

Pro-, anti-gays voice beliefs

Approximately 50 advocates and opponents of a proposal prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual preference, currently under consideration by the WSU Board of Regents, stated their opinions on the issue at a public hearing here yesterday.

Transcripts of the testimony, given before nearly 80 persons at the hearing, will be presented to the regents to be considered before its June 6 meeting along with written statements submitted to Dean of Students Arthur McCartan.

The proposal is an amendment to the Washington Administrative code which the university operates under, stipulating disciplinary action may be taken against individuals or groups who discriminate against and deprive a person of their civil rights, educational or employment opportunities, and housing.

The proposal, originally submitted to the ASWSU assembly by former ASWSU President Tom Pirie was approved by the assembly and University Senate last spring.

The proposal also prohibits restriction from enjoying membership and participating in recognized university organizations, in violations of the rule.

Much of the opposition to the proposal came as an attack on the moral issues underlying the regents' pending decision.

"We are really dealing with a moral issue here," John Browler said. He said God would bring judgement against immoral people, citing examples of Sodom and Gomorrah, the Roman Empire, and Nazi Germany. "If this nation doesn't turn around starting here with the regents in Pullman, we'll soon fall under God's judgement."

"The addition of the clause is against God's word," said former student Lynne Little. After reading from the Book of Deuteronomy, she asked the regents to "uphold God's laws" and warned God could deliver a curse if the regents condone homosexual behavior by amending the code.

One student said she opposed the addition because "you are condoning sex outside of marriage," urging the board to "disregard what men would say" and make its decision "knowing that in your decision you stand before God."

Pete Pasquale, who led opposition to the Gay Awareness Committee funding and recognition by ASWSU last year, said that while the term "sexual preference" stat-



Evergreen/Rich Hamack

HOW DID YOU get back to Pullman? This boy and his faithful pooch await a friendly driver for that long trip back to the wheat fields.

ed in the referendum means homosexual now, it may come to include bestiality and incest as acceptable practices in the future. He does not feel the gay community here is the object of significant discriminatory practices which would merit the change in the amendment.

An advocate of the proposal said he hopes the regents will consider the issue

of discrimination and not the moral issues involved in alternate sexual lifestyles.

Another proponent, staff member Joe Caruthers, said the proposal does not mean acceptance of gay lifestyles, but will prohibit discrimination on the basis of it. Discrimination is a "fearful and shameful" situation, he said.

Johnny Saldana, assistant speech

professor, said he is in favor of the proposal because of the oppression he has felt here. "I do not wish to seek tenure here because of the oppression I have encountered" A Catholic, Saldana said gays are not against Christianity. He implored the regents to allow him to live a happy life and grow. "Let me live in dignity," he said.

Anderson loses 14 local delegates to Reagan

The strong showing made by presidential candidate John Anderson at the Whitman County Republican caucuses in March went for naught as all 14 delegates elected to the state convention, from this county will be Ronald Reagan supporters.

Anderson co-chairman in Whitman County, Scott Waller, blamed his candidate's poor showing at the county convention in Colfax Saturday night on the absence of nearly one-third of Anderson's delegates, poor organization (eliminating a possible coalition) and what he called "foolish and glutinous behavior on the part of the Reagan supporters.

Waller said the Anderson contingent, many of whom are new to the political process this year, came away from the convention bitter and disillusioned with the system.

The results of the convention are not final, Waller said, and added he will try to organize the moderates in the county to try and unseat what he called the "short-sided conservatives."

Bill Knight, co-chairman of the Whitman County Reagan campaign, said the process was very simple, his side had more votes than the other sides.

Knight said Waller called him Saturday morning with a proposal that would give Reagan, Bush and Anderson a proportional number of delegates based on the showings at the earlier caucuses.

He could not ask Reagan supporters to go over to Bush or Anderson, Knight said, just to create more proportional represen-

tation. He added: "I don't think Scott Waller would have sent any of his supporters to Reagan if he had the horses."

Waller believes he was "railroaded" and says there was a concentrated effort on the part of conservatives in the party to totally exclude Anderson.

He said the conservatives were scared by the showing Anderson made at the precinct level and said to themselves, "we will stop these Anderson freaks."

Knight said his organization did nothing unusual to gain all the delegates, and he

said he feels his group played fairly at the convention. "We followed all the rules and that's just the way the system works."

Part of the problem in the Anderson camp was absenteeism. Only 56 of 75 Anderson delegates showed up at the convention. Waller had harsh words for those who did not come, many of whom are students.

Waller was also critical of the Bush camp, saying it was disorganized and would not participate in a coalition to stop

Reagan because it was afraid of cutting its own throat

A feeling on the part of the Anderson supporters new to the political process, that it is impossible to work within the system, is the worst thing to come out of the convention, Waller said.

Waller said there is a strong possibility his group will try to challenge the legality of the way the delegates were seated at the convention. He would not specify the grounds that could be used.

Iranian student grounded in Canada

One Iranian university student is stranded in Canada after President Carter's announcement last Monday severing diplomatic relations with Iran and prohibiting entry into this country by any Iranians.

Mitra Monghate, a fourth-year architecture student, and five Iranian students from the UI were part of an architecture field trip to Vancouver, B.C. last week. More than 100 students from this university and the UI were involved in the trip.

The students, who were accompanied by three UI professors left on the field trip three days before Carter's Monday announcement.

The students tried to re-enter the country Wednesday but the six Iranian students were not let back into the country. However, one Iranian student from UI was allowed to re-enter the country because he is married to an American citizen, said UI News Bureau Assistant Manager Ann Wheelock.

The Iranian students have applied to the U.S. State Department for re-entry visas. Wheelock said it could be anywhere from one week to a month before the State

Department makes a decision on whether to grant the students permission to re-enter the country.

All of the students have valid U.S. visas.

Monghate is staying in Vancouver with friends, said International Relations Director V.N. Bhatia.

Bhatia said there are probably "hundreds and hundreds of university students across the nation" that are in the same situation as Monghate.

"The matter is in the hands of the U.S. government now," he added.

Bhatia said the architecture department had been notified about Monghate's situation and it would try and help if she is allowed to re-enter the country.

The UI students are staying at the University of British Columbia until their predicament is resolved, Wheelock said.

The UI is not funding their stay but is trying to get their money to them, she said.

UI spokesman John Cooper said he was told by officials at the local U.S. Consulate. The consulate is recommending strongly that the students be allowed to return to classes.