

\$13,000 worth of entertainment: Not!

ASG blames high turnover rate

by Jeff Kemp
Staff Writer

Many students tend to take a lighter load during Spring Term because there is usually a lot of other things that they look forward to doing. If you're like most, you were probably expecting a lot of outdoor concerts and other fun activities on campus this spring.

There's only one problem with this seemingly wonderful idea; Associated Student Government has no money left to sponsor any events for the remainder of the year. Yes, it's true; high-cost ventures like "Fun Flicks" (\$2,000), "You Laugh You Lose" (\$1,600) and Blizzard of Bucks (\$1,500) have dwindled the entertainment budget for Spring Term, the term that should provide the most entertainment for the students because of the nice weather. Why weren't more low-cost events, such as family night movies ("Aladdin" - \$695) or concerts (Motherlode - \$300) booked instead of these high-cost events?

What is especially frustrating about this situation is that after we have spent so much money on creating beautiful facilities like the amphitheater that lies between the Gregory Forum, Streeter Hall and the Dye Learning Center, we do not have the funds to take advantage of the space.

"Yes we're out of money," ASG Adviser Norm Berney explained. "Our funds are simply exhausted, but I think we'll learn from our mistakes this year."

Yes, everyone, let's just

say that we could have done better, but since we didn't, try not to worry about it. Let's not question the reasons why we don't have any money left, let's just count our losses and move on.

I say no. Let's not forget about this. I realize that there are some people that could care less about entertainment and think that a college is strictly a place to have your nose in between the pages of a book, but I tend to think that the atmosphere of the college is very important. Why can't we learn and have a good time while doing it?

Nine new ASG offices were filled at the April 19 council meeting. The entertainment coordinator position is currently resting on the shoulders of its third victim, Shannon Chinn. Is it possible that the turnover of ASG members has left the responsibility of booking events in the hands of people who weren't chosen by the students to make those decisions?

During my research for this story, several attempts were made to allow ASG members to discuss the entertainment budget. No members were willing to comment and referred me to their Adviser Norm Berney.

"I wasn't even aware that there was such a low schedule of entertainment this spring," said new ASG Vice President Liberty Hunt, who was the only member willing to be quoted.

There are some activities available to students this term: "Pet Facilitated Therapy" (May 4) or "An Evening with the Portland Baroque Orchestra" (May 26). Although ASG did not plan

or pay for these events, they are supposed to be "our voice" and the representation of our wants and needs. I suggest they go out and ask the students what they're interested in. I mean really go and find out, not form a "Student Response Percentage Analysis" or whatever else it is they do to decide what we enjoy, instead of caving in to any event that sounds good. We would be able to afford some local talent so that we could keep the money we spend on entertainment within the state.

the entertainment coordinator, then Harold Isackson who was let go by ASG, in correlation with ASG Adviser Norm Berney and the rest of ASG, should have scheduled a host of low-cost events (\$250 to \$300) that could be spread out evenly throughout the year and an occasional big-name event like "Fun Flicks" to bring the large crowds. Instead what happened, according to Berney, was that Isackson made arrangements to spend more than the budget called for with Kramer Entertain-

ment Industries. He had ASG's approval but this created a serious problem because with ASG already making verbal agreements to contract their entertainment with Kramer, they couldn't just walk out of the deal.

The solution was to commit to three acts that totalled more than \$5,000 in order to avoid hard feelings. "We had no choice," Berney explained. "We were locked into spending the money. Young people 18 to 19 years old make mistakes."

What would be nice to see for next year is a weekly concert. But the problem with this is, where? If it rains, it seems people in the Community Center aren't quite ready to embrace any entertainment with open arms.

"We can't have music

more than once a week in the CC because of all the complaints about the noise," Berney commented.

My question is why does ASG spend so much money on events like Tom Grant, an event that is arguably the biggest attraction of the year, when we have a great jazz program on the campus that we fail to utilize enough? Isn't promoting our own resources more important than bringing in a popular face?

"We should emphasize local music and should be looking

"I believe they (ASG) spent over \$13,000 on it (entertainment) this year. I don't think they got much for their money."

—John Hooley
Assistant Dean of Humanities

"I think the students need to be the voice," Berney said.

When I came to Clackamas, I realized that the college atmosphere would be much different than if I would have gone to a four-year institution. The first day of school did a lot to ease my fears of attending a "go to class, go home" community college. If you'll remember, a local band named "The Pseudo Hippies" played in front of Barlow Hall. I think that band was the best entertainment I've seen here, and as I found out later, was one of the least-expensive events ASG sponsored all year.

"There's a real argument as to if we should have entertainment at all," Berney said.

What should have happened with the \$13,350 entertainment budget didn't happen this year. The reason for this is that

at these people for the entertainment," Jason Gibson, an ex-ASG member and CCC student remarked.

Most of the problem seems to go back to the turnover of ASG officers.

"There's no sense of continuity. Student government people tend to burn out and go on to something else," Assistant Dean of Humanities John Hooley said.

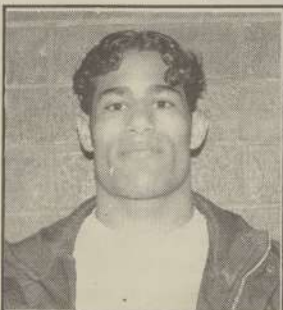
Hooley, who seems to like music as much as the younger generation, is interested in Clackamas' entertainment because he realizes that it is an important facet of the college.

"I believe they (ASG) spent over \$13,000 on it (entertainment) this year. I don't think they got much for their money," Hooley concluded.

Campus Views

Do you feel that ASG has provided \$13,000 worth of entertainment?

Photos by Anjanette Booth Questioning by Jeff Kemp



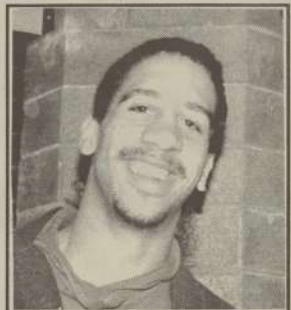
Travis Bonneau
"Maybe \$13 on my "Fun Flick" videotape. As far as 13' G's go, I think some ASG members must be sporting some new clothes."



Sue Ladd
"I wouldn't think so. But the entertainment was much better than in the past."



Trista Giannina
"Compared to last year I haven't seen anything. I haven't even seen one band."



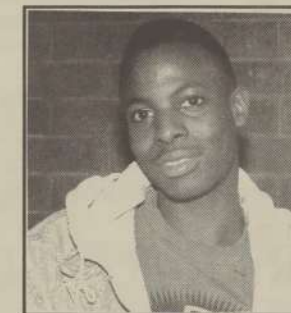
Tyrone Miles
"Hell no. I ain't got no free food, no sun and no band outside. I haven't seen no free school activities. There's no justice at this school."



Steve Towler
"No. They cheated me. They should have had a few cage matches and more blood."



Karl Smith
"I haven't seen all that much this year. I'm here everyday and I just haven't seen it."



Martin Mabuwa
"No. The reason why is because they didn't do anything. I didn't see any bands. I just didn't see anything."