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Commentator waits to hear PFC decision

■ The student magazine filed a grievance after its funding request was tabled because of political wording in the mission statement

By Danielle Gillespie
Oregon Daily Emerald

The ASUO Programs Finance Committee on Tuesday will make its final decision on the Commentator's resubmitted mission and goals statement — and then its budget for 2002-03.

The Commentator will reappear before PFC in the EMU Board Room at 6 p.m.

On Jan. 21, PFC tabled the budget, requesting that the terms "left wing," "political" and "conservatism" be removed from the magazine's mission and goals statement. The Commentator filed a grievance with the ASUO Constitution Court, and Jan. 29, the Constitution Court dismissed the case because PFC had not made a formal decision concerning the budget or the mission statement.

"They had no basis to file a grievance because we simply tabled the issue for further discussion," PFC chairwoman Mary Elizabeth Madden said.

Commentator publisher Bret Jacobson said the court may have dismissed his grievance, but he did achieve part of his goal.

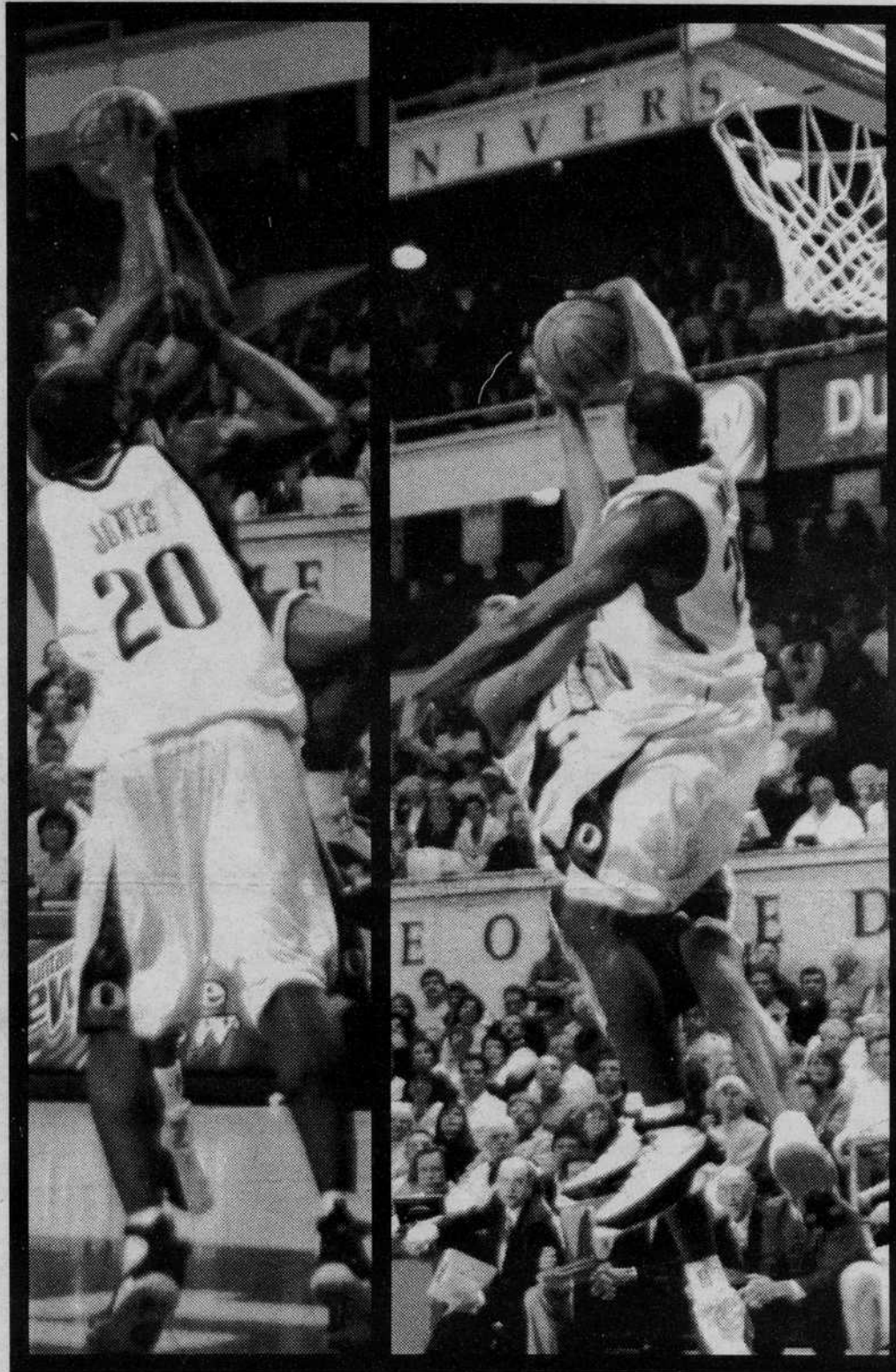
"They did what I wanted, which was to give the PFC an advisory on how to approach these mission statements," Jacobson said.

In its decision, the court provided PFC with an advisory outlining the guidelines established by the U.S. Supreme Court's March 2000 decision on *Southworth v. the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System*.

The *Southworth* decision changed the allocation of student incidental fees in universities across the country. Although the case did not directly affect the University of Oregon, the administration found it in its best interest to change some budgetary policies in the

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Split-second rejection



Thomas Patterson Emerald

Oregon's Freddie Jones shows off his athleticism, meeting USC's Errick Craven in mid-air and taking the ball from him in the first half of the Ducks' 73-69 victory Saturday at McArthur Court. For complete coverage, turn to sports on page 5.

PFC carries on despite a major accounting error

■ An ASUO accounting coordinator miscalculated PFC funding needs, so the committee needs to recall some budgets

By Kara Cogswell
Oregon Daily Emerald

ASUO Programs Finance Committee members continued with business as usual last week, despite discovering they had more than a half million dollars less to give out to student groups than they had originally budgeted for.

In November, ASUO Accounting Coordinator Jennifer Creighton accidentally calculated the cost of some programs for one term instead of three — making the groups appear to cost about \$536,000 less than they actually did. PFC used that figure to set the entire programs budget.

Now, PFC must recall, and possibly cut, many student groups' budgets that have already been approved for next year. After regular budget hearings Tuesday, PFC will decide which budgets to recall.

PFC chairwoman Mary Elizabeth Madden said while the committee has been more cautious about giving large increases since learning about the error, that doesn't mean the PFC won't give more money to groups that need it.

"We're not going to stop giving increases to groups that deserve them," she said.

During last week's hearings, 14 of 16 groups that submitted budgets received increases, ranging from less than one percent to more than 200 percent.

The Asian-Pacific American Law Student Association and the Hawaii Club received the largest increases. PFC more than tripled APALSA's budget, raising it from \$735 for 2001-02 to \$2,223 for 2002-03. Madden said a significant portion of the APALSA increase was allocated to create a new stipend position.

PFC set the Hawaii Club's 2002-03 budget at \$7,073 — a 43.76 percent increase. Madden said PFC gave the Hawaii Club an increase largely to give the group additional funding for its annual luau held at McArthur Court.

Another large increase went to Programs and Assessments, a budget that includes ASUO administrative staff and other programs' administrative costs. PFC increased the P & A budget from \$105,422 to \$143,087 to cover a variety of expenses, including the creation of a new accounting coordinator position and salary increases for ASUO controllers, Madden said.

Only two groups — the American Institute of Architecture Students and the Student Bar Association — received decreases. Both were less than 10 percent.

PFC defunded several groups scheduled to have hearings last week for failure to submit a budget. Some of these groups, such as the Returning Students Association, plan to submit an appeal for a new hearing date, Madden said.

On Thursday night, PFC members voted to hear appeals from MEChA and the Warsaw Sports Marketing Club. MEChA is appealing

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Campus to add Men's Center

■ The campus Men's Health Team uncovers problems facing men and looks to find some solutions

By Leon Tovey
Oregon Daily Emerald

Studies show that men are more prone to high-risk behavior, violence and suicide than women. But according to University Health Center director Dr. Gerald Fleischli, men are less likely to seek help for their problems.

To address that issue, a Men's Health Team consisting of several students and staff members — including Fleischli — has proposed a campus Men's Center aimed at creating an environment where men can go to get help and support. The health team is holding the first in a series of open meetings aimed at gathering student input on the center today from 3 to 4 p.m. in the EMU Rogue Room.

The proposed center is the result of more than three years of research by the health team and would operate as an ASUO program similar to the Women's Center and would serve as a referral and information source for issues such as substance abuse, anger management and diversity issues. It would also sponsor and co-sponsor events aimed at improving overall men's health.

"Men's health is related to the whole male culture; hide your feelings and don't ask for help," Fleischli said.

Fleischli pointed to statistics indicating that men commit suicide as much as eight times as often as women, and that male suicide rates are highest for men age 20 to 24 years.

Equally troubling to the Men's Health Team were studies indicating that college-age men are more likely to use drugs and alcohol, engage in high-risk sex with multiple partners and commit academic infractions. At the University, men make up 80 percent of students referred to the administration with conduct concerns, according to Jon Davies, senior staff psychologist at the University Counseling Center.

Focus group research conducted by the health team found that University men felt they couldn't ask for help, Davies said.

The most common reason for that hesitance, Davies said, was the "What will my buddies say?" attitude that is so common among men. Davies said that in one instance, a student told him that he once injured his hand during a basketball game with friends, but didn't seek help until the next day because he didn't want his friends to think he was weak. When he did get medical attention, he found out his hand was broken.

Because the attitudes that lead to that kind of behavior can also lead to problems such as sexual harassment and assault, the Men's Health Team also sought input from the Women's Center. Women's Center members

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