

# + EMERALD EDITORIALS +

## A DAY AT THE ZOO

### Columnist Advises Love, Politics-Lorn

By BOB FUNK  
Emerald Columnist

My sister, who is a burgeoning (could that possibly be the word?) journalist at Ukiah Union High School, Ukiah, California, occasionally writes a scintillating column in the school newspaper under the elegant nom de plume of "Dottie Fix-it." This column is for the purpose of disseminating advice to the lovelorn, of which there are dozens in Ukiah Union High School. My sister has never been in love, but she is full of advice.



So, partly inspired by my sister, and partly by headlines proclaiming that "Nine Reveal Intentions to Run, Maybe," I am offering advice for the politics-lorn. I will not adopt the name of Dottie Fix-it for this purpose; that would be illegal since my name is Bob.

Question: Dear advice to the politics-lorn department; Spring came, and suddenly I found myself thinking—maybe I am the answer to the University of Oregon voter's dream. Maybe my eyes would go nicely with the top of the Senate table; maybe my voice voting "yes" would inspire them to say—he is not just a politician, he is a student statesman. How can I best impress upon the student body my excellence and purity of soul, my profundity of thought, my . . .

Answer: can that stuff. The way to get ahead in politics is get your name before the public. Try an assumed name; you have to live with these people after the campaign. The best approach is the oblique approach. You want to run; but you don't want to just come out boldly and announce the fact. So get your name cast before the swine in a different connection. Say you are from Harney County. Organize a Committee for the Betterment and Protection of Students from Harney County. Have a meeting with the other two students from that county, and be elected an officer. Then foist yourself upon the Oregon Daily Emerald with the following statement: "The University of Oregon is being unfair to us students from Harney County. We are sure that we have to stand in longer lines than anyone else during registration. I, personally, if I may be allowed to modestly inject this, have visited most of the other important counties in Oregon and have talked to most of the important persons in those counties, and find that their students are treated in a far different matter.

"The Harney County committee does not intend to enter campus politics. Rather, we will merely try to add fuel to the dying flame of democracy in Eugene."

The Emerald will print this, because it is naive and also terribly short of news. You are now on your way.

Then, after you have the populace picturing you as a sort of male Liberty Leading the People, you crawl up to the ASUO office and file for a public position. This will confuse everyone as to whether you wish to become a politician or a Savior of Democracy. If you can keep them confused for the rest of the spring they may vote for you.

But I doubt it. Question: Dear advice, etc.; I am a lovely young girl of 18 years. I was a drum majorette all during high school, and a test I took in Cosmopolitan magazine said I was a natural leader. My friends in Carson have told me that I should run for something because running for things is a real nice thing to do and you meet really nice people in activities and it would be cute to be on the ASUO senate. I was going to run for sure until I got a horrible sunburn with strap marks. Now I'm not so sure. What do you think.

Answer: I could not be more sympathetic to your cause, but unfortunately the deadline for filing for office has passed. However, if you were to take your sunburn and strap-marks over to the ASUO vice-president, he might extend the deadline; after all, he is a mere man.

Question: Last year I filed a petition for something and forgot about it. Ever since that time I have been wondering what happened, but have been too embarrassed to ask. My friends have been acting strangely. I keep getting ASUO Senate minutes in the mail. Can you tell me what happened to my petition?

Answer: You were elected ASUO President. Congratulations.

Columnists note: my sister's column is usually considerably better than this. This series will not continue over until next week; surely I'll be back from vacation by then.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Huge Success

Emerald Editor: Would like to take this opportunity to thank the Junior class for their time, effort, and the splendid care they put into the Easter Egg Hunt for the children of District 4.

Although it was impossible to have the hunt, the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves as expressed by the young charges I helped retrieve from the throng Saturday afternoon.

So, from one mother, thanks to one and all that participated to make it such a huge success.

Yours truly,  
Mrs. E. J. Christie

## Serious Situation

In newspaper circles, many editors frown on front page editorials, even when clearly labeled as such.

Even the more progressive editors who use the device save it for serious situations.

The situation at the University of Washington is such a situation.

The open letter which appears on page one of today's Emerald, labeled as an editorial, was not written to aggravate a generally unhappy situation.

It was not facetiously intended, nor is it humorously or sarcastically written.

The Emerald has taken the liberty of publishing the letter, as stated, because we're certain we speak for the vague, often loosely-used, near intangible known as academic freedom. Again as stated, we're certain that a majority of the students, faculty members, and members of the administration of the University would second our invitation. At least, we hope so.

We call attention to an article, "U Prof Sees Both Sides," in the University of Washington Daily of April 8. The article, based on a statement by Washington Associate Professor of Economics Dean A. Worcester, Jr., showed that the controversy on the Washington campus is the result of two varying views of the function of a university.

In short, those views are:

1. The view of University President Schmitz and of faculty members who feel that a university is a place where opportunity, morality, and knowledge are imparted to students, and that "moral qualifications and adherence to social proprieties (must) outweigh scholarly attainment;"
2. The view that "the university is primarily a community of scholars and is concerned only in a secondary way with training students in the professions." They see the main product of the University as knowledge.

Perhaps in the middle ground between the two, there is an answer to the Washington question.

But we interpret Oregon's decision to leave its invitation to Dr. Oppenheimer open to mean, not merely that Oppenheimer is a brilliant physicist, but also that his "morality" has not been proved defective.

Again, we hope our interpretation is right.

## Investigation Needed

We're glad to hear that an orientation program will be held to acquaint the freshmen with the preferential system of voting. However, we think this inadequate since the system itself needs to be investigated.

The preferential system could probably be understood by everyone if they would assist in the counting of ballots following an election, but such a plan is not feasible.

It is the duty of the ASUO senate to inform the students as to how the system works—or to get a better system. Since it is difficult for most students to understand the system, either due to lack of interest or the system's complexities, the senate should take some positive step.

We feel that most of the confusion is due to misunderstandings regarding re-distribution after a person is elected or is declared defeated.

We suggest, as a possibility, that the ballots in the student body election be tabulated in much the same way as they will be at Idaho.

The preferential system could be used, but the ballots would also be counted, only on a trial basis, under the weighted preferential method. A decision, based on experience could then be made. — (P.K.)

## Best Yet

Al Reynolds has made the best move yet in the involved and somewhat humorous veterans' movement on campus.

Reynolds, program director of the first and now, only, veterans' committee on campus, Tuesday moved that the committee send cards to all veterans on campus asking if they are interested in a veterans group.

As is the case of most groups with which the Emerald has not been in complete agreement, the suggestion has been made that it is necessary to attend the meetings of the group in order to comment upon its activities.

It's a plausible suggestion, and one which is followed as often as possible. But such a policy, followed rigidly, could certainly "raise Cain" with editorial comment on the UN, state and federal legislatures, and foreign affairs.

We've talked to several persons who attended the most recent meeting—and it's obvious that two facts are the most significant:

- First, that one veteran, as he left, told the committee, "I don't believe you have a problem."
- Second, that an investigation as to how many veterans feel the need for such a group will finally be conducted. This, in our opinion, should have been the first step.

It's the best yet.

## Another Hat

A second hat has been tossed into the ASUO presidential ring.

The appearance of Bud Hinkson's hat in the ring came as no more surprise than the announcement of Sam Vahey's candidacy a week ago.

From all appearances, it looks like it should be a good contest, and the campaign should bring out some positive suggestions (and we hope, action)—not only for improving student government per se, but also for improving the position of student government.

Both candidates noted in their initial statements a need for action—Hinkson calls it a need to consider problems that are "more vital to the students."

Vahey said that his platform will be "one of action — it will indicate positive steps which should and could be taken by our senate."

Both are good candidates. However, partially for the sake of the candidates, and partially in the interests of good student government, we hope they won't be running unopposed in the primary. They were as this was written, three hours before the deadline.

True, there's no great surplus of campus leaders this year—but no-contest primaries seem to us to be evidence of an unhealthy situation.

## Footnotes

A warning has again been placed by the out-of-order door on the east side of the SU. Placed on that big signpost, it gives one the impression that the entire Student Union, or maybe the whole University, is out of order.

\* \* \*

Since the group was organized along military lines, we were surprised to see the "Veterans' Committee of More Than Ten" disband. We had expected it to go onto a "ready reserve" status.

\* \* \*

Despite the fact that only two of 4200 students see minterested in the office of ASUO president, Bob Summers' office in the SU was a mild madhouse between 5 and 6 p.m. Wednesday, with late filers for office, etc.



The Oregon Daily Emerald is published five days a week during the school year except examination and vacation periods, by the Student Publications Board of the University of Oregon. Entered as second class matter at the post office, Eugene, Oregon. Subscription rates: \$5 per school year; \$2 a term.  
Opinions expressed on the editorial pages are those of the writer and do not pretend to represent the opinions of the ASUO or the University. Unsigned editorials are written by the editor; initialed editorials by members of the editorial board.  
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