

Bicycle rules needed to end hassles

The Office of Campus Security is confiscating bicycles allegedly in violation of campus parking regulations. The most recent "roundup" occurred last week when University employees cut lock chains on bicycles parked on the library loading dock and hauled them away. OCS Security Supervisor Winfred Smith said the bicycles were confiscated because they "were in direct violation of bicycle parking rules."

What rules?

The 1971-72 University parking regulations, as published and distributed by the University, make no mention of bicycles. Bicycle owners are not required to buy parking stickers for their "vehicles" nor are they ticketed for violations of campus traffic safety regulations. There is no direct mention of bicycles in the regulations. The only indication of any University rules governing bicycles on campus is a few scattered signs prohibiting bicycle parking in certain areas.

This is not to say rules are not needed. They are. The thousands of bicycles on campus create a massive parking and traffic problem. The appropriate campus committee should study the problem and create a minimum number of rational rules so that people know just where they can ride and

park without having their expensive lock chains destroyed.

Until rules are officially set up though, riders should refrain from parking bicycles

in posted areas or in fire lanes and the Office of Campus Security should restrict their "tow-aways" to bicycles parked in these places.

A change in policy

Beginning today, the Emerald will have a new policy in reporting the names of women in the news.

In the past, the Emerald followed traditional journalistic styles and referred to women by their full name in all first references and by their last name in subsequent references. However, in each instance, the name was accompanied by either Miss or Mrs., depending upon the marital status of the woman involved.

Beginning today, we will no longer refer to women as Miss or Mrs. in any story. From now on, all women referred to in Emerald stories will be referred to as Ms.

The tradition of including a woman's marital status with her name whenever she does something newsworthy is one that journalists are going to have to leave behind in the near future.

It is a tradition that is based on the woman's marital status when that status usually has nothing whatsoever to do with the story being reported.

It is a tradition that says a woman is not an individual but the wife of an individual every time she does something newsworthy.

It is a tradition that distinguishes married from single women, while no attention is given to the marital status of men.

It is a sexist tradition and one that must be left behind.

People are beginning to realize that a woman's marital status has nothing to do with her abilities or her actions as an individual.

Newspapers can help by doing away with the titles Miss and Mrs.

The Emerald will begin today.

Letters

A felony by another name

An article appearing in Monday's Emerald concerning the arrest of one Charles Cory on the charge of marijuana possession presents rather blatantly a problem which is of considerable social significance and of incredible concern to individual victims. Cory's arrest was written up in the same manner as arrests in two unrelated incidents, one an armed robbery, the other assault and battery. The implication not expressed but evident in the Emerald's presentation is one seemingly common to our society—i.e. marijuana possession and use is a felony; which although recognized as being a lesser offense to society than armed robbery, manslaughter, forcible rape, etc., is nevertheless dealt with in the same manner by our judicial system. One is inclined to say that this state of affairs is somewhat unjust and unfortunate, and

that something should probably be done to rectify it. However, this reaction is not at all suitable to the situation.

A law which can properly be termed unjust is one which prosecutes random individuals for an activity participated in and condoned by a large percentage of a given citizenship. When, as in the case of the vast majority of marijuana smokers, an otherwise law-abiding, socially responsible individual lives in day to day jeopardy of felony conviction and resultant prison sentence and restriction of career activities, the time has come for appropriate legal action. The laws of this country are made for the benefit of the general welfare of this population. We are the ones who must initiate and enact realistic legislation. We can start now: it is election year, with federal, state, county, and city positions opening up. If it was you in the paddy wagon on the way to jail for a "crime" which probably 90 per cent of

your friends and acquaintances engage in, I'm sure you'd agree that the time was ripe for reform.

Candler Smith

Correction

It might be useful to those who are interested in the proposed Martin Camp Retreat described last week in the Emerald to know that there was an error in your coverage. The land belongs to the James Forten Foundation of Eugene and is being made available by that group for the use described in your article, rather than having been (donated by) me. My wife and I are members of the Foundation. We are both delighted at the interest shown by the ASUO; I am confident that the other members of the James Forten Foundation are just as pleased. It is especially satisfying to see the evident commitment the ASUO has to stressing its

potential use by disadvantaged children of all races and cultural backgrounds, while making it available to many other kinds of groups for different uses.

Such an emphasis points up the very reason—for—being of the Foundation.

Robert M. Trotter
Dean School of Music

Instructional Quality

The conclusion to be reached regarding your editorial "A Look at Good Grades" (Emerald 9-29-71) and its comparison of grade distributions between the Education and Journalism Schools is evident to all beyond the fourth estate. The explanation stems from instructional quality.

Henry Dizney
Education

