

Breslow looks ahead after recall efforts wane

■ ASUO president starts off the new year with a clean slate

By Emily Gust
Oregon Daily Emerald

The effort to oust ASUO President Jay Breslow came to a quiet end Dec. 13, with petitioners failing to garner enough signatures and Breslow remaining in office.



BRESLOW

Chris Fosnight alleged that Breslow neglected several of his duties during fall term, including failing to fill vacant Executive staff positions within 30 days and showing political bias during an Oct. 27 ASUO voter participation drive.

Fosnight and White, along with a handful of students, had one month to get 10 percent of the student body — about 1,700 students — to sign a petition supporting the recall. A vote by the entire student body to decide if Breslow would remain in office would have followed.

But two weeks into the effort, Fosnight withdrew his petition, claiming he had priorities more important than the recall.

With Thanksgiving break, Dead Week and finals spanning the timeline of the recall, the effort eventually faded away, White said. The petitioners did not attempt to gather signatures during Finals Week.

"I'll be the first to admit that it wasn't the most organized thing," he said.

In the end, the petitioners gathered only a couple hundred signatures.

Some of the failure, White said, could be owed to the fact that

more time was spent analyzing Breslow's transgressions than gathering signatures.

But Student Senate President Peter Watts said petitioners could have taken their grievance to the senate. Had three-quarters of the senate voted for impeachment, Breslow would have been removed.

Although ASUO rules are clear regarding presidential duties and what happens if they are not fulfilled, Watts said it is difficult to get 75 percent of any body to impeach a government official.

"I think that Breslow has enough support on the senate to get one-quarter of the vote," he said.

Even though the petitioners failed to reach their stated goal, White said he thinks they got their

point across.

"I'm glad that we did it, still, so the ASUO didn't think they could just 'wallygag' around and do nothing and get away with it," he said. "I want them to know there are people out there ... making sure they are doing something."

While the prospect of being recalled didn't change the ideology Breslow uses to guide the ASUO, he said it did make him and the rest of the office more aware of details.

"Even though they've had a lot of internal problems, [Breslow and ASUO Vice President Holly Magnier] worked hard to rectify them," Watts said. "I've seen a lot of progress in the last month."

On the other hand, graduate Eng-

lish student Scott Austin, one of the students who helped to gather signatures, said he did not notice any improvements in the ASUO office after the recall effort began. Though nothing has changed, Austin said he does not have the desire to spearhead a campaign against Breslow. He now intends to focus his efforts on academics.

"I guess I'm just tired of student government," Austin said.

Breslow has taken the recall as a sign that people are keeping tabs on the student government, and he said he will make an extra effort to stay on task in the next terms.

"I thought we had an amazingly successful fall term," Breslow said. "We'll try to keep that momentum up and build from that solid base."

Bush cabinet choices bring old experience to new world order

By Calvin Woodward
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Koreans are talking to each other. Washington speaks of its "partnership" with Belgrade less than two years after bombing it. Cyberspace, capable of little more than juvenile delinquency a decade ago, now is feared as a terrorist vehicle.

In many ways, it is a new world for the old crowd of Republican foreign policy practitioners coming back into office.

They are taking a formal look at that world on Monday, gathering in Austin, Texas, with President-elect Bush and members of Congress to discuss his plans to strengthen the military and promote a national missile defense program.

The last time Donald Rumsfeld was defense secretary, America was muddling through the dispiriting aftermath of the Vietnam War, not to mention Watergate, and preoccupied still with communist containment. Now Hanoi has welcomed a U.S. president's visit.

Although a much newer face in government, Condoleezza Rice, Bush's incoming national security adviser, made her name as a Soviet expert in the Soviet Union's final years.

Vice President-elect Cheney and Colin Powell, nominated as secretary of state, were steeped in Cold War doctrine, too. Theirs was a world of the evil empire, an unknowable China and Sandinistas, capped by war against Iraq.

As commander of 75,000 U.S. soldiers in Germany in the mid-1980s, Powell kept a photo on his desk of the Soviet general leading a larger opposing force an hour's drive away — a constant reminder of the man he would battle if a misstep turned the superpower struggle into a war.

"The discipline of the Cold War era, in which you had to husband your resources for the big one, that's what's changed," says Gideon Rose, a national security official in the first Clinton administration. "These are people who grew up in a world of severely constrained resources — and one false step and you can blow up the entire world."

"The chief difference some of these people might find is that they don't have to look over their shoul-

der as much as they once did."

The Bush team has acknowledged that much is different, even if Iraq's Saddam Hussein is still around.

Powell said "the old world map as we knew it of a red side and a blue side, that competed for something called the Third World, is gone."

"We are in a new national security environment," Rumsfeld said when Bush nominated him to reprise the Pentagon role he held under President Ford. "We do need to be arranged to deal with the new threats, not the old ones."

Although out of government for a quarter century, Rumsfeld is very much a man of the moment, as far as Bush is concerned.

Rumsfeld led national commissions that examined the risk of missile attack on the United States and threats to U.S. satellites. Information warfare is also high on his list of concerns.

His group's 1998 report told Congress that North Korea and Iran could field a missile capable of striking U.S. territory within five years; his report on military assets in space is expected this month.

Talk of globalization was just stirring when Powell, Cheney and Rice were last in government. Economic integration, spurred in part by trade agreements pushed by Bush's father and then President Clinton, has proceeded apace. Now it is a given that when markets sneeze in one part of the world, markets elsewhere wipe their noses, too.

The officials coming from President Bush's administration into his son's were in on the earliest months of the Soviet Union's disintegration.

They were out before the implications were close to being fully formed.

"With the end of the Cold War, there was a brief period of wondering what will happen next," says Rose, managing editor of the journal Foreign Affairs. "Now it's pretty clear what has happened next — continued U.S. hegemony for the foreseeable future."

Yet this is a national security team expected to be more reluctant than the Clinton administration to get involved in crises not strongly tied to U.S. strategic interests.

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