

NEWS

Free UW football tickets for lawmakers in question

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OLYMPIA — University of Washington officials are under scrutiny by state campaign regulators for the longtime practice of giving lawmakers tickets to Husky football games.

Last summer, investigators with the Public Disclosure Commission accused officials with Washington's flagship university of violating a state law banning the use of public money in making gifts to legislators.

Records indicated 65 lawmakers were invited to attend Husky games during the 1995 and '96 seasons at a cost of about \$50 per person, per game.

University officials disputed the PDC staff's conclusions, saying they paid for the tickets, luncheons and other activities in question with money from accounts funded by the university's private donors, not the taxpayers.

PDC investigators noted they haven't had to deal with this issue before and struck a deal with the UW.

Under the agreement to be considered Tuesday by the five-member commission, the school would pay a \$5,000 fine for violating campaign finance disclosure laws. Meanwhile, the PDC would study the broader issue and publish an advisory opinion on whether the state's restrictions on gifts apply to the use of private money donated to public universities.

The outcome will determine whether Washington's universities can continue to provide public officials with free football tickets and passes to other entertainment events, said Melissa Warheit, the PDC's executive director.

No other universities are under scrutiny, but they're watching to see how the case turns out.

"From my point of view, it looks like something we should be worried about," said Larry Ganders, lobbyist for WSU. "We're just hoping the case doesn't apply to us."

The UW case was sparked by a 1997 complaint by Joel Douglas of Bellingham, who asked the PDC and state Auditor Brian Sonntag to examine whether the UW was vio-

lating any laws by giving free tickets to lawmakers.

Sonntag concluded that the practice didn't violate Washington's "Ethics in Public Service Law," which restricts gifts to state officers and employees.

But PDC investigators indicated otherwise.

In a "notice of administrative charges" filed last June, the commission's staff noted that UW officials have over a number of years provided select members of the Legislature with Husky football tickets enabling them to sit in the "President's Box." The package also included brunch, game-day programs, parking, snacks and beverages.

According to documents provided by the university, the PDC staff said 27 senators and 38 House members were invited to games during the 1995 and 1996 football seasons. Although the investigators never determined who actually accepted, they found that all of the invited lawmakers were members of key legislative committees, particularly the higher education and fiscal panels.

Art student's exhibit observes feet in a new light

BY SETH TRUSCOTT
The Daily Evergreen

photos and text.

"I prefer to take my own images," Mitchell said. Half of her show explores ideas of joy or sensuality. The other half, the half with the most feet involved, deals with Mitchell's own experiences with pain, and foot surgery.

"It's my belief that an artist's best work is a reflection of her experiences," Mitchell said in her artistic statement. "The majority of the work in this gallery presentation is just that, a reflection of my experiences. Specifically, a reflection of my experiences with pain. My art becomes a way to deal with the pain."

After going through a painful surgery and being unable to walk for eight weeks, Mitchell said she discovered how valuable the foot is to

Graduating art student Treasure Mitchell wants the world to know the power of the foot. This week, in her senior gallery exhibition, "Foot Fetish," she examines how her own pain and experiences relate to human feet.

Mitchell's exhibit is the second of the fall semester senior shows. Each semester, graduating seniors in the Fine Arts department put on a week-long showing of their works in the Fine Arts building student galleries. Now, at the close of this semester, six students will display the fruiting of their study; five other students will follow.

Like most of the senior exhibitions, "Foot Fetish" is composed of mostly digital art, computer-altered

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Theme floors prove popular for residence halls

BY LISA JORGENSEN
Contributing writer

The first year of co-ed academic theme floors in the WSU residence halls seems to be a success, said Randy Jorgensen, associate director for Residence Life.

Academic theme floors are categorized by specific majors to encourage group studying and academic success, Jorgensen said.

There was such an overwhelming request for the specialty floors that not all students could be accommodated, he said.

"We wanted to get students talking about classes and common interests."

RANDY JORGENSEN
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
FOR RESIDENCE LIFE

"Next year, we will fix that problem," Jorgensen said. More floors will need to be made into academic theme floors to meet students' requests.

"We wanted to get students talking about classes and common interests," Jorgensen said.

The proposal was sent to department heads explaining the idea of academic themes for dorm floors. Departments such as criminal justice, nursing, environmental science

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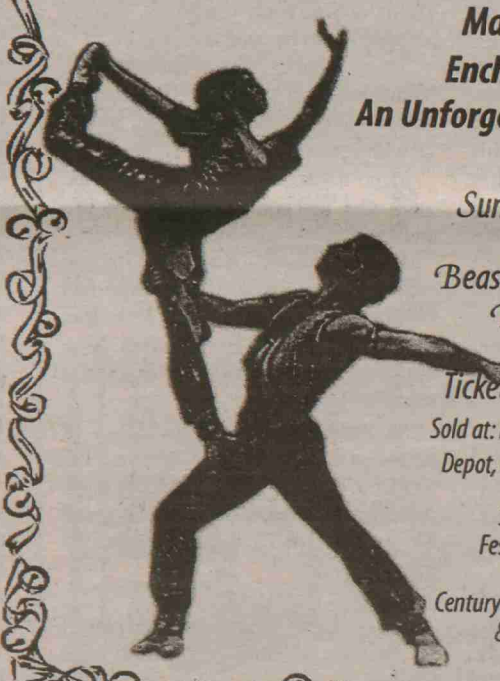
Christian Forum changes format

The WSU Christian Forum has changed the format of Thursday's creationist presentation.

The presentation will be a video debate between "Intelligent Design" law professor Phillip Johnson and Cornell biology professor and atheist William Provine will be shown in Todd Auditorium, instead of the earlier-planned speech.

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Spring Evergreen Editor



Deadline for filing: Noon, Thursday, Dec. 3



Applications available at
The Daily Evergreen office, 113 Murrow



Questions: 335-4573 or visit Murrow 113

The Daily Evergreen

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Dec. 7, 1998 6:30 pm GLBA Center, CUB B19
Jan. 13, 1999 6:00 pm Chicano/Latino Center

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

Applications are available at residence halls, the Department of Residence Life (Streit-Perham Admin. Suite), and various student centers.

If you have additional questions, please contact Jim Bajczyk at 335-6278 or by e-mail bajczyk@wsu.edu