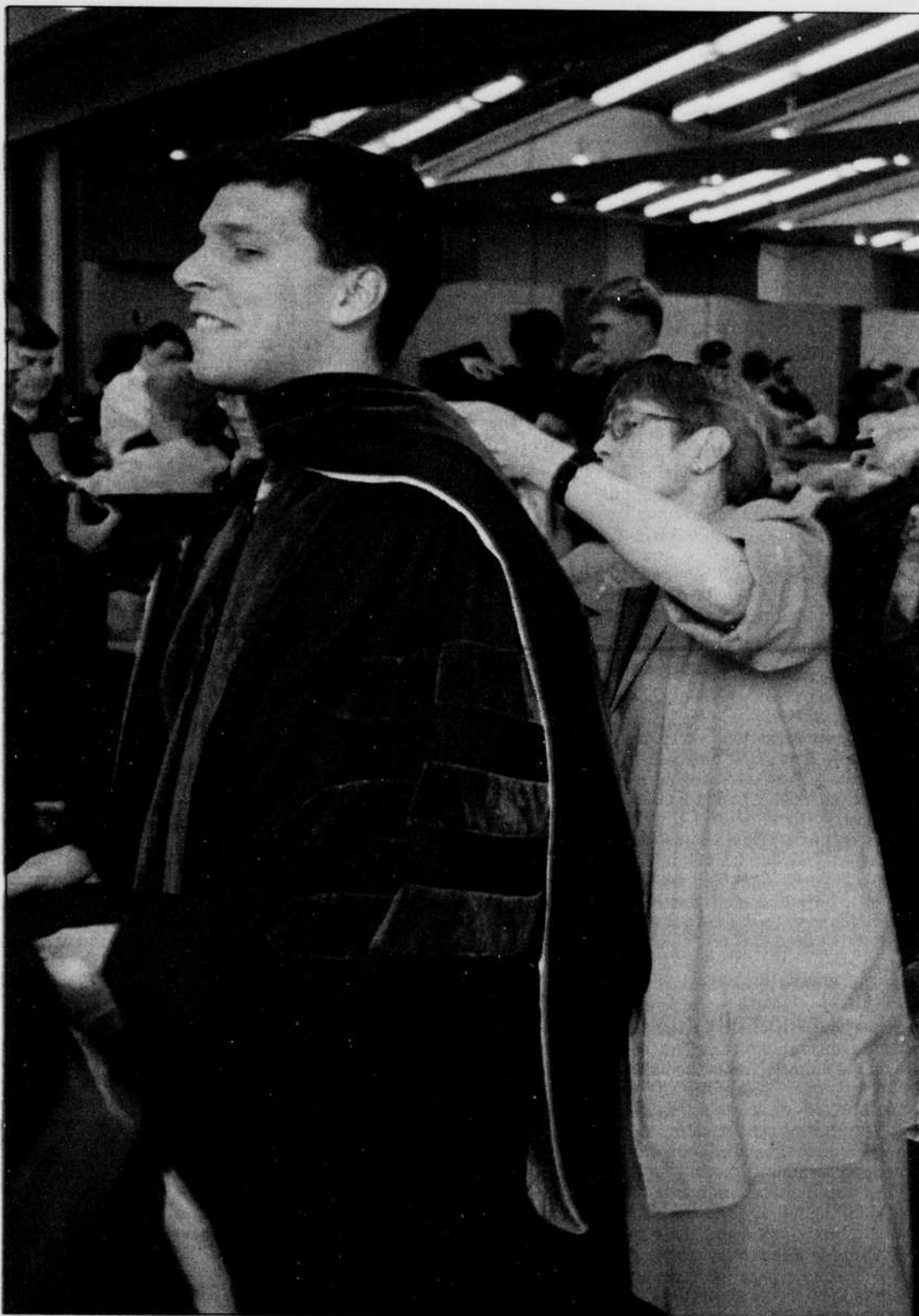
The court did suggest a mandatory meeting for poll-booth workers be held before the next election season.

Watson and ASUO Elections Board vs. the Honesty Campaign

Elections board worker Christy Lorenzini told the court that Honesty Campaign

Turn to ASUO, Page 6

FINAL TOUCHES



LAURA GOSS/Emerald

Joanne Snyder of Career Services adjusts Steve Frichette's gown before the Law graduation ceremonies.

Law and Mortar

Law school grad Steve Frichette will use his degree to manage his construction company

By Amalie Young
Higher Education Reporter

For recent graduate Steve Frichette, going through law school wasn't just about showing up for class and sprucing up his transcript.

Frichette was one of 165 School of Law graduates honored Sunday afternoon at the annual commencement ceremony held at the Hult Center.

Frichette and his wife, Achelle, have

planned a trip to Florida for a week to celebrate the completion of his courses — but he will soon be back at work filling up the four houses he manages in the University area with summer tenants.

"I was definitely not a typical law student," he said.

Frichette's focus in law school was on entrepreneurship and real estate, but alongside hours of course work, Frichette

Turn to LAW, Page 3