Montana Kaimin, February 26, 1986
Associated Students of the University of Montana

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Michae1 Ray Richardson banned from play

By Mike Olinger
Kaimin Sports Editor
and Associated Press

New Jersey Nets guard Michae1 Ray Richardson was permanently banned from playing in the National Basketball Association Tuesday after testing positive for cocaine, Commissioner David Stern said.

Stern called it "a tragic day for Michael Ray Richardson, nothing less than the destruction by cocaine of a once-flourishing career."

A player who is disqualified is eligible for reinstatement in two years. "However, the reinstatement is not automatic," Stern said. "In order to be reinstated, it must be approved by both the NBA and the Players Association."

Budget forum

By Tamara Mchawk
Kaimin Reporter

Members of several ASUM groups and some Central Board members discussed last night how they think CB should allocate money to those groups for next year.

Final budgeting for ASUM, which has in the past has lasted into the early morning hours, begins tonight at 6 in the University Center Mount Sentinel Rooms.

Last night's forum was sponsored by the Student Action Center. It was organized so members of student groups could voice their "priorities and concerns" about budget cuts they would face if CB followed the ASUM Executive Committee budget recommendation made earlier this month, SAC Director Shaun Egain said.

"I think we've learned other people's perspectives," Egain said near the end of the meeting, which was attended by about 50 people.

ASUM has about $431,000 to dole out for next year, but 59 student groups have requested a total of more than $673,500.

The executive committee's recommendation called for no funding for 12 groups and minimal funding for several others. Only four

UM student's petitions challenge student government

Petition calls for clarification of budgeting

By Christopher Ranaack
Kaimin Reporter

University of Montana student Steve Smith is circulating a petition that asks CB to clarify ASUM's budgeting process bylaws, which he says are confusing and raise questions about who has authority to create and approve academic budgets.

The bylaws require both outgoing and incoming presidents to construct budget proposals, but according to different schedules and guidelines. It is unclear who has ultimate authority to construct the budget for each academic year.

Smith, a junior in wildlife biology and editor of SAC's magazine, Clark Fork Currents, said the petition asks CB to clarify Division III, Article I of the bylaws, and to allow students to vote, via a referendum, on whether incoming or outgoing presidents will establish budgets for incoming academic years.

Smith said the confusion was caused by former ASUM President Marquette McRae-Zook, who changed the bylaws on Oct. 14, 1982. McRae-Zook transferred budget-making power from incoming presidents to outgoing presidents, but failed to remove from the bylaws outdated sections that contradicted the new

Vote today

Voting booths for the ASUM presidential primaries and the MontPIRG referendum will be open today in the University Center Mall from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Smith pressures Mercer to resign

By Mike Dawson
Kaimin Reporter

A petition circulated by Steve Smith, a University of Montana student, calling for the resignation of ASUM President Bill Mercer, Steve Smith (left) and John Zelazny are circulating the petition. Smith said he expects to have 350 signatures by today.

Smith, president of the Student Action Center, said he expects to have 350 signatures by today.

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Mercer and Pigeons: defection on campus

The University of Montana is at war. War against defection on campus, the literal kind produced by pigeons and the figurative kind produced by ASUM President Bill Mercer.

Editorial

But there is a definitive difference between pigeons’ defection and Mercer’s. To defeate means to free from impurities or corruption. Pigeons certainly defe- cate to rid themselves of impurities. Mercer just makes a mess.

Though the results differ, it appears both lacks control and think nothing about defeating on people.

But these disgruing habits have not gone unchallenged. Complaints were filled against the pigeons roosting on top of Bank. But these droppings cre- ated a dangerously slippery entrance on which pedestrians could fall and be hurt. Complaints have also been filled against Mercer, whose defection has already hurt some people and will hurt many more if it continues to go unchecked.

Petitions have been circulating on cam- pus calling for Mercer’s resignation, for Central Board to clarify the budget has been accused of cor- rupting and for CB to reject Mercer’s budget recommendations to drastically cut or eliminate certain ASUM groups.

The Kaomin filed a complaint with the Financial Affairs Office against Mercer’s il- legal tampering with student employee salaries. Although the pigeons’ damage to UM is restricted to the window sills, walls and walkways of buildings, Mercer’s damage affects the entire university community.

Mercer has been caught violating ASUM’s bylaws, the ASUM Constitution and Robert’s Rules of Order. He has vi- olate rules governing CB appointments, fiscal policy, budgeting and group fund- ing. He says the rules are “archaic.” So he either changes them to suit his purpose or he ignores them.

The pigeons have paid a price for their aerocious behavior. Mercer must pay for his.

Ken Read, UM Student Health Service sanitarian, controls the pigeons by tying trapping UM buildings with po- sonous perches. Rid-A-Bird perches con- tain a chemical that kills the pigeons after it is absorbed through their feet.

Read says that killing the birds is com- pletely legal according to state pest con- trol laws.

UM tried trapping the birds and alter- ing the buildings to prevent roosting. But the efforts were futile. The pigeon prob- lem continued to increase.

A pest control specialist from the Mon- tana Department of Agriculture con- firmed Read’s belief that nonlethal means of pest control are usually ineffec- tive.

The pigeons become habituated to the nonlethal method or they just move to another site where the problem is perpe- tuated, the specialist said.

So locking Mercer in his office, remov- ing his phone, hiding his gavel, stealing his desk and chair or boarding the en- trance to ASUM headquarters probably won’t solve the problem.

The only solution could be Rid-A-Bird, a device similar to Rid-A-Bird, which is safe for humans and the environment but eliminates pests.

Rid-A-Bird perches could be installed wherever pigeon-related problems oc- curs, including the ASUM office, ASUM’s conference room and the UM administration offices.

Extra perches should be placed at each CB and ASUM committee meeting.

Rid-A-Bird-soaked budget requests, Center for social fiscal year will be ac- cording to the ASUM bylaws.

The possibilities are endless.

But specifically designated pest control method is used, one thing is certain. Mercer has gotten away with too much defection already. It’s time Mercer was controlled.

Faith Covroy

The Point of Order

This week’s Point of Order will focus on the ASUM bylaws.

Bill Thomas

The Student Aid Story

Every year since taking office, the Rea- gan administration has proposed deep cuts in federal aid to college students.

Congress has been able to forestall many of the cuts, but still the Congressional Re- search Service reports that federal aid per student decreased 30 percent between 1981 and 1984, from $2,295 to $1,834. (All dol- lar figures in this column are shown in constant 1984 dollars, i.e. adjusted for in- flation.) The percentage of the federal budget devoted to student financial aid dropped from 0.9 percent in 1981 to 0.8 percent in 1984. This does not include the effects of eliminating Social Security sur- vivors benefits for college students during this period.

Meanwhile, the cost of going to a public university — like UM — increased by 13.5 percent from 1981 to 1984.

Why wasn’t the student aid cut at a time when costs were increasing? Ar- guments are often couched in terms of reducing federal spending, but the funda- mental reason is that the right-wing op- poses the goals of student aid.

Student aid, according to the Congres- sional Research Service, was established to increase access to higher education for stu- dents from low-income families, to pro- vide students from disadvantaged back- grounds with the power of choice in selec- ting colleges and programs of study, and to provide limited assistance to students from moderate-income families who need help meeting the costs of college. The dream of extending the opportunity for a higher education to all Americans has be- come a reality since the Higher Education Act of 1965.

For example, only 38 percent of college students were female in 1963. In 1982, women made up 51 percent of college stu- dents, more representative of the entire population.

But, student aid is welfare, screech the critics. Godly, what would the founding fathers think? (Not realizing, perhaps, that federal aid to education — under a provi- sion of the Northwest Ordinance that set aside a section of land for public educa- tion in each township in new territories — predates the Constitution.)

Also, federal grants to students made up only 48 percent of student aid in fiscal 1985. The other 52 percent came in the form of loans and work-study programs. Moreover, even for the neediest students, Pell grant awards are limited to 60 percent of college costs or $2,100, whichever is less.

The “welfare” argument also ignores the fact that substantial benefits accrue to society, as well as to the individual stu- dent, when government helps students ob- tain college education. The most impor- tant societal benefits, such as the value of an educated citizenry in a democracy, are difficult to quantify but nonetheless real.

But there are still a number of benefits to society that can be measured. These are:

• Increased government revenues (according to the Census Bureau, an undergradu- ate degree increases lifetime earnings by 25 percent; a graduate degree by 31 percent).

• Increased productivity (economists Ed- ward Denison and John Hendricks attrib- ute substantial economic growth and pro- ductivity gains to higher education throughout U.S. history).

• Decreased unemployment (the unemploy- ment rate for college grads was 2.7 percent in March 1984, while the overall unem- ployment rate hovered at 7 percent).

• Lower crime rates, better health, more community and political involvement, and a better quality of life — in terms of health and educational attainment — for children have also been attributed to higher education.

There is also good evidence to suggest that aid to higher education should be thought of more as an investment, rather than an aid program. Every dollar spent on education returns six dollars in added Gross National Product. Economists Gary Becker and Eikhanner Cohn have even computed rates of return for a higher edu- cation and find them generally higher than for other available investments. Econo- mists Randall and Eora Holcombe report a 15 percent rate of return to the govern- ment in increased tax revenues as a direct result of federal financial aid.

On a real basis, student aid makes good sense. So, why the continued short- changing of the right-wing shouldn’t surprise us.

Bill Thomas is a graduate in public administration.
Opinion

Support WSIC

EDITOR: We the undersigned faculty of the University of Montana strongly support the student group affiliated with the Wilderness Institute, called the Wilderness Studies and Information Center (WSIC). We feel that the WSIC serves an important function in providing our students with unique opportunities to participate in many different projects and programs. They are often the first opportunity many students have to gain hands-on experience in the realm of wild land management. That experience in conjunction with academic work can and does become the first step to a successful career.

WSIC provides students not directly involved in the organization with excellent services. Our students use the information center. They use the field services and the people who participate in conferences and attend lectures, all sponsored by WSIC. This is a unique organization that has attained a national reputation for excellence, and adds an important dimension to the activities and services available to students. The Associated Students of the University of Montana, through their credit, have supported and funded WSIC activities and services for the past 12 years. This year the budget recommendation is 18 percent of last year's budget allocation. WSIC cannot survive such a drastic budget cut from $19,888 to $3,678.

We urge students to contact ASUM Central and express their concern about the elimination of a student group that has consistently provided fine services and opportunities to students here on campus. We respectfully request that ASUM or the Board reject the executive recommendation and fully fund the Wilderness Studies and Information Center.

Tom Ray, EVST; Chris Field, geography; David H. Jackson, forester; Ray L. Hart, chaplain; religious studies, J.W. Flanagan, religious studies; William Pitt Root, English; I.A. Foor, anthropology; H. Danoe Hampton, history; Ray Lulader, philosophy; Robert Peterson, history; Lawt. Welsh, English; Philip Fandooz, humanities; R.L. Hutto, zoology; Paul A. Tiertick, religious studies; D.A. Jenoi, zoology; James Bu- chanan, religious studies; Joel Meser, forestry; Hans Zanting, forestry; Don Beddo, forestry; Randy Bolton, drama; Ron Er- skine, EVST; Vicki Watson, botany; R. Fritz Sherdan, botany; David Biderback, botany; Meyer Chevin, botany; Stephen Demott, art; Bob Desson, social sciences; Stewart Allen, forestry; Ron Wakimoto, forestry; Bob Bresm, forestry; Les Pengelly, eminent professor of wildlife; Charles Janke, forestry; Daniel Pletcher, forestry; E. Earl Will- ford, forestry; Lee Metzger, dir. rangeland-wildlife biology. Les Marsten, forestry; Thomas Birch, philosophy; Richmond L. Clew, Native American studies; Jasper M. Roberts, Roger Dunmore, humanities, Kenneth Brett, foreign language; Kenneth G. McQuilten, forestry.

Vote

EDITOR: We would like to encourage students to take a few minutes this week and next week to vote in the ASUM primary and general elections, and to vote on the MontPIRG referendum.

The primary election on Wednes- day, April 26, will determine the ASUM presidential and vice presidential candidates for the general election to be held March 5-6. The general election will also determine the Central Board members who will begin serving that year.

This week, you will also have the opportunity to vote on a referendum concerning funding for the Montana Public Interest Research Group, MontPIRG. The referendum proposes that Mont- PI RG elect a student with ASUSM to collect an optional $2 quarterly fee. In order for the referendum to pass, 20 percent of the student body must vote with two-thirds supporting the proposal. You will be able to vote on the referendum at the University Center, with one polling place rotating among campus buildings. Polls for the ASUM elections will be in the University Center.

This letter is not intended to support any particular candidates for ASUM or to sup- port a particular side in the MontPIRG funding issue. We only ask that you become informed about the candi- dates and the issues, and then vote.

Loren Leonard

Gordy Pace

UM Advocate coordinators

Student voice

EDITOR: This letter is in re- sponse to some confusion I’ve noticed in students’ perception of the MontPIRG fee recently. This may be due to the fact that MontPIRG was the dominant issue in the Fall 1986 elections. Being a member of MontPIRG’s board of di- rectors, I can only speak for myself and my understanding of what the group intends to ac- complish.

The current fee system is a washable/refundable fee in which students can either waive or pay at pre- registration or request a refund at any time up to the first quarter. This fee has been changed to a donation system (some call posi- tive checkoff) by the Board of Regents of Higher Education beginning Fall Quarter 1986.

The donation system has grown to over 85 percent of the student population. All available data shows a collection rate of 4 percent to 20 percent for schools using a donation system to fund PIRGs. Evidence shows Mont- PI RG has a much higher level of support on the campus. If MontPIRG went to the donation system the level of educational value would certainly deteriorate if not be destroyed. A large per- centage of PIRGs’s that go on the donation system are non-existent within one year. This is why it feel’s it important to maintain a stable funding mechanism that allows the stability to plan and implement student interests.

The stable funding mechanism MontPI RG is proposing would continue to offer more equitably than other imposed fees. The new fee would be optional, let- ting students waive/refuse or get a refund on the fee, unlike the $2 mandatory ASUM fee we all pay.

In hoping the Regents will be more receptive, it was decided the fee should be collected through an arms length contract with ASUM, instead of President Bucks, as has been the case. It would remain washable/refundable (some call negative checkoff) but change the collection agent.

The referendum is to show student support. Then the stu- dents must again ask the Board of Regents for approval. The final decision is up to the Re- gents, but with strong student support, they might listen this time.

It is important to vote in the referendum this week since many fellow students have worked hard for years to estab- lish a solid basis for MontPIRG to exist. The continued fight for existence takes valuable student time that could otherwise be used addressing student needs. I urge you to support the Optional Fee and MontPIRG as a student voice vehicle on the basis that MontPIRG needs a stable fund- ing mechanism to survive and offer students the environment, education, and opportunity to research, communicate and publish student work.

R. Craig Swank

Senior, economics

Fairest method

EDITOR: Dear fellow stu- dents, The MontPIRG referendum being held this week is not a referendum of whether or not we as students support MontPIRG. It is a referendum that asks us, as students, what is the fairest method of funding for the organization. Should students have to pay the fee unless they otherwise support it or have the deci- sion whether or not to pay up to the individual student?

What is at stake? Currently MontPIRG (Montana Public In- terest Research Group) collects its money from the students un- less they say otherwise. Starting in the fall of 1986, students will still be able to contribute to MontPIRG if they wish but the decision will be left up to the in- dividual student. MontPIRG wants the referendum to pass be- cause they believe that they do not have enough campus support to survive if the decision to pass is left up to the student.

About one year ago, MontPIRG collected 4,000 signatures on a petition that supported "optional funding." My dictio- nary defines "optional" as being "voluntary, not mandatory." The individual student should decide for himself or her- self. The new MontPIRG collec- tion system, scheduled to start in the fall of 1986, will provide us with optional funding.

The Board of Regents voted in March 1985 to change Mont- PI RG’s current funding system but they did so at the request of several students. Individual re- gents voiced concerns against MontPIRG but did not vote against the organization until they knew that there was student opposition to how MontPIRG was being funded. The Board of Regents did not act in a vacuum when they made their decision but they heard representatives speak at length on both sides of the issue. Present at the meeting were stu- dents in favor of MontPIRG, students against MontPIRG, and several students who supported MontPIRG but did not like the way it was being funded.

MontPIRG threatened to close down if it does not get its way. Is this a bribe? Either vote with MontPIRG or suffer the conse- quences? We should not give in to threats but instead stand up for our rights. If the current MontPIRG board of directors does not want to continue under optional funding then there are probably ten other concerned students that will.

A no vote on the MontPIRG referendum does not indicate that you dislike MontPIRG or the projects that it is working on, it simply means that you be- lieve that its funding should be optional. A yes vote means that you support the individual right of the student to decide for her- self or himself.

Keith "The Greeter" Baar

Senior, business management

Former member MontPIRG board of directors

Letters continued on page 6.
WSIC fights for more money

By Dan Black
Kaimin Reporter

Students supporting the Wilderness Studies and Information Center are making a strong bid to Central Board members for ASUM money because ASUM President Bill Mercer has recommended the group receive only about 15 percent of its original $24,553 request.

At issue are two classified employees that the group says is needed to collect an estimated additional $46,000 in grants and donations for the group.

Dave Pavian, one of the five people who make decisions for the group, said WSIC needs the positions to correctly apply for and administer the grants.

But Mercer said Tuesday that because the group is affiliated with the Forestry school, faculty members could sign for grants. He added that the classified positions are more expensive because of union contracts.

Pavian said that faculty members would not monitor the grants, unless they are closely involved with the activity specified in the grant — something acting Dean Sidney Frissell said they will not do.

Last week the student group gave petitions signed by about 1,000 students and 44 faculty members to CB supporting the group's budget request.

The petitions were presented to the board in a special lobbying meeting in which about 80 WSIC supporters attended, said Pavian.

The petition signed by faculty members says, "The WSIC serves an important function in providing our students with unique opportunities to participate in many different projects and programs. WSIC cannot survive such a drastic budget cut, from $19,888 to $3,678."

WSIC sponsors lectures, films, an information center in the forestry building and field projects that gather information concerning public wildlands.

Although Mercer recommended the group only receive $3,678, CB members will decide how much money the group will get when they meet for a special budgeting session tonight. Budgets for the other 58 groups will also be decided.

WSIC was created 12 years ago and according to group members has produced more than 75 reports, 125 workshops, seminars and various types of programs on wildlife issues. The group also boasts having the most complete library on wilderness in the nation.

Kaimin pay dispute to be mediated

By Adina Lindgren
Kaimin Reporter

Robert’s Rules of Order, which governs CB meetings, state that a motion for reconsideration must be passed before a motion may be considered twice. The minutes for the meeting reflect no such reconsideration.

Conroy said, "People at this paper are not getting paid equally for work, and that violates federal law. Besides being illegal, what they did is unfair."

Because employees signed contracts at the beginning of the year, staff members who remained in the same position were not affected. However, the pay cut affected all new employees and employees who changed positions.

Ten of the 26 Kaimin employees received pay cuts because of the decision. Four of the 10 employees are being paid less than co-workers for performing the same duties at the same number of hours. Conroy is one of those who is paid unequally. She is paid $290 per month while the other news editor receives $350.

"We tried going to CB twice" Conroy said, and they did not correct the situation, so we had to go to Financial Aid. Actually Financial Aid has the authority over student pay, not CB and not ASUM."

Kinsley was unavailable to comment on what action may be taken. Wolverton was unable to comment on the issue.

UM student is named semi-finalist in Truman Scholarship competition

By Adina Lindgren
Kaimin Reporter

Elizabeth Russell, University of Montana Ph.D. sophomore from Great Falls majoring in history/political science and German, was recently named a semi-finalist in the Truman Scholarship competition.

Russell, an honors student, was selected over 20 other applicants and will be interviewed tomorrow in Seattle by the scholarship's regional committee.

She is now competing against three other Montana students for the scholarship and will be notified in April whether she receives the scholarship.

The $20,000, four-year Harry S. Truman Scholarship is awarded yearly to 105 college juniors who show academic excellence, leadership potential and commitment to a career in government.

Russell is assistant director for UM’s Model United Nations and a UM advocate. She was chairwoman of the Model UM’s International Court of Justice earlier this year and has been a Spur.

Russell was a National Merit Scholar, and in 1983 was awarded the National Council of Teachers of English Achievement Award in Writing.
Sports clubs protest ASUM budget cuts

By Ken Pekoc
Sports Reporter

Representatives from five of the eight University of Montana sports clubs stated they will not receive ASUM funding for the next academic year in the executive budget recommendation presented to the recommendation Monday in the University Center.

Speaking to about 40 people, Brian Collard, representing the hockey club, Geoffrey Quick, representing men's rugby, Shawn Glen, representing women's rugby and Kurt Higgins, representing the Alpine and Nordic ski clubs, said they are upset and expect some type of funding.

No baseball, rodeo or karate club members spoke. These groups also received no funding in the recommendation.

A motion's note: In a Tuesday night meeting Bill Mercer said the executive committee budget recommendation would be revisited to include sports groups. See "Budget forces," page 1.

The only sports group to be funded by the recommendation was the Silvertip Skydivers, which received $2,783.

After the representatives spoke, Central Board member Scott Tempel told the group that CB members are working on a proposal that would give the eight clubs about $12,000 for travel, dues and entry fees.

The proposal will be debated at tonight's CB meeting.

Keeping social options available for students and drawing interest from out-of-state students were the main arguments posed by the speakers.

He said after the rally that the possibility of sports clubs not being funded was "a contradiction of the whole university system."

He said the "system" is a combination of both academic and social endeavors benefitting from in a university atmosphere. "Academics is what we are here for first," he said, "but we are also here to grow. Sports clubs are definitely a learning experience."

On behalf of each UM sport group, Glen said, "We are ambassadors for UM throughout the Northwest."

After the rally was added, "We're asking students to UM, and that's important with declining enrollment," Wyse added. "I'm sure hockey and rugby are attractive to some Montana students."

He said of about 35 male rugby players, only five or ten are from Montana.

Higgins said only three of the 16 Alpine members are from Montana. Collard said a key reason he came to UM from Michigan was because of the opportunity to play hockey.

Collard also emphasized an at-home opportunity for the hockey team. He said most of the club's money from the 1985-86 budget was put into rebuilding the skating rink at Playfair Park.

"This was a joint effort with the City of Missoula, he said.

In comparison to how much other schools fund their ski teams, Higgins said the money requested by the UM Alpine and Nordic teams wasn't "too much to ask for.

The Alpine team originally requested $2,767.50 and the Nordic team asked for $2,276.50. Since then, the teams have lowered requests to cover travel and dues to $2,025 per team.

According to Dan Breitford, ski coach at Montana State University, his program is funded through the athletic department and will receive $25,000 in 1986-87. This season the team was given $97,000, covering salaries and operation expenses.

"We don't want to back on any groups that have received money. We just feel we should be funded."

$150 campaign limit unfair, CB member says

By Brian Justice

The ASUM elections committee established a $150 per party campaign spending limit at the elections committee meeting two weeks ago and Central Board member Margaret Miller claims the committee's decision was "unjustified.

Miller said yesterday the committee established the limit to decrease the chances of a CB dominance by the 17 member FAIR - Fair, Active, Interested, Representative party.

SPP's status defended

By Kevin McRae
Sports Reporter

The procedure that made the Center for Public Policy eligible for ASUM funding was not unusual even though the rules for group registration were not followed, ASUM President Bill Mercer said Tuesday.

The ASUM Executive Committee's budget recommendation allocated almost $18,000 to the center that would replace the Student Action Center and the Student Legislative Action. ASUM rules require new groups to submit a completed registration form along with a group constitution.

The CPP has not yet turned in the registration form and has no constitution.

Miller said "a huge majority" of ASUM groups have no constitution despite that one is required by the ASUM rules.

He called the rules "archaic" and said ASUM's operating procedures "do not always go by what we have in the rules."

Although the ASUM office does not have the CPP's registration form on file, the center's chief officer, Geoff Quick, said Tuesday that he has the form and needs to collect more signatures.

Quick said there are "about 10 people interested in joining CPP," and as soon as he gets their signatures on the form, he will submit it to Mercer.

ASUM rules require groups to have a faculty advisor.

When contacted at work Monday night, Quick would not name CPP's advisor, but Tuesday he said that Manuel Machado, professor of history, had signed the registration form two to three weeks ago. Machado could not be reached for comment.

ASUM rules also require new groups to register only Fall Quarter.

CPP was approved during Winter Quarter and Mercer said that was again a case of following "operating procedure" instead of the written ASUM rules.

SAC Director Shaun Egger criticized CPP's approval and said the group should not be officially recognized because no constitution was submitted and the registration form had not been turned in to the ASUM office.

"I think it was handled more than fairly," he said.

Miller said the committee's decision favors parties with fewer members because the $150 limit will purchase more posters and advertising per member.

She added that $150 is not enough for the FAIR party to adequately campaign.

"I don't feel there's any need to spend more than $150," he said.

During the rally, Wyse demanded that $2,100 in student activity fees paid to the University go to the rugby club. He said because the club has 35 members and each pays the $20 per-quarter student activity fee, the $2,100 should support the team.

After the meeting, Higgins made the same request, saying the ski teams, which have a membership of 40, would be owed $2,400.

When asked where cuts should be made to fund the sports groups, Glen said, "Try the yearbook, or the Silvertip Skydivers."

Wyse suggested that the ASUM administration budget cut be "Hell, I'm asking for $2,000," he said. "They're asking for $52,000."

The accounting portion of ASUM's budget request was $52,741.39 while the ASUM administration asked for $53,997.82.

Wyse also spoke of a precedent that would be set if the recommendation not to fund the groups was passed by CB. "There would be no sports clubs in the future," he said.

Central Board will decide the final budget for the next academic year tonight.

The Montana Kaimin is accepting applications for Columnists $60/Month Reporters $200/Month Applications due by Friday, Feb. 28 at 5 p.m. in Journalism 206

Come hear the candidates air their views!
Opinion

Bye Bill
EDITORS: I was amazed at the apparent miscalculation of some of the Central Board members during the formal lobbying session last Thursday. Instead of listening attentively to groups sincerely pleading their cause, many of the Board members showed how actual student representation came second to personal self-indulgence. A good number of the board members, when they finally arrived, were too busy eating, reading, passing notes, or whispering and giggling among each other to pay much attention to the speakers. I was present in support of three different groups and spent about 50 minutes in the sessions. I felt at times like I was back in high school instead of in the company of those whose ambitions may one day take them to places of power and great responsibility. I do, however, thank those who appeared to be sincerely concerned. While talking to board members over the phone this weekend, I found that some of them couldn't understand the executive committee's proposals that seemed to lack consideration for the history and importance of certain groups, as well as student interest and support. I came to realize, while talking with Bill Mercer earlier this quarter, that he apparently had no intentions of supporting any group budgets that he himself had no interest in. Maybe Bill thinks that an individual's interests represent the entire student body and that anyone who disagrees doesn't know what's good for them.

There is currently a petition being circulated that calls for Bill Mercer's resignation and to have the budget procedures redone. I signed it after considering budget proposal and after sensing where our president's real priorities lie. Maybe you should too. Maybe this will encourage CB to wake up and do their job.

Well, bye Bill, good luck in the Senate.
Beth Yetter
Sophomore, liberal arts

Big axe
EDITORS: In response to Bradley Burl's column on the 20th of February, I have three comments. Where is it that you got your information? Are we living in the same country?

I was also at the speech which Representative Pat Williams gave in the Mt. Sentinel room concerning the Gramm-Rudmann budget cuts. Mr. Williams did an excellent job of presenting the facts which show that the Ronald Reagan spending program (One trillion dollars on military spending alone) is one of the, if not the largest ever. His deficit spending certainly is. Our present budget crisis can hardly be attributed to the Democratic Party. What's the problem Bradley? Perhaps it is too painful to see your favorite cowboy hero take a beating in public, with the TV cameras rolling.

The scariest part of this budget cut program is the fact that educational and social programs are getting the big axe. We are in the process of reducing the quality and diversity of our own culture so that we can build MX missiles and the Star Wars offense program.

You claim that those on financial aid programs at the schools are "junkies" mooching off of the Fed's. Don't forget that the money in the treasury is ours. We paid the taxes and many of us wish to see our tax dollars invested in the people of our country. Financial aid programs allow many people the opportunity to obtain an education that they otherwise might not get. The return to our country of having a better educated citizenry far outweighs the initial investment.

This trend of cutting away at social and educational programs first is permeating every corner of our society. The recent tactics of our own student government align to this. The executive recommendations of the Central Board are appalling. It is of no more coincidence that the programs of traditionally as liberal were unmercifully cut. In particular the assault on the Wilderness Studies Information Center is unfair, not to mention unrepresentative of the student body desires. I spoke recently with ASLM President Bill Mercer on the subject of the budget cuts. One of his comments was, "It is not my job to solicit the opinions of students on this campus. I am not going to do it. I don't have time for that. I'm taking 21 credits." Too bad Bill. Should have thought about all that when you ran for the office. Taxation without representation? You bet it is; and we are tired of it. I urge people to sign the petition circulating on campus for Mr. Mercer's removal from office.

Another monster on the horizon is the proposed state budget cuts. Again, education gets the axe.

University President Neil Buckley states that some degree programs will probably be eliminated. Natural resource majors look out! These types of disciplines will undoubtedly be the ones to be cut. Isn't it nice to know that the types of programs that this school is famous for are the ones to be destroyed? Wake up folks. Your meal ticket is being punched but you aren't getting the meal.

And for you Bradley, this must be due to the fact that you aren't a closet Nazi, you have been goose-stepping right across the pages of the Kaimin.

Michael G. Bauer
Sophomore, recreation management

Kaimin budget
EDITORS: Loyalty to the Kaimin built up over more than 30 years as Kaimin adviser requires that I volunteer some comments regarding the Kaimin budget. What I have to offer reflects concern for both the newspaper and for student government.

The Kaimin's legal position as a newspaper (as opposed to a shopper's guide or other free distribution publication) would be threatened by withdrawal of ASLM funds that are the equivalent of paid circulation or subscription income. It would cease to be a newspaper with an established source of circulation revenue. Its Second Class Permit requires that it be for adult...

I am quite certain that advertisers would view denial of funds, or even token appropriation, as rejection and would in time cease to use the Kaimin to reach their student market. A newspaper is a good advertising medium only so long as it has "quality" circulation. An ad is only so much ink on a bit of newsprint unless the paper is something of value.

A publication that ceased to have circulation income would be difficult to sell to a national advertiser, as is done by an eastern advertising agency and the Kaimin's nationally recognized representative. National advertisers want a student market served by circulation that students buy in some fashion.

I have long been proud of the Kaimin for its support of student governments, often at some risk of administrative and legislative displeasure. And I have similarly been proud of the Central Board for recognizing its unusual position as both publisher and government. The University continues to be great when it provides the environment for open exchange of approval and disapproval. A financially strong student publication is vital to a university community. An impoverished or beggarly newspaper can be timid and even ineffectual.

I know of no large college or university student publication in the West that does not have a publications adviser or adult consultant/manager. Publication costs and equipment investments have become too large for student survival to require some continuance. And student governments that bear or share the costs sustain the most successful publications.

Ed Dugan
Professor Emeritus and former Kaimin adviser

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Kaimin: Montana State University • Wednesday, February 26, 1986
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Montana Kaimin  •  Wednesday, February 26, 1986—7
Budget
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Richardson
Continued from page 1.

By James Conwell
Manager Reporter

A Central Board ad hoc committee decided Tuesday to recommend to the ASUM Constitutional Review Board (CRB) that the Publications Board "may, upon review, specify areas of news concentration for any ASUM publication." In a three to one vote, the committee decided upon this recommendation, along with other recommendations that alter the wording of the guidelines for the Publications Board. The recommendations will go before the CRB for approval or disapproval as additions to a revised constitution.

Other recommendations were made that would alter the way the Publications Board selects its members and chairperson, as well as alter the board's rules for meetings and deciding issues. However, the recommendations concerning the board's functions and authority over ASUM publications drew the most discussion among the committee and audience.

Carol Van Valkenburg, Montana Kaimin faculty adviser, said, after the committee's meeting that the recommendation "tries to substitute the expertise of the Kaimin editors and staff with a board that has no expertise." The recommendation could give the board the authority to make suggestions on things that are "at the heart of what the Kaimin does everyday," Van Valkenburg said.

Also, the wording of the recommendation is vague, Van Valkenburg said, when it states the Publications Board may "upon review, specify areas of news concentration...." "Upon review of what?" Van Valkenburg said.

John Neuman, the committee member who proposed this part of the recommendation, said after the meeting the phrase "upon review" means the board can look over a publication before deciding to make any recommendations.

"It's not that they're going to sit down at every meeting and review each publication," Neuman said. "I don't think that's feasible."

However, when students have a complaint about campus coverage, Neuman said, they will be able to bring their ideas to the board.

As an example, Neuman said, when speaking about the Kaimin, the main "criticism in the past is that it didn't cover this and it didn't cover that."

Ann McKittrick, chairperson for the ad hoc committee, said she is "unhappy with the decision" made by the committee.

"I don't feel five undergraduates on Central Board are capable of addressing First Amendment rights and liability issues," she said.

McKittrick said her job as chairperson of the committee was to "facilitate and participate in discussion" and she therefore did not vote.

Committee members Neuman, Lisa Poulton and Pete Sullivan voted in favor of the recommendation while Mike Craig voted against it. Committee member Margaret Miller was not at the meeting.

If the CRB approves the recommendations, they will go to Central Board for approval and then to the University of Montana administration for final approval along with the entire proposal for a revised ASUM Constitution.

If the administration approves the revised constitution, it will go before the students as a "referendum requiring a 25 percent voter turnout and two-thirds approval for it to pass.

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Smith contends that Mercer attacks liberals and liberal groups politically and factually. However, Mercer said, "Student government is not designed to be liberal or conservative," and the budget proposal reflects that.

Smith said he "will be tickled pink" if the petition leaves a "black mark" on Mercer's resume.

Can There Be Peace in Northern Ireland?

Betty Williams

Muhlen Park (Photo by Harold Williams)

March 4, 1986, 8:00 pm
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Lecture Hall

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