

Candidates discuss minority problems in coalition forum

by Michael R. Wickline
Assistant News Editor

The seven ASWSU presidential tickets yesterday discussed minority recruitment and discrimination and how the newly formed Minority Student Coalition could work with the ASWSU Assembly to remedy these two problems during a debate yesterday in CUB 222.

Near the end of the hour-and-a-half debate sponsored by the coalition, Joe Guerra, co-chairperson of the coalition, asked the presidential candidates if they would support the permanent installation of a member of the coalition to serve on the ASWSU Assembly.

Every candidate, except Ken Crowley, told the coalition that he or she would not support mandating that a coalition member serve on the Assembly.

"I don't think that it is impossible," Crowley said of the coalition Assembly member proposal.

However, the coalition should not forget to do whatever is required, including demonstrating on campus, to increase campus awareness of minority problems and ultimately get minority concerns addressed by student leaders, the Faculty Senate, university administrators and legislators, he added.

Brian Burnett paused after Guerra asked him whether he supported a coalition Assembly member and said, "That really is a catch-22 question — you are damned if you do and you're damned if you don't."

Burnett said he would not support the proposal because a coalition member serving on the Assembly probably would not be really effective pushing for minority concerns. "I don't think making a permanent minority position on the Assembly is going to be in your best interests."

After all, it will take 11 Assembly members to get something through the Assembly and there probably are better ways for the coalition to get its concerns addressed, he added.

Harry Bader said he was against the proposal because student leaders would be forced to ask themselves what other groups such as the Gay Alliance or the Association of Women Students are unique or discriminated against like members of the minority coalition and deserve a permanent Assembly position.

"You just have to trust me that I will address those concerns because I am the fireball that is going to get student concerns addressed by the Assembly," he told the coalition.

Theresa Schulz opposed the proposal, but added that there has to be some way the coalition can communicate its goals and ideas to the Assembly.

Neil Thomas said he favors using a "specialist" to address these minority concerns without a coalition member serving on the Assembly.

Craig Coonrad called for increasing student awareness of the minority student's problems instead of a coalition Assembly member because that would be ineffective.

Bob Cushing opposed the proposal and added "I would like to see the minority students in the mainstream (of student activities), not just the non-minority students, by clearing the discrimination barriers."

During the coalition's question and answer session, Burnett told the coalition that he does not need to take a survey to know what the students want because Burnett and King have served a total of five years on the Assembly and already know what students want.

That was an obvious reference to Cushing's proposal for sociology students to conduct 24-hour student opinion polls.

Cushing later defended the polls by saying the opinion poll will hold the administration accountable as it sees that students are concerned about minority students in the polls and will listen more to student leaders.

Throughout much of the debate, all of the presidential candidates told the coalition they would increase awareness of the importance of alleviating minority student discrimination and increasing minority student recruitment by lobbying the Legislature, Faculty Senate and the administration.

The candidates also said that minority students' concerns have been virtually ignored by past student leaders and that would change if they were elected.

ASWSU polling sites listed

The primary election to narrow the field of seven executive tickets in student government here will be held tomorrow across campus. Here is where to vote:

District 1, CUB; Districts 2 and 3, Holland Library; District 4, Orton Lobby; District 5, Gannon/Goldsworthy Lobby; District 6, Kruegel-McAllister Lobby; District 7, Stephenson Center; District 8, Regents Lobby; District 9, Wilmer/Davis Dining Hall.

Students living off-campus are in District 1 while Districts 2 and 3 include the fraternities and sororities. District 4 is Rogers and Orton while District 5 includes Gannon, Goldsworthy, Stimson and Waller. District 6 is the Stephenson Complex while District 8 includes Streit, Perham, Regents, Coman and Scott. District 9 includes Community, Davis, Duncan Dunn, McCroskey, Stevens and Wilmer.



Daily Evergreen/Tracy A. Bull

Fun in the sun

Runners in the Sigma Phi Epsilon Heart Fund Run were greeted by hot sunshine for their 7.6-mile trip from Moscow to Pullman Saturday. Mark Semrau, a university student, had the top

time or 39:37, while Joan McGraph, also a student here, was the top finisher among the women in 44:54. 150 people started the race, which raised about \$1,200 for the Heart Association.

Religious references worry WISL

by Michael R. Wickline
Assistant News Editor

Former Washington Intercollegiate State Legislature Gov. Bob Cushing's past religious references in official WISL correspondence eventually may spell doom for the first-year organization, the WISL founder said.

The WISL's 14-member local delegation and newly-elected WISL Gov. Majken Ryherd are worried Cushing's use of salutations such as "In Jesus' Will" and "In Jesus" and biblical passages in official WISL correspondence ultimately could be ruled as violating state laws concerning the separation of church and state, said Melody Murphy, WISL founder and state advisor.

That might be enough for the state to cut off its funding of the organization, revoke the WISL's permission from the Secretary of State's office to use the state seal and stop the group's use of the legislative chambers in Olympia.

However, Cushing said he feels the references were not inappropriate and that the group has nothing to worry about. "I don't think that (the WISL's existence) would be put in jeopardy in any way because there is nothing wrong with what I wrote."

"I think promoting any religious organization is wrong and I don't think I have done that," said Cushing, ASWSU presidential

candidate and a member of the conservative Christian Maranatha Ministries.

In a related development, student Matt Burns asked Cushing during Thursday's presidential candidate forum why Cushing's presidential ticket refused to abide by the \$500 informal campaign spending limit and if Maranatha was sponsoring college campaigns.

"How do we know you are not going to buy the election?" Burns asked.

Cushing said that neither Maranatha Ministries nor any other special interest group was funding his campaign and, "We will spend whatever it takes to reach students."

The WISL's local delegation Wednesday night voted to disassociate itself with Cushing, bar him from any future activity with the organization, ask him to stop referring to his former association with them in campaign statements and literature and to make a public statement that his views do not represent the organization's views.

The delegation acted after Murphy found seven of Cushing's letters on WISL correspondence containing what Murphy called "constitutionally questionable" language.

The local WISL delegation had just returned from the organization's first session held April 4-8 in the legislative chambers in

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Mink says women more influential this year

by Jeff Cox
Evergreen Staff

Former six-term United States Congresswoman Patsy Mink, who spoke here on April 13 about women in politics, said that women will be more influential in this election year than any previous year.

"We (women voters) have the potential of being the most influential determining factor," she said. "Not only are we 51 percent of the population but I also think that we have the potential for organizing. In this year's election I think you're going to see that (women being a more significant force) much more emphatically than last elections."

Mink said that issue's pertaining to women would be of more importance in determining who will be elected as president than the previous presidential election year.

"For example, we have a president who doesn't support the Equal Rights Amendment," she said.

During Mink's political career she has been an active member of the Democratic Party. She said she supports Walter Mondale for the democratic nomination for president.

Although Mink worked with both Hart and Mondale during her career as a Congresswoman she said she supports Mondale



Patsy Mink

because of his commitment to issues which Mink also was concerned about.

She also said she supported him because of his experience as vice-president.

Mink graduated from the University of Chicago Law School as a lawyer and conducted a private practice from 1953 to 1964 as well as serving as attorney for the Territory of Hawaii House of Representatives in 1955.

During Mink's congressional career between 1965 and 1977 as a democrat from Hawaii, she served on numerous committees dealing with civil rights, the Women's Movement and public education.

From 1978 through 1981 she served as the president of American's for Democratic Actions, an organization formerly headed by George McGovern.

"She was a woman politician when that wasn't very common," Gail Nomura director of Asian-American studies said.

Mink's career has been regarded with more than 25 honors and achievements. Some of the honors Mink has been given include giving the graduation speech at the University of California at Los Angeles in 1980 and at Whitman College in 1981.

She also received the National Education Association Award for Creative Leadership in Women's Rights in 1977.

Several of Mink's accomplishments are that she helped organize the Hawaii Women's Political Action League in 1982 and the First National Asian Pacific Women's Conference in Washington D.C. in 1980.

Mink's talk was sponsored by several university groups including the Association for Women Students, Asian-Pacific American Students' Committee and the Asian-American Studies Program.