

Who controls

Who controls Mac Court? Any student or group who has tried to coordinate the scheduling of an event in this facility has wondered who indeed does control it. Technically the University president exercises authority over most facilities on campus. In the case of Mac Court the authority has been delegated and divided between the EMU director and the Athletic Department. The EMU director is responsible for the scheduling of events and the AD is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the facility.

The real issue is who decides which events are approved and which sponsoring groups are denied access to the facility. According to section 18.090 of the University's administrative memos, "Events must be scheduled and/or approved at the scheduling office at the Erb Memorial Union to insure that the date of an event will not conflict with other previously scheduled programs." Obviously the intent of this ruling is to prevent scheduling conflicts, but the office of the EMU director, if it chooses, can use this approval authority to decide which events are scheduled. In the past the director's office has interpreted this section as authority to decide the appropriateness of events.

The fact that students are not allowed any voice in deciding which events are scheduled or approved is even more incongruous when one considers that students are the largest single group in attendance at these events. In addition students were the largest contributors to the construction of Mac Court and Hayward Field with \$226,000.

Students deserve more of a say in policy decisions affecting the use and scheduling of Mac Court. The ASUO proposal to create a student-faculty governing board for Mac Court goes a long way toward granting students a chance to determine policy. The proposal would still leave the ultimate authority over the facility with the University president and would include the vice-president for administration and finance on the board.

This proposal was approved by the University senate Wednesday by a vote of 26 to 12. The proposal goes to the general faculty Jan. 14. We urge the faculty to adopt the proposal and give students a more equitable share in policy decisions regarding the McArthur Court facility.

Deficit shared

Last quarter, after observing that the Child Care and Development Center (CCDC) budget deficit controversy had dragged on past the time necessary for a reasonable resolution, the *Emerald* editorially called for all concerned parties to sit down and immediately begin negotiations to end the dispute. The controversy had at that time evolved into a name-calling, finger-pointing contest between the CCDC and the EMU. The point was that both the EMU and the CCDC contributed to the crisis and the fixing of blame may have soothed an ego but would not have removed the deficit.

Following the editorial, the IFC, the EMU director and the CCDC began joint negotiations during the week before finals under the auspices of ASUO Pres. Jim Bernau. The negotiations lasted through Wednesday of finals week and ended with the IFC, the EMU and the CCDC each assuming a share of the \$17,325 deficit.

While the deficit was resolved, other questions concerning the CCDC and the EMU were revived following the negotiations. IFC Chairer Jamie Burns is concerned over how much power students actually have over their own student union. He points out that the EMU should be directly responsible to the students, but that it is now run by a professional staff, under the authority of the University administration. Bernau is concerned that incidental fees support of the CCDC is indirectly helping CCDC parents pay for tuition.

Both of these areas should concern students. The operation of the EMU is definitely weighed in favor of the University administration at the expense of students. The amount of benefits accruing to the student body from the CCDC program is doubtful. Answers are needed and students have a right to expect them.

Letters

Defense pledged

I pledge allegiance to the Declaration of Independence and to the Constitution and the Bill of Rights of the United States of America and to the freedoms for which they stand.

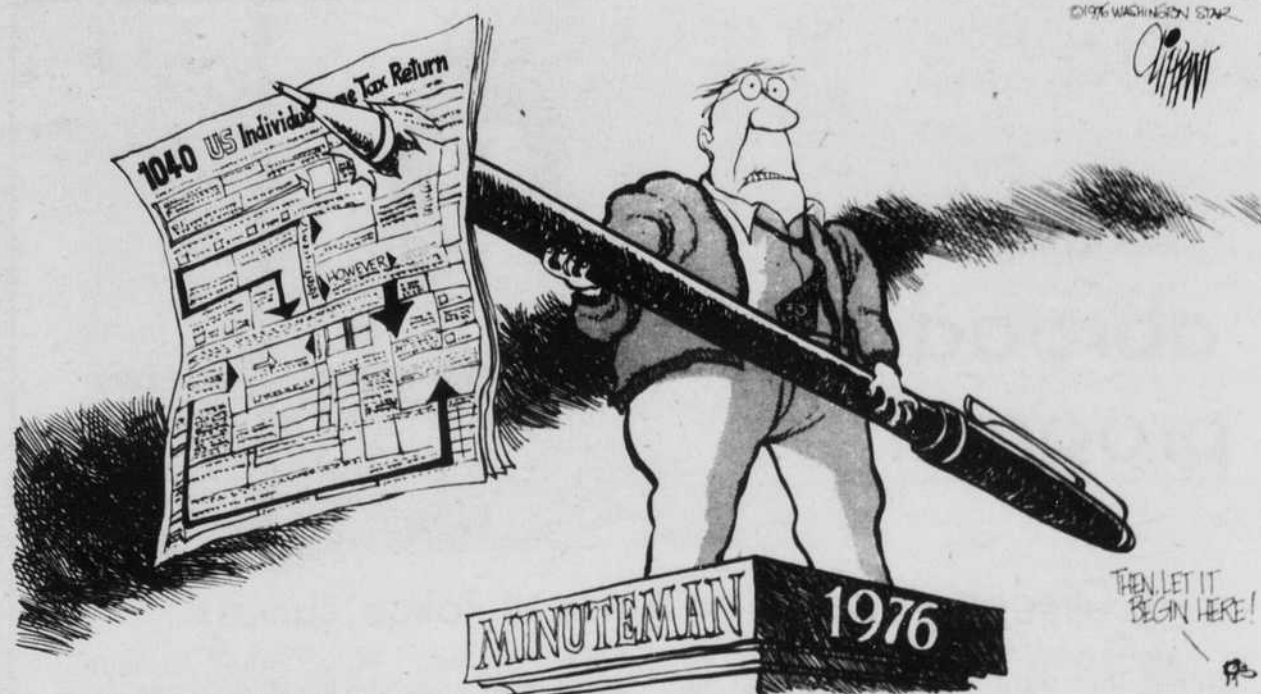
If other alternatives fail and the need arises, I then pledge myself to the force to arms to defend my neighbor or myself that these constitutional liberties shall not be confiscated from us by any foreign power or any colonial style police state commission government created within.

I do not recognize that under the Constitution and Bill of Rights of Page 4 Section A

the United States of America that the Oregon legislature has any right to create or the Oregon Supreme Court any right to sustain any council of governments such as C.R.A.G. or a Land Conservation and Development Commission or any other colonial style police state government of such nature.

I pledge to hold any tyrant who would create or enforce or any Tory who would accept or condone such police state governments fully accountable and reprehensible for their actions.

In defense of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights and to ensure that my constitutional free-



THIS IS THE YEAR FOR A REVOLUTION...

doms shall not be forcibly taken from me, I further pledge I will not allow my firearms to be registered or confiscated from me.

At this time 200 years ago the cause of freedom appeared very grim — a dedicated people, with God's help, gave us what we had up to yesterday.

Let us rededicate the year of 1976 to eliminating these cancers

from our government and let freedom ring!

Eldon Austin, President
Clackamas County Rural
Landowners and Home
Owners Association

Letters policy

The *Emerald* will accept and try to print all letters containing fair comment on ideas and topics of

concern or interest to the University community. Because of space limitations, letters must be no more than 200 words, typed triple-spaced, dated and signed with the person's major. No unsigned letters will be published. Longer opinion columns will be published whenever possible after being submitted to the editorial page editor. The limit on opinion columns is 800 words, using the same format as letters.

satire

Secession now

Editor's note: The following satire was submitted by Robert Liberty, ASUO president, '74-'75. Liberty is currently studying at Oxford as a Rhodes scholar.

Living in England has given me the opportunity of observing the debate over Scottish devolution at close range. The arguments are compelling. News of Welsh, Breton, Corsican, Azorean, Catalanian, Alsatian and of course Basque separatist movements fills the British papers. The Jurassians in Switzerland have forced the central government to develop plans for the creation of the first new canton since the Treaty of Vienna. The examples of Bangladesh, Eritrea, the Kurds and Singapore, to name a few, show that separatism is more than a European phenomenon.

Why are Oregonians so quiet? Consider our causes for grievance. To the south looms the Golden Peril, California. Plans are constantly being proposed for the diversion of Columbia River water to California or to meet the domestic needs of its bloated population. Until they can have our water, they'll be glad to take our hydroelectricity. Anyone who has seen the great swaths cut through our forests for the pylons and transmission lines knows the measure of their greed. Not content to usurp our water and electricity, they stream across the border in hordes to claim our very land. The danger of becoming a California colony, a mere suburb of Los Angeles, increases daily. Those Californians unable to permanently escape console themselves with vacations in Oregon. Their campers, trailers and station wagons crowd us off our roads and out of our parks and wreak death and destruction on our highways as they roar north trailing a cloud of exhaust and spewing a hail of litter. Of course, a human life just doesn't mean the same thing to them.

To the west the Soviets snatch the salmon out of the nets of Oregon fishermen, protected by a fishing limit regarded as archaic by most other nations but still recognized by the United States government.

Northward, Hanford and central Washington contribute their various atomic, agricultural and urban pollutants to the Columbia, contaminating it before it reaches our borders. (Trojan is nothing to be proud of but at least it is downstream from major population centers.) As the Puget Sound region's urbanization accelerates, Seattleites and Tacomans eye Oregon coastal or east Cascade resort properties hungrily. I would not be at all surprised if Washington and California were even now secretly negotiating the partition of Oregon.

Who can help but feel a thrill of horror imagining the two victorious invaders linking up in the smoking ruins of Eugene or Prineville? If it can happen to Poland it can happen to us.

Fortunately Hells Canyon divides us from the Idahoans (or "spudniks" to use the common pejorative term) who want nothing less than to plow Eastern Oregon under, from Sisters to Nyssa, and seed it as one gigantic potato patch. Perhaps they will receive this sparsely populated but spectacular half of the state for their acquiescence to the partition.

We are surrounded by enemies.

But we can't rely on the bureaucrats and media senators 3000 miles away in Washington, D.C. to protect our interests. Most of them believe Portland is a port on the Pacific backed by the Rocky Mountains.

We can't even control the immigration which is converting our farms and forests into a wasteland of tract homes, Burger Kings and Safeways. The livelihood of Oregon commercial fishermen is sacrificed on the altar of détente. It is naive to think that Washington's policies are not consciously anti-Oregonian. Surely you don't think it is a coincidence all that nerve gas is stored in our state?

Our culture is being destroyed. Just as the unique beauty of the state is being submerged under a wave of asphalt and plastic, so the distinctive Oregon twang and drawl is being homogenized out of existence by national radio and television. Oregon may become a Kansas with mountains.

There is only one remedy: secession. Halfway measures are fruitless and cowardly. The Blaine Society has been taken over by appeasers who would lick the boots of an oppressive central government. McCall was on the right track when he proposed a navy but he didn't go far enough. Only through independence can we restrict immigration, declare a 200-mile fishing limit, nationalize the operations of polluting multinational corporations, redesignate all National Forests as wilderness areas and convert I-5 into a four-lane bike path.

It is not impossible. Oregon would be well able to cope with a period of isolation by the U.S. We have energy in abundance, lumber for export and are capable of feeding 10 million people with virtually every food product grown in the temperate zone. Foreign aid from America's enemies would pour into Oregon. There would be Chinese consulates in Portland, Grants Pass and The Dalles and military attaches from Zaire would help train the guerrilla fighters based in the Coburg hills. With a little boldness we could carry the day. We have nothing to lose but our chains!

Long live the Republic of Oregon!