

Faculty Senate ruling

# College advising policy changes

Freshmen as well as upperclassmen may face changes in student advising policy this year as colleges take advantage of a new University Faculty Senate ruling.

The ruling, approved Aug. 7, allows each college to set up its own advising plan subject to minimum requirements set by the Senate Subcommittee on Advising.

The ruling stemmed from a subcommittee report stating "It is unfeasible and undesirable to have a single undergraduate advising system" for every college.

The report cites factors such as variations in the student-faculty ratio from four to 50 from department to department as reasons why a uniform advising policy is not feasible.

The ruling removes the

Senate requirement that an adviser's signature appear on a student's registration and course change forms.

While the ruling allows each college to place more responsibility with the student, subcommittee Chairman Thomas E. Daubert noted many colleges probably will continue to require an adviser's signature on such forms.

"It's up to the individual colleges," he told the Senate meeting.

The minimum requirements which must be met by each college's advising program are:

— a named faculty adviser be available to each student;

— written information regarding University and

student's adviser could be a faculty member, a professional, a graduate or undergraduate student or the student himself (as in the College of the Liberal Arts self-advising program).

Each college may continue to use professional or student advisers as long as a faculty adviser is available to all students requesting one. The college requirements be made available to each student.

— referral information be available to students for help with individual problems; and

— written lists of all unfulfilled requirements be provided to each student prior to his tenth term.

Prior to the ruling, a

ruling specifies that the adviser must be trained in advising by the college.

When asked if the subcommittee had attempted to allow students to act as their own advisers, Daubert said widespread opposition to such a plan among the colleges would make its implementation impossible.

He said that, while "in most cases I don't think there is anything wrong with it," the University is legally responsible to parents to see that advisers are provided to students.

He said steps toward self-advising programs could be initiated only through the individual college student councils.

—RN

## Rings trilogy author dies

LONDON (AP) — J.R.R. Tolkien, who called himself a "persnickety old academic" but was a literary superstar to millions of youthful admirers, died Sunday at the age of 81.

The author of the trilogy

"Lord of the Rings" became ill with a perforated ulcer while visiting friends.

Tolkien was an Oxford don known to the British academic world as an authority on Norse legend and Early English. But his Rings

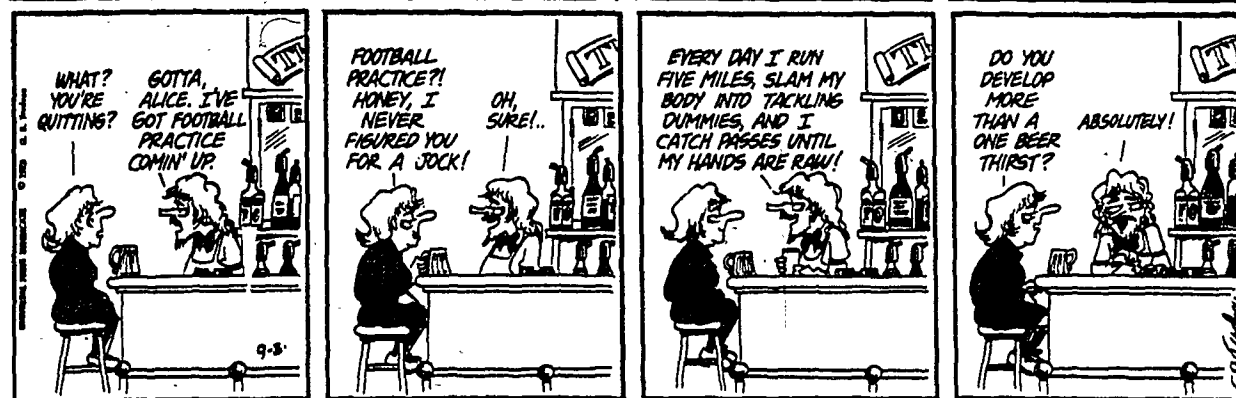
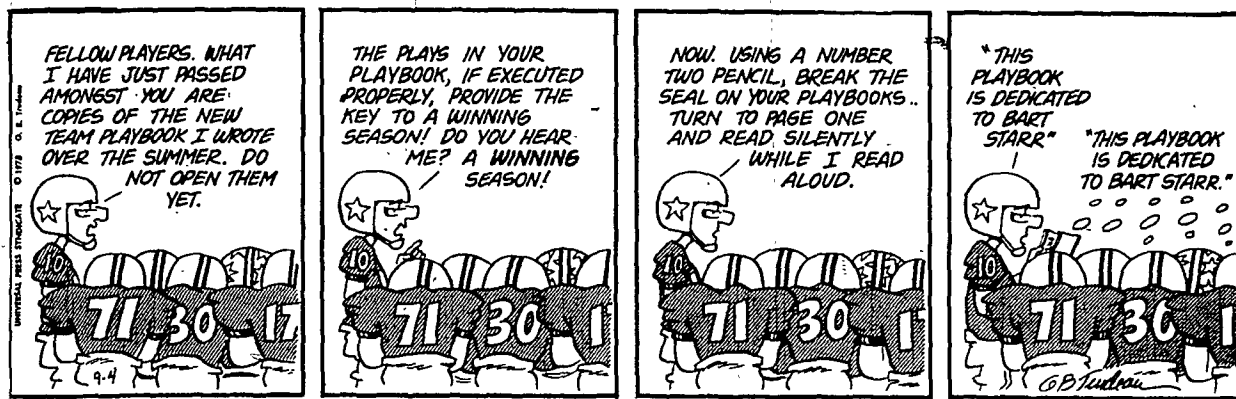
trilogy, published in 1954-55, and his earlier "The Hobbit" were taken up by young Americans in the 1960s, and Tolkien became one of the most popular writers on U.S. college campuses.

"The Lord of the Rings" is a fantasy about the battle between good and evil, for which Tolkien invented a world populated by a people he named hobbits struggling against Sauron, lord of the magic rings.

To escape the adulation of his admirers, Tolkien fled from Oxford in 1959 and moved with his wife to a country hideout. After her death last year, he returned to Oxford as an honorary resident.



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### Postal rates increased

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Postal Service won permission Friday to increase the mail rates for the nation's newspapers and magazines within the next two weeks.

The Cost of Living Council ruled that the increases are exempt from Phase 4 price controls.

The increases affected second, third and fourth class mail, which primarily includes newspapers, magazines, pamphlets, books and records.

There will be no change in the rates for first class and air mail letters and packages.

A Postal Service spokesman said the rates will take effect Sept. 9 for items postmarked after 12:01 a.m. local time.

The Cost of Living Council also announced it would not challenge the new wage agreements between the Postal Service and nearly 700,000 postal workers.

Wage agreements for about 608,000 non-supervisory personnel were negotiated by four unions to be effective July 26. This raised wages, averaging about \$10,000 a year, by about \$1,000 a year.

The council said benefits over the two-year period of the contract "taken together constitute a settlement within stabilization standards."

The postal rate increases is the second of five annual increments recommended last

year by a postal rate commission. Magazine publishers have said they will be disastrous for some publications.

The new rates, set out in a complicated Postal Service schedule, vary according to weight and destination as well as the class of mail. But a spokesman listed some examples.

For a typical second-class weekly publication mailed within the same county, such as a small-town newspaper, the mailing cost will increase from six-tenths to seven-tenths of a cent for each copy.

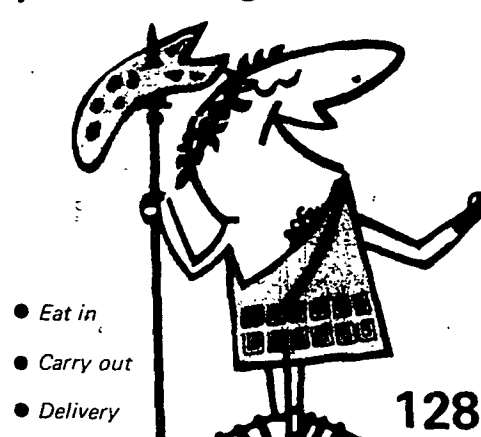
The rate for nationally distributed publications of non-profit organizations, such as the AFL-CIO newspaper, will rise from three-fourths to nine-tenths of a cent per copy.

The second-class rate for a typical commercial publication such as Time and Newsweek magazines, will go up from 2.8 to 3.4 cents a copy.

Third-class bulk mail rates for the booklets often distributed by nonprofit organizations will increase from eight cents to nine cents a pound.

And fourth-class rates commonly applied to books and records go up from 14 cents to 16 cents for the first pound and from seven cents to eight cents for each additional pound.

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