

Ryan victim of ASG mess

Why did ASG Senate Candidate Sue Ryan end up as a write-in when her name should have been on the official ballot?

Ryan claims her petition was 'legally' submitted at noon at least one hour before the deadline.

ASG Vice President Neva Barker says some of the candidates missed being included on the ballot because they were supposed to be in by 5 p.m. that day.

"I took them (the petitions) down (to the county elections office) a couple hours before the filing deadline," she said.

The candidate petitions were brought to Ben Marberry of the Clackamas County elections office around 3 p.m. or 4 p.m., he said.

The three stooges would admire the coordination that went into this year's student body election. "I think that this year's elections went good, and we had a tie," said Vice President Barker. At least one candidate, Ryan, got stuck as a write-in for unclear reasons. Some write-in votes were not counted due to a misunderstanding in voting procedures. Many studentbody cards were not initialed to prevent someone from voting more than once.

In my opinion, no one was in charge or knew exactly what was going on. Aside from all this, student body elections "went good". (sic)

I don't see any reason to rush the petitions down to the

elections office. The county election office did not set a deadline. No one who was involved with the election can explain exactly why Ryan's name was omitted from the ballot.

There might have been some kind of breakdown in communication or Sue's name might have been left off the list taken to the courthouse, or maybe something else. Student government in action.

Many voters made the mistake of punching in write-ins. It is easy to see how this could happen since, write-in candidates names were printed beside of the other candidates. Write-in votes must be counted by hand. If a write-in name is punched instead of being correctly written in the vote will not be counted by the computer.

According to Terry Kemp, Ed DeGraw, and Randy Evans who separated write-ins from the other ballots, there were quite a few improperly punched write-in votes. These votes were not counted.

The county elections office said that these votes could have been counted if they had been told before hand.

"I brought it to their attention

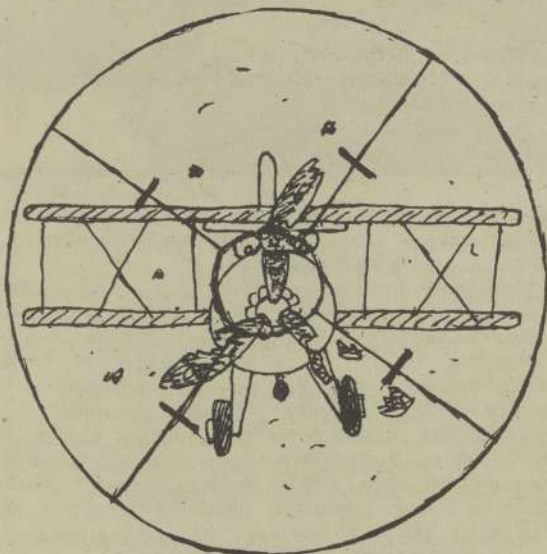
that many people were mistakenly punching in my name. They said that they would remind everyone, but they only told a few people," said Ryan.

A voter's studentbody card is supposed to be initialed to prevent someone from voting more than once. When I interviewed Tammy Edmunsten, Ed DeGraw, Andy Evans and Sue Ryan, Ed brought up the fact that he had to remind the poll-watcher to initial his studentbody card.

When others checked their studentbody cards, they found that they had not been signed. This may be just a coincidence, but I imagine there are a bunch of voters who did not get their voters cards initialed.

"The only ones who didn't get on the ballot were the ones who turned their (petitions) in at the last minute. She (Ryan) didn't have enough to win anyway," said Barker. Mistakes happen. The student election mess seems to be more of a case of apathy. Ryan summed it up "I don't think Neva Barker really gives a [redacted]".

MIKE ROSE



Etzel says Election votes do count

Presidential Election Tied, One Vote the Deciding Factor!

This could be the news following the Nov. 4th election. As close as the race for President is this year--and many other candidates and ballot measures--it is a real possibility. This was the case in 1960, when, in his first bid for the Presidency, Richard Nixon lost by one electoral vote.

A more familiar case was on Feb. 24, 1868, when by a vote of 126-47, Andrew Johnson became the first and only American President to be impeached.

After Johnson had been subpoenaed and the House Judiciary Committee drafted charges against him, a trial was set for April 1868. In the Senate Rostrum, Chief Justice Samuel Chase took his seat for the trial of Johnson. After

1,640 pages of statements and proceedings had been read, the trial ended May 7, and the Senate adjourned.

When the Senate reconvened May 11, the voting was tied.

VanWinkle of West Virginia voted guilty, and Henderson of Missouri voted for an acquittal. Now one vote either way would decide whether Andrew Johnson would be culpable or exculpable.

Governor Ross of Kansas rose. The audience was tense. All eyes were upon him as quietly he said, "Not Guilty."

I am writing for the youth vote of our nation. I am interested and concerned with the apathetic attitudes of the voting population in our country.

As Charles F. Kettering once said, "My interests are in the future because I am going to spend the rest of my life there."

My concern is with the adult population in this country, because only 33 percent of them voted in the presidential election of 1976. How strong can the youth of our nation be in the future if they follow the examples being set by the adult citizenry? How important is the college vote, if we college students don't set the example?

If someone or something still persuades you that your vote is

unimportant, of little consequence, or no significance, I beg you to consider.

Here are just a few of the instances in which one vote weighed the scales for a decision of historical importance:

In 1645, ONE VOTE, gave Oliver Cromwell control over England.

In 1649, ONE VOTE, caused Charles I of England to be executed.

In 1776, ONE VOTE, gave our country the English language instead of German.

In 1845, ONE VOTE, allowed Texas into the Union.

In 1876, ONE VOTE, changed France from a monarchy to a republic.

In 1923, ONE VOTE, gave Adolf Hitler leadership of the Nazi Party.

In 1941, ONE VOTE, saved the Selective Service Act from being cancelled just 12 weeks before the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

--ERIC ETZEL
ASG President

Where have all the voters gone?

America has been held hostage for 452 days! Not in some far away embassy but right here in our own homes. The first terrorist to aim his weapon at the soon to be weary, American voter was named Phillip Crane. It was on that fateful day in August of '78 that he started the cause.

Since that day, at least a dozen fellow terrorists joined him in his assault on that single position. The terrorists immediately began to fight amongst themselves. Now, after a year and three months have passed, only two have survived--with one, although beaten, still pushing on.

The cost of their fighting has been expensive. When Nov. 4th finally rolls around, \$165 million will have been the total amount of money spent on the campaign. The first stage of battle cost only \$100 million in its eight months of exhausting battle. After the eight months, after the dust cleared, and the women and children came out

of hiding, only three terrorists remained, still willing to go on.

Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, and John Anderson are into their final weeks of battle. Their aid deteriorating and their money running out, they still are moving on.

Yet, in all those 452 days of media attention, with all those millions (165) spent to get someone to pay attention to them, only 54.4 percent of the hostages are paying attention and are intending to do something about these people.

Why is this? What's wrong with a national election process in which only 54.4 percent of its voters actually vote. Is the voter a) tired of listening to over a year of political double-talk, or is the voter b) just a lazy ass who wouldn't get off his duff if the U.S. economy depended upon it. Does the American voter c) distrust the people he will be voting for, of just d) doesn't care about the elections, period.

Obviously, there is

something wrong with an election process that interests barely half the voters. I believe that it is the election process itself, that is keeping the voter away.

The election process is just too long. With an eight-month primary then convention, then the four months before the final election, the voter is just worn out. Millions of dollars have been used to get only half the people interested. I believe that there is a better way to run the election process.

The plan was designed by Representatives Morris Udall and John Ashbrook. They suggest holding four regional primaries a month apart. Starting from the West, and moving to the Mid-West, the South, and finally the East.

This would cut down the period of balloting and reduce the bandwagon effect that dominates the current. This would also cut the length of campaigning and permit the candidates to focus on the one area and its issues at a time. This would finally set free the voters and with less exhausted voters, more votes.

--THOMAS A. RHODES

