

Preseason tickets no longer available for free

■ Funding, costs and availability of University athletic tickets are being debated by the ADFC

By Beata Mostafavi
Oregon Daily Emerald

Despite rumors that students may have to pay an additional fee at the ticket window when they pick up Duck game tickets, members of the Athletic Department Finance Committee said students should expect admission to remain at the same price.

Although it may appear that students get football and basketball tickets for free, they have already paid for those tickets through the incidental fee. Students paid an estimated \$23.53 per term for tickets this year, for a total of \$1,040,640.

Incidental fees, however, will no longer pay for pre-season football games, and students who

wish to attend those games will be charged at the child price, which ranges from \$9-12, although adult prices run close to \$24.

Next year, incidental fees that go toward ticket prices will no longer meet the 50 percent of fair market value the Athletic Department asks for because of the significant increase in ticket values. The funding change for pre-season tickets was made as a part of the negotiations between the ADFC and Athletic Department as a way to compensate for the loss.

About three weeks ago, the ASUO senate approved a 5 percent increase to the ADFC, the senate committee that handles incidental funding that goes to the Athletic Department, but this won't cover the loss. An increase of more than 12 percent would have been necessary to combat the lost costs, Sen. Jennifer Greenough said.

Greenough added that because

of the 5 percent increase, the incidental fee amount students pay for tickets could change, but not significantly.

While final decisions have not been made, the ADFC has been working with the Athletic Department to explore options to make up for the expenses, aside from charging for pre-season football games instead of using incidental fee money.

Sen. Greg Zimel said the ADFC understands the Athletic Department's need for revenue, but that it may take a few years before incidental fees will reach the 50 percent mark again.

"We understand they need a raise," he said. "Because of the popularity of the Ducks, ticket prices have skyrocketed, and we can't keep up with what we pay."

The Athletic Department had suggested students pay an additional \$2-3 for tickets at the ticket office to bring in more money and

serve as an incentive for students to actually use tickets they pick up.

Sandy Walton, senior assistant athletic director, said the percentage of students who use tickets they pick up for pre-season games is extremely low. Walton also mentioned there have been times only half of the tickets picked up were actually used. She added that ticket usage increases "tremendously" when classes start, but is still always under 100 percent.

"Tickets are getting awfully wasted, although it's not as bad as pre-season games," she said. "As long as tickets are free, they don't have as much value. ... It's no big deal if students didn't use tickets they picked up, because they didn't pay."

Walton added that especially in instances where the game was sold out, the Athletic Department loses money when students don't

use tickets that were picked up but could have been sold. The department is allowed to start selling tickets set aside for students five days prior to a game.

But Greenough said the committee couldn't agree with the recommendation to charge students for tickets at the office or at the door, because the ASUO is currently investigating the legality of making students pay additional costs for programs partially funded through incidental funds. This includes admission costs for other events, such as cultural nights, put on by student groups. But Greenough added that charging students additionally may be a choice in the future.

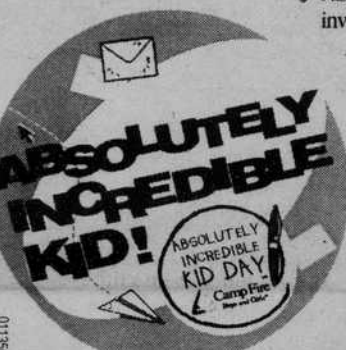
Decreasing the number of student seats was another option discussed, but both the ADFC and Athletic Department didn't want

Turn to ADFC, page 5

Absolutely Incredible Kid Day
Thursday, March 15th

University of Oregon Student-Athletes, in association with Camp Fire Boys and Girls, invite you to participate in the 5th annual Absolutely Incredible Kid Day. This day is nationally recognized and is set aside for caring individuals to write a letter to a child letting them know they're special.

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Candidates hold strong for spring

■ ASUO Executive candidates are taking a breather while waiting until spring term

By Beata Mostafavi
Oregon Daily Emerald

ASUO presidential candidates are taking some time off from heavy campaign extravaganzas — and are ready to also give students a small break from election drama.

The Executive general election was put on hold March 4 and the ASUO Constitution Court will decide Friday whether to uphold Bret Jacobson and Matt Cook's disqualification from the race. With a grievance filed against candidates Nilda Brooklyn and Joy Nair asking for their disqualification, it is now completely uncertain who will appear on the general election ballot.

An election for just the ballot measures was halted Wednesday after five student senators filed a grievance against the Multicultural Center measure. With Dead Week and Finals Week off-limits to elections, voting won't happen until spring term at the earliest.

For now, all candidates agree that campaign tactics should be light, at least for the next week, to avoid overkill, which could have the undesirable effect of making students tired of the election altogether.

Brooklyn and Nair, who took the lead in the primary, were prepared last week to start indulging in strong general-election campaign strategies, and both say the delay hasn't lessened their fervor.

"I was excited to go this week," Brooklyn said. "But that excitement hasn't dissolved. We just have more prep time, and it also means we'll do better in our classes this week."

Both of the other teams said they will approach the next three weeks with the mindset that it will be their names on the ballot.

Oliver said he is confident that his grievance against Jacobson and Cook, which led to their disqualifi-

cation, will hold its ground in court. He said he will continue campaign efforts. He filed a grievance after Jacobson's and Cook's campaign distributed fliers in the residence halls.

Bailey added that until the court rules otherwise, he and Oliver are still front-runners in the Executive race.

"Until a reverse decision is made, we are in the general election, which means we have a shot in winning this," he said. "We have to move forward as planned."

But Jacobson and Cook said they appealed the ASUO Elections Board's decision to disqualify them because they have a strong case, and are looking forward to being put back on the ballot.

"A large part of our effort will be protecting campus democracy and overturning the Election Board's decision," Jacobson said.

Although the candidates may have almost three weeks of preparation time for the election, they aim to find a balance between making students drown in a sea of fliers and posters up until voting day and forgetting candidate's names completely.

"We don't think it's good for the

whole student population to continue heavy campaigning. ... Students will grow weary of that," Jacobson said. "But we will continue to talk to groups who we think would benefit from our new approach to student government."

Brooklyn and Nair plan to use the extra time to get feedback from groups and continue to prepare "surprises" they have in store for campus when election time comes. They said meanwhile it's hard to encourage students to vote when there's no set date.

"This is an opportunity to see what people think about our message so far," Brooklyn said. "And we're excited to get more people involved. But you can't tell people to get out the vote when you can't tell them when to vote."

Bailey and Oliver said they plan to "just relax" for the next week, but will continue to design advertisements and also meet with groups they haven't talked to. They said their biggest concern is that students will lose interest because the election has been "drawn out," and that will decrease the already-low voter turnout.

"This will be the third time students have to vote," Bailey said. "But we have to maintain support and interest in the election."

Cook said that although it may be harder to campaign if elections take place after spring break, this also gives students more time to get informed. He added that the delay won't harm anyone's campaign, but will just put off their plans for a couple of weeks.

Candidates also recognize that final exams and projects will be the top priority for many students until the term ends, and that many may appreciate less campaigning by the candidates.

"We have to be respectful of the fact that students came to the U of O to go to school, not just to vote for ASUO president and vice president," Brooklyn said.



BAILEY



BROOKLYN



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