

The editor says goodbye

We've come full circle in the last year.

When I began my term as editor, one of the first week's issues was a special "No Business as Usual" day in which we editorially urged people to get involved in bringing an end to the war in Indochina. One year ago this week we were urging members of the campus community to participate in a May Day Moratorium and take time out from their daily routine to act against the war.

Since that time, of course, the war has ended.

At least it's ended in the mind of President Nixon.

But it's still very real to the Indochinese. U.S. troops might not be in evidence, but we've made up for that with increased bombing missions. To the people on the receiving end of those bombing missions, the war is very, very real.

The war is also still very real to America's prisoners of war and their families. But, instead of ending the war so we can get our prisoners back, we've insisted on prolonging their incarceration by prolonging the war.

So the war isn't really over. And now another May Moratorium is planned next Thursday, on the second anniversary of the Kent State killings. And now I am ending my term as editor as I began it: by asking members of the campus community to take time out from their daily routines to demonstrate their convictions, to show that they do not support the war in Indochina—and once and for all to end that war.

The war MUST be stopped.

I'm not saying that each of you must take to the streets in protest and it doesn't really matter what next Thursday is called. It can

be a strike, a moratorium or even a day of concern.

But it should be a day on which the normal campus activities take the back seat—for at least one 24-hour period—to stopping the war.

And, in this election year, there are obviously many avenues to peace besides demonstrations, open to each one of us.

Next Thursday could well be a day for you to set your school work aside and go out into the community, canvassing either for peace as an issue or for specific Presidential candidates.

One day is not too much of a sacrifice when you look at the stakes you're playing with: Richard Nixon's continuing war games or a candidate who will guarantee an immediate end to the war.

If you'd rather work at the Senatorial level, there are some obvious peace candidates there you could canvass for next Thursday. It doesn't really matter whether you're democrat or republican, both parties have a peace candidate running for Congress.

But you should do what you can to make sure the choice left Oregon voters next fall is a choice for peace between Mark Hatfield and Wayne Morse.

Participating in the electoral process is only one activity available for next Thursday. There will be many other activities going on in conjunction with the day of concern. But the political campaign provides an opportunity for persons who have been saying they're against the war but pooh-poohing demonstrations to give a day for their convictions.

Whatever activities you decide to par-

ticipate in next Thursday, you should at least think twice before you enter into your daily routine. And one of those thoughts should be about the war in Indochina and what it's done to this nation.

After such a thought, you shouldn't have much trouble deciding to take a day off for peace.

We can't stop once we get the war in Indochina ended either. We must all work together to make certain that we do away with all wars, to make certain that days of protest like next Thursday will not be annual activities in the future.

A postscript to my staff:

The paper has functioned well as a news source this year only because each of you made it function that way. It has functioned as a watchdog for the public only because each of you made it function that way. And it has gone through its first year as an independent newspaper successfully—and emerged as a professional newspaper—only because each of you allowed that to happen.

Too many times a newspaper is personified as its editor. When that happens, it's unfortunate. The editor is not the Emerald; 100 of you are.

In the past year we have fought some good fights together. Sometimes we've been right, sometimes we've been wrong. All I can say is I think we tried.

I know you will continue to support your beliefs long after I'm gone. I wish you luck in those ventures; I know you will act as professionals. I can only thank you for being a part of the Emerald this year. Without you it would have been nothing, with you it was everything.

Art Bushnell

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May 4 must be different

May the 4th will be called a number of things—a strike, a moratorium, a mass action day, etc. It is not the name that is important. What is important is why it will exist at all for the University of Oregon as something different from any other May 4.

The present government in the United States should not have the confidence of the people. The recent and continuing bombing in North Vietnam only serves to

heighten the obvious: that Vietnamization is not working; that while we spend time picking up bottles and cans a whole country is being destroyed; that while the United States boasts low American fatalities, lower than Ireland even, 130,000 other people are killed each year in Southeast Asia; that while the United States espouses democracy it is willing to prop up the Thieu regime almost at the expense of all else; that while the

President exercises great power, the corporations exercise greater power and are allowed to, thus apportioning the gains of war to themselves and the losses to the people of the United States in the form of a drain on their pockets and the cost of their lives.

That the tragedy that is Vietnam has not really hit the American people must be obvious from an appraisal of the attitudes of the supposedly best informed—the

faculty of universities. That the University of Oregon faculty with some knowledge of the cost in Vietnam voted not to decide on ROTC, symbolic as it may be, is important; but more important is their ability to switch from the serious mood commensurate with that problem to one of obvious joviality when discussing the next issue. The real tragedy is still the seeming lack of awareness of people as to the situation in Vietnam and also their frustration and consequent unwillingness to deal with it.

I would therefore like to urge this University to take time out on May 4th to educate itself, to activate itself and, at the same time, to educate and activate the rest of the community to the tragedy of this war and to do something about it.

May 4, 1970, saw four students die at Kent State. We made a fuss over that. Yet it was only four deaths as compared to hundreds of thousands in Indochina, but it made May 4, 1971, a different day. May 4, 1972, can be a different day in Eugene if this University takes itself to the community to inform, to petition, to support candidates. Nobody should be coerced—student, faculty member, or someone from the community. It is up to each person's individual conscience, but if that isn't pricking every person in this University now it never will be. There seems to be some hope that electoral politics might work in this country in 1972, but it needs more than having the taverns closed and the polls open.

If people strike on May 4th that is one thing. It doesn't do much. However, if people take time out and work as a personal goal to help change the present tragedy, May 4, 1972, will be worthwhile. The mechanism to do things will have been set up by a small group of motivated and committed people, the rest is up to the rest of this University community.

