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MEUNDA CLAUDE PHOTO

Roofing: The Broyles Complex gets a facelift from this worker.

J-Board remains mystery to students

Chairman explains the disciplinary hearings' educational role

Robert A. Hayman
Traveler Staff

The University of Arkansas Judicial Boards are something nearly every student has heard of but knows almost nothing about.

Its name conjures images of a dark, musty room at the end of a long, winding hallway where students are interrogated and tortured for their misdeeds.

Students have been warned since their first day that if they mess up they'll end up there.

Exactly what happens when a student is sent to J-Board has always been a matter of guesswork for many students.

Curt Rom, chairman of the Judicial Review Committee, said it's about time the inner workings of the UA student judicial system were exposed to the campus community.

"One of the things we're trying to deal with is how do we publicize the activities of the J-Board," Rom said. "We want to let people know how we're living in this campus community. That's important for everyone."

The review committee was formed last spring in an effort to review the student judicial system

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Curt Rom,
chairman of the Judicial Review Committee

and determine if revisions are needed. Rom said recommendations for change will be sent to the Campus Council in December for review.

"We had a goal this summer of early October as being a time of committee education and input into the existing judicial system," Rom said.

One of the committee's goals is to better educate students and faculty about J-Board. Above all, Rom said, he wants the campus community to understand that J-Board is not a punitive system, but an educational system.

"I grew up in Fayetteville. I went to school here. I have strong feelings about helping the students of the state of Arkansas become better citizens," Rom said. "I want a lot of what happens at our cam-

pus to be educational."

"Young people testing the new freedoms are going to push the edge of restrictions. I don't want that to become something that could tarnish them. I want them to be able to learn what they've done," Rom said.

Rom said educating students who break campus and community laws involves making them understand their misdeeds and facing a possible campus punishment.

He said it's a better alternative than sending a student violator to civil court. There, students may never have a chance to come to terms with their crimes, he said.

"A lot of times, the educational process is just a chance for the students to sit down and say, 'I didn't think about what I did impacts me or impacts others,'" he said. "The criminal system doesn't give you that."

"Here, ignorance of the law is no excuse, but it is an opportunity for learning," Rom said.

Punishment for infractions such as campus vandalism may involve spending time in psychological counseling or doing community service. More serious crimes like

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of marching space present two major disadvantages, he said. Many of the bands marching routines have been changed due to the lack of room, he said. Band members and equipment have farther to travel, which cuts down on practice time, he said.

"It's not as good as the drill field," Warren said, "I'm not going to lie about it... It's not ideal, but it still works."

For the most part though, Warren and the members of his band are happy with the situation.

"Obviously, we are going to do anything we can to help the football team to be successful," Warren said. "One of the main reasons we exist is to help support our athletic teams."

"I have a responsibility as a professor of the class to make sure they have an appropriate environment to learn," Warren said, "and I think we've found that."

"Our kids have been great about it," Warren said, "they really have. They want this football team and coaching staff to be successful, and they're willing to make some sacrifices to see that happen."

"The bottom line is this: Does this help the football team win football games? Yes it does. OK, we're willing to make that trade," Warren said.

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terroristic threatening and plagiarism may warrant permanent suspension from the UA, Rom said.

"We don't want to penalize students," Rom said. "But we also don't want to just slap their hand and say, 'We're sorry about it. You were young and stupid.' There's a balance in the middle where we can help people learn."

Rom said when he attended the UA in the early 1970s, the campus judicial system was perceived by many students as a monster that was out to get them. Today, he said, that belief couldn't be more unfounded.

"What we're trying to do is determine are you responsible for your actions or not," Rom said. "If you are, can we make it an educational experience."

Enrollment figures delayed

Amanda Fincher
Traveler Staff

A change in the University of Arkansas computer system has apparently delayed the release of the school's fall semester enrollment figures.

The figures should have been released on Sept. 7, the 11th day of classes. As of Monday, they were not available.

Alice Lacey, the associate registrar, said the figures had not been released because of the UA's new SAFARI computer system had slowed the process.

"I'm not sure when the reports will be available," Lacey said. She said the reports the registrar currently

has are only preliminary.

"It is important for the university to be accurate," she said. "The computer system is new."

Harriet Jansma, communications director of UA Relations, said that the figures take a long time to prepare and should be checked before they are distributed to the public.

The absence of class rosters during the first week of school was attributed to problems encountered during the implementing of the SAFARI computer system. The rosters, which are usually available on the first day of classes, were not available until the second week of school.

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