

Shuttle diplomacy

In light of recent activity against student governments at several community college campuses in Oregon we would like to take this opportunity to inject a spirit of isolationism into the problem.

Could the following mock news story become a reality?

In a surprise press conference Tuesday, Associated Student Government President Mike McCarty announced that ASG Business Manager Maureen Kearney has been appointed to the newly created position "secretary of state".

In this new position, Kearney will be engaged in shuttle diplomacy at high level COSSAC conferences at community colleges throughout the state where there is great concern over anti-student government forces threatening to abolish those governments.

Kearney was chosen because of her well-known diplomacy and tact in handling disturbances in regular ASG meetings.

"Besides," said McCarty, "I think women make the best secretaries."

Kearney's diplomatic plans have not been announced but high level sources in the Student Activities Office have revealed that her main purpose is to deal with conspirator Pat Rice.

Rice is a former high-level COSSAC official who has been using knowledge gained in that position to help anti-government student forces in their guerilla warfare against their governments.

This new appointment is the second in a series of attempts by McCarty to quell these uprisings before community colleges throughout Oregon fall like dominoes.

"If these rebels succeed on one campus," said McCarty, "the freedom of community colleges throughout Oregon will be in serious jeopardy."

Last Tuesday, McCarty sent a bus-load of technical advisors to Linn-Benton Community College to help the government there oversee elections that would decide its fate.

"We effectively controlled anti-government forces there and they failed to get the two-thirds majority needed to abolish student government on that campus," said McCarty.

These technical advisors have been undergoing intensive training in order to be prepared to deal with these uprisings whenever and wherever they occur, according to McCarty.

When asked if trained troops, equipment or monetary aid would be sent in the wake of the technical advisors if the situation warrants it, McCarty declined to comment.

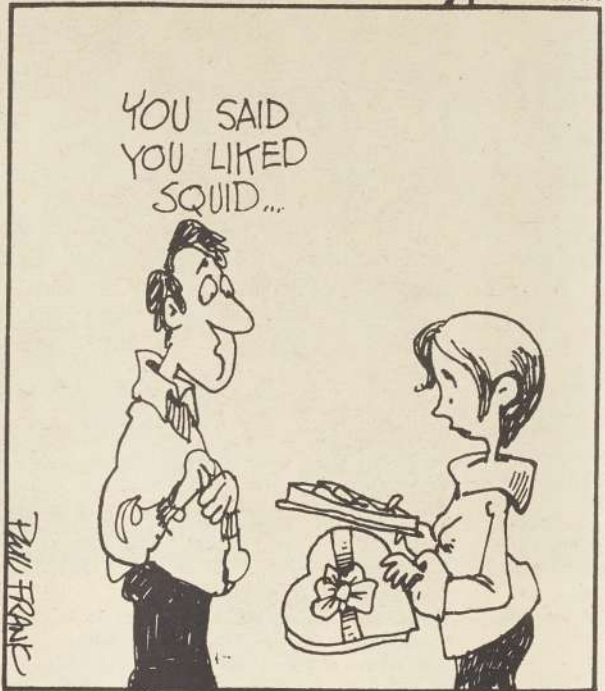
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FRANKLY SPEAKING ...by phil frank



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Other viewpoints

Willpower vs. gravity in LBCC government battle

Editor's note: The following guest editorial was an editorial written in the Feb. 1 issue of the Commuter, the student newspaper at Linn-Benton Community College in Albany.

By Cliff Neale
LBCC Commuter

With all the talk about Disbanding the Student Association and all of the talk about restructuring the same, students are beginning to wander about in dazed condition. They have been bit by the onslaught of campaign information from both factions, some of it correct and some of it not so correct.

For instance, the Student Association (that's their real name), although not openly claiming to have done so, has led the voting student to believe that the abolishment of the Association would lead to the cancellation of activities on campus. This is not so.

The Association has not directly stated that disbandment would do away with activities, but it has stated that it would do away with the position of activities director, a Student Association office.

Activities would continue, as they are budgeted for by a separate fund than that of the Student Association. What kind of activities and how they are determined may take some reorganization on the part of the administration, but activities would certainly continue.

Now all of this is pretty serious business, what with dealing with student and tax-gener-

ated dollars, a point that Judie Engel and Mike Hardy have gone to great length to show. There remains one small problem, however, to their rationale; what will be done with the near \$9,000 that is presently allocated for the function of a Student Association? When asked this question, the proponents for the dissolution of the ASLBCC only come up with vague replies about construction of new facilities and programs. Nothing concrete.

Is it any wonder that the student is in a quandary about where to place his loyalties?

It doesn't end there by any means. Both the Association and the Engel-Hardy team appear to have gotten too emotional about the entire situation.

Engel and Hardy have been attending Student Association meetings under the guise of being interested in what "their Student Association is doing." However, this interest appears to be taking the form of seeking campaign information. Their concern surfaces only when the matter of spending money is brought up, especially when the expenditure may be utilized in a manner that can call attention to an alleged misuse of student funds.

In what should be a serious political issue, the Student Association has taken two different stands—that of laughing about it when the subject is brought up, and that of campaigning against dissolution.

Campaigning against disbandment is what one would expect from an organization in this situation. Time lines for restructure

have been up-dated, handout about what the Association is about and what it has accomplished have been seen about campus, and an active campaign to gain new members has been obvious.

In fact, it is possibly the activity the student body has witnessed from the Association in recent years.

Engel and Hardy have been campaigning in a traditional manner—posters. The use of posters to stress an issue has been so overused on this campus that most people don't bother to read them. Posters do take on the juvenile attitude that surrounds student body elections—bright colors, provocative slogans and lack of saying anything pertinent.

In fact, the entire issue appears to be falling one micro-point below dirty name calling. ASLBCC President Phil Sarro has insisted that Engel and Hardy meet in a formal debate of the issue. This event took place on Jan. 30.

Although the Association pledged to aid students in facilitating their needs, Sarro has refused to offer any information to Engel and Hardy, such as minutes of senate meetings, budget expenditures or even a "howdy-do". HMMM, but it makes sense.

Perhaps when this is all over, an award should be offered to both the Student Association and the Engel-Hardy team. It could be a granite pillar erected in the courtyard, a monument to willpower defying good sense and gravity.

Clackamas Community College

