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NEW STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT ELECTED AT UM

MISSOULA--

Steve Spaulding, Helena, will take office as the new president of the Associated Students of the University of Montana on March 30. He won office by successfully fending off a challenge by write-in candidate Dan O'Fallon, Helena. Spaulding, who is presently the business manager of ASUM, defeated O'Fallon by a 102 vote margin.

Spaulding and his running mate Eric Johnson, Whitefish, got 475 votes, or 34 percent, of the tallies, while O'Fallon and his running mate Cathie Nelson, Missoula, pulled in 373 votes, or 27 percent. Only 1,393 UM students voted in the general election, about 15 percent of the student body.

Carl Burgdorfer, Hamilton, was the top vote getter of the Feb. 25 election by gathering 734 total votes on his way to defeating Merle Pederson, Great Falls, for the business manager's spot.

Spaulding said he expected the low turnout because of the low-key campaigning done by the candidates, and said he didn't expect O'Fallon to do as well as he did at the polls.

"His showing did surprise me," Spaulding said.

Spaulding said in an interview that the big vote attractor in his campaign was his emphasis on student rights. He said he wants to put more student control over student money and the things that it pays for.

"As business manager, I saw a lot of money being spent without student input," Spaulding said.

(over)

NEW PRESIDENT-- add one

The new president said he believed that his experience as business manager helped him gather some votes also. He said his experience in office showed voters that he know how to deal with ASUM.

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