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Montana Kaimin, March 9, 1983

Associated Students of the University of Montana

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Thirty students sign petition to hold new ASUM election

By Jerry Wright
Kaimin Reporter

A group of students calling themselves the ASUM Legal Services Committee, which has the responsibility for the mantle of the student's responsibility for the mantle of the student's duties as stated in the ASUM by-laws, are violating the by-laws. "Ballots shall be counted in the presence of a quorum of the Elections Committee members and for a faculty representative or the administrative representative in addition to those students appointed by the student representatives of journalism." The complaint says ballots were counted in three separate rooms, preventing a quorum of the Elections Committee members and for a faculty representative or the administrative representative in addition to those students appointed by the student representatives of journalism.

McRae-Zook said the method of using separate rooms was adopted last year by Wicks. Having 11 ballots from the three separate polling places counted in different rooms prevents confusion from hearing others count, she said. Elliott agreed the three rooms decreased confusion and said she went from room to room throughout the ballot counting. There were at least three people in each room, said McRae-Zook, and the question of a quorum is a "technicality."

"It would be real tough to cheat," she said of the counting procedure.

Both sides of the issue have accused the other of hurting the image of ASUM. Former ASUM president Steve Spaulding, who has signed the new election petition, said issues like the election controversy hurt ASUM with such groups as the Board of Regents and the Legislature.

"Why should anyone give students rights if they can't hold an honest election?" he said. Spaulding said the problem should be resolved by holding a new election.

McRae-Zook said she represents the fact that the group is "dragging ASUM through the mud" by sending the story out on a state-wide press release.

Forecast

Mostly cloudy with valley fog today. High today 44, low tonight 32, high tomorrow 52. Air quality expected to deteriorate to marinal...
With a sigh of regret, the Montana Kaimin finds it must call for the invalidation of last week's ASUM election. In this we are acting not out of any animosity toward the winners, nor out of any love for those who lost. We would have much preferred the election to have been run smoothly and to have gone without a hitch. Would that it were so. But while it would not have been the role of the newspaper to throw a monkey wrench into the works, it also would not be the proper role of the Kaimin to ignore the fact that things went wrong.

One of the things that went wrong was the system for checking voters' I.D. numbers. A student I.D. should have been required in each instance, and there should have been some sort of cross-checking system so that if the wrong number were entered the election official at the terminal could immediately see and correct the error. A larger problem than that tainted the election, however — the appearance, at least, of bias. Whether or not telling others whom to vote for, and the voters shouldn't support their candidates, would probably go to Bolinger, who is political adviser in El Salvador. And let's all remember that male college students of conservation age must show proof of draft registration to be eligible for federal financial aid to pay for advanced education. Whether a peace-time draft registration is legal and/or proper is being hashed out in the courts. To make complicity a condition for receiving financial aid is completely unacceptable for several reasons. First, the compliance requirement zero in on a small segment of the student body. If you don't need financial aid, you don't have to worry. You also need not worry about compliance unless you have a draft number. It doesn't matter that years of research conducted by the Army Physical Fitness Research Team found no sex-related criterion to distinguish between men's and women's ability to perform in any particular military MOS. Secondly, we must question the right of the government to deny a segment of the population the opportunity to attend college because they can't prove compliance with the law. To put the burden of proof on the student makes the applicant financial aid guilty until proven innocent. Finally, I wonder what the cost of compliance with this rule will be to the University of Montana and every other institution of higher learning in the U.S. I suppose the cost of added paperwork and staffing can be calculated. The cost of the morale of the student body, principles of education, and spirit of freedom may not be so easily measured.

I am a full-time staff member and part-time student at the U of M. I proudly served a full term of active duty as a volunteer in the U.S. Army. Paul Befumo Lab technician, microbiology

Apt apathy

Editor: Many candidates campaigned on the issue of student apathy during the last ASUM election. Everyone seems to believe that this is a problem that exists, and everyone seems to have something to do about it. All right, everyone believes that it exists because it does. Sure, the majority of stu-

Letters

Was it fair?

Editor: Was it fair? Was it with ASUM by-law? Was it ethical? Many unanswered questions and controversies surround last week's ASUM election. Charges concern the manner in which the elections were run, they are how the votes were coun-

ted. An unbiased election procedure is hard to achieve but it must be strived for. As writers in the election, call for CB Election Committee and the entire ASUM government to in-

vestigate these charges with utmost speed and energy. After examining all the charges and rendering a decision we must make the right decision. If the election was conducted improperly it will take courage and a desire to serve the elec-

tion but we, as students in a democracy, must adhere to proper property elections.

Chuck Hodge Junior, political science-eco-

nomic

Jim Johnstone Freshman, forestry

Jill Ingraham Sophomore, radio-TV, political
science

at the CB Election Committee.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 300 words.

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The other problem in the relations are in order for the winning venom is spewed congratulation are many. The first and torials the day of an election. As the election recall is concerned I implore Central Board to carefully weigh its decision on whether to uphold the recent election or to invalidate it. The board must consider what will most benefit the student body when it makes its decision. To stay consistent my personal opinion would be to schedule another election, but to consider the first election a primary.

John McCormack Lanky
Senior, economics

Funny votes
Editor: With all the interest the press has shown in a possible call for a recount of the recent ASUM presidential election, I thought it proper to make it known why I, at least, did not request such action. Nine votes is not much of a margin, certainly not a mandate, and it would only make sense for the candidate on the wrong side of that line to be certain that no mistakes had been made. But as I considered making the request, several things came to my attention that made it seem frivolous to do so. The elections were funny. Poll officials were far from neutral, voters were not always required to provide proper identification, and the ballot counting is suspect due to procedural improprieties and bias of certain persons involved — among other complaints. Due to "lax" experiences by students, I decided it would not do any good to count funny votes twice. So I did not call for a recount. It is no longer a matter of winning, but of the validity of the election itself, of truth, fairness, justice, a government to remain a legitimate government, the recently elected candidates will not be government officials, but gangsters and I, for one, will sue for a refund of my activity fees.

Jim Weinberg
Senior, philosophy

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3. Get the cure while you lounge and listen.

DOC WATSON/BRYAN BOWERS
MARCH 9TH 8 P.M. UCB

Montana Kaimin • Wednesday, March 9, 1983—3
Missoula woman relates childhood incest tales;

By Laurie Williams
Kaiser Senior Editor
Barbara was 6 when the terror started. Today, 26 years later, it haunts her still.
She came into her bedroom, she remembers, lifted the covers and fondled her. "I was terrified," she said.

Barbara said that as a child she believed that her older brother had all of the power in the family, since her father generally wasn't home much and her mother was at work. The incestuous advances完全 continued right into the time she was 20, but she had to seek psychotherapy for the past five years because of the problems that stemmed from the incidents.

An elementary school teacher, Barbara has a lot of flashbacks and has had an extremely hard time having any kind of a relationship with a man on any other than an intellectual level.

"It's hard to remove that early experience from my life," she said. "I've been so keenly aware of my sexuality for so long, that it's hard to judge the good parts from the bad parts. I worked so hard to block the emotional level."

"I turned my guilt inward," Barbara said. "I was self-destructive. I even thought about suicide, I never attempted it, but I considered it."

Barbara's feelings about herself and her life are not unusual for incest victims, according to Psychologist Janet Allison of Bitterroot Psychological Services in Missoula.

"The vast majority of incest cases involve female victims, usually children or young teenagers, and male offenders, such as fathers, brothers, stepfathers, uncles or grandparents, Allison said.

The girls often feel they have brought the advances upon themselves or the offenders continue to blame them by telling the girls they are attractive and have brought it upon themselves. Therefore, the victims feel guilty and helpless, Allison said.

"Overall, victims tend to have poor self-esteem," she said, and they tend to apply their bad feelings to all parts of their lives.

The women are depressed and they often blame themselves for problems they usually have no control over, such as financial difficulties.

Allison said almost all incest victims are suicidal at some time in their lives, particularly when they are adolescents. They have trouble developing emotionally, she said.

Because their trust was betrayed, so early in life, the women have trouble trusting anyone, especially men, she said. This, in turn, affects their sexual relationships.

Allison said usually the whole nature of the incestuous relationship is abusive. For example, the child trusts the adult, and the adult manipulates the child with his power, sometimes physically and sometimes mentally.

"Her brother had never actually got to the point where all he had to do was look at me and I couldn't hide my fear," she said.

"There was a great deal of mental torture," she said. "It got to the point where all he had to do was look at me and I knew what he was thinking, and I was frightened."

Experiences like Barbara's often cause women to enter into abusive relationships as a way of punishing themselves, Allison said, because they believe they don't deserve anything better. The end result is a confusion of love, guilt and sex, with the

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psychologist says destructive feelings common
general consequences being extreme for many victims, she said.
Allison said one way they may head is into prostitution.
An article a few years ago in "Ladies Home Journal" reported various studies that indicated that from as low as 25 percent and as high as 75 percent of all prostitutes had incestuous sexual initiations.
In the same article another study showed that from 40 to 70 percent of all drug addicts are reported to be incest victims.

Sometimes the victims even become child abusers, Allison said. "They become so angry, but they can't deal with the appropriate people (the offenders), so they take it out on their children."

Alcoholism is also not uncommon among victims, she said. They find any way not to have to think or feel about their past, she said.

Though Barbara has not had problems with alcohol, prostitution or child abuse, she displays some of the typical problems faced by incest victims.

"For a long time I thought I had provoked it," Barbara said. "I felt totally responsible."

"If I wanted or needed something I wouldn't ask for it, and my relationship with people has been mostly on the surface."

She said "at this point, I know I have a real hair for men. A relationship at any kind of a level, I don't want at this point."

Barbara said she has never enjoyed physical contact with a man, and that she may never be able to have a serious relationship with one.

"I may have to make other choices," she said, "such as having a relationship with a woman, instead."

Now at least, she said, "I have the power to do whatever I want to do, whenever I want to do it." That realization took her a long time to believe.

For a long time, she said, she thought she was the only one in the world this had ever happened to and she felt she would be chastised if others found out.

However, through a Missoula support group for incest victims called Individuals Supporting Incest Survivors (ISIS), Barbara said she has found that she can show emotions and talk about her childhood, and her friends won't run in horror.

All the survivors have had different experiences, but the women talk about whatever they need to to help each other through their similar traumas. Barbara said.

Some of the women with children worry about being overprotective and others just need help with dealing with their guilt.

Barbara said talking through their feelings can help them realize they are not responsible for what happened to them when they were younger.

ISIS grew out of therapy groups like Allison's when there was nothing more a psychologist could do, but when victims with similar feelings could console one another.

When the women first come to Allison, she said, they come in because they are depressed and have trouble sleeping, or they are suicidal. Then after a lot of work, it comes out that they were sexually abused as children.

Allison said the subject began coming up so often, that she began routinely asking her patients if they were abused.

Many of these women don't remember a lot of their childhood, she said, because they have been suppressing the bad emotions and memories of that time. Often they have forced themselves to forget about a certain incident and end up losing entire periods of their memories.

Other times they will remember some episode, she said, but they can't tell whether it is a dream or reality. "Often they don't even believe their own memory," Allison said.

After about a year and a half of individual therapy, she said, she likes to get the women involved in groups like ISIS, so they can lean on each other.

"Incest is a very upsetting topic," Allison said. "It is horrifying, and most victims don't want to talk about it."

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Montana Kaimin • Wednesday, March 9, 1983—5
Legislative committee discusses nuclear arms reduction

By Lance Lovell

The battle over nuclear arms reduction measures broke out yesterday in the Legislature, this time in the Senate Public Health Committee.

The committee heard but took no action on the two controversial resolutions introduced by vocal Bozeman representative John Vincent, the Democratic majority leader, and Republican Ken Nordtvedt.

Vincent's House Joint Resolution calls for the U.S. government to immediately freeze production, testing and deployment of nuclear weapons.

Nordtvedt's HJR 13 expresses support for the Reagan administration's arms negotiations with the Soviet Union and calls for verifiable reduction in the number of Soviet strategic land-based missiles.

Each of the Bozeman legislators opposes the other's measure.

Vincent says Nordtvedt's proposal will not be accepted by the Soviet Union and enhances continued nuclear arms build-up because it tells the Soviets to reduce their land-based missiles by 50 percent while allowing the United States to deploy 350 more land-based missiles.

Nordtvedt says Vincent's bill will allow the Soviet Union to keep a superiority in nuclear power and will enhance the chance of a conventional war.

After what some legislators have called the most emotional discussion to ever take place on the floor, the House passed both measures, in the waning hours of the first half of the session.

It is now up to the Senate to decide which message the state will send to Washington, D.C.

Vincent, addressing comments made by some legislators who feel the Legislature should stick to state business and not waste time on the nuclear freeze issue, said this is the "biggest issue bar none" facing this session.

He said the nuclear weapons race is on "in the minds of the people of Montana and of the United States."

Even with this statement, one disgruntled member of the audience got up and mumbled as he walked out, "If I wanted to see a dead horse get whipped, I'd go to a slaughterhouse.

Vincent and other supporters including members of the Missoula Women for Peace organization and Physicians for Social Responsibility testified that HJR 13 is a reaffirmation of Initiative 95, which also calls for an immediate nuclear arms freeze.

Supporters of Vincent's measure opposed Nordtvedt's resolution stating it seeks to reduce Soviet land-based missiles while budgeting for increased numbers of U.S. missiles.

Nordtvedt said HJR 13 expresses support for the road to peace.

He and supporters including members of the Montana Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Montana American Legion, said the Soviets have nuclear superiority over the United States and a fresh nuclear arms buildup jeopardizes U.S. national security.

Nordtvedt said his resolution calls for "equitable, verifiable reductions in strategic arms."

In closing, Vincent told the committee his resolution should either pass or be killed. He said he would accept no amendments.

Further, he said his nuclear freeze resolution may get killed Monday but said it's an issue that will not die, hinting that it will be an issue in the 1984 elections.

There has been speculation by some legislators that the committee may table the two resolutions, in effect killing them, and urge the House to adopt Senate Joint Resolution 10, introduced by Sen. Fred Van Valkenburg, D-Missoula.

SJR 10 urges the Reagan Administration to spend less money on defense and more on economic development in the state.

Sen. Tom Hager, R-Billings, the chairman of the Public Health Committee, declined to speculate what members may do with the resolutions when it meets for executive action on them Friday.

He did not think the committee would be avoiding the issues brought up by the two resolutions if members voted to table them.
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