

opinion

Place your election bets

Step up, step up. Place your bets on the Associated Student Government election wheel of fortune.

We have an important issue at hand. ASG elections are just around the corner, and that means that students will choose the officers of their choice for the 1979-80 school year at the College.

We feel that there are some exceptionally good candidates up for the offices of president, vice president, business manager and secretary.

But the election wheel of fortune is not just a game of luck and chance. You have a chance to find out about the candidates before you cast your votes.

Question and answer periods were held both Monday and Tuesday in the cafeteria. This left the candidates wide-open for comments and questions from anyone who wanted to voice them.

Election and candidate information can be sought through the ASG office in the Community Center, or by dialing 656-2631, ext. 245.

There is one concern about the election that we feel should be clarified. There are two groups running together on tickets. Don Porter, Marilyn Bushway and Darren MacFarlane are running on one ticket and Cindy Bennett, Richard Weiss, Ron Allen and Beth Thompson are running on another ticket. Bill Judd and Denise Kline are separately running. According to an ASG spokesman, the tickets are solely used for campaign purposes. Students are not being asked to vote on a slate.

We feel that this clarification is very important for students to understand when voting. You do not vote for a group of officers, but vote for an individual officer.

Last year there was a 300 percent increase in students voting for ASG officers over the last year's election. We think that's commendable. We also believe in Dave Rigg's, present ASG vice president, theory that there is really no such thing as student apathy and that students don't get involved because people keep telling them that they won't.

So, involved students, we'll see you at the polls April 24 through 27.



guest shot

Editors note: This editorial is reprinted from the *Commuter*, the weekly student newspaper from Linn-Benton community College.

By Kathy Buschauer
Managing Editor

Like money, love does not grow on trees. If it did, its value could be reduced to about that of a walnut. However, in today's divorce-riddled society, such reductions have become the fate of many an ill-spawned marriage.

Some connubial cynics have tried alternative kinds of cohabitation. Although these alternatives have become more embedded in our accepted values, they too are flawed. As estranged, unmarried couples have discovered, the lack of a marriage license does not eliminate the problems of property settlement.

To rectify the situation, California courts have ruled

that "unmarried cohabitants" have the right to file property suits upon dissolution of their relationships. Since approval of this type of legal action was granted, the state reports from 1,000 suits have been filed in an attempt to acquire a legal division of property amassed during the relationship. Perhaps the most publicized of these suits is the case of Marvin vs. Marvin.

In a trial that is expected to last until the end of this month, Michelle Triola Marvin is suing actor Lee Marvin for about half the earnings he made during their six-year cohabitation. If she wins, Michelle could gain up to one-and-a-half million dollars. She would also, no doubt, gain the notoriety of setting a legal precedent.

Should she win her case, the resulting mandate would not do much to aid the evolution of marital roles. Instead, it would merely compound the confusion about settlements.

Actually, married women and cohabitating women should be treated equally because they're in the same basic type of relationship. If married women are denied alimony payments as they are with increasing frequency in divorce cases, then why should an ex-cohabitant receive such payment? In the same vein, if an ex-cohabitant is denied alimony, why should it be granted to a married woman (child support exempt)?

Consistency should be established in settlement agreements. Either settlement claims should be viewed by the law as totally groundless in ALL cases or honored enthusiastically in ALL cases.

Maybe the solution for women in any kind of marriage-like relationship is for them to seek independence thereby avoiding the compensation issue altogether.

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