

State 'Non-workers' blasted

Beef Box:

Although you are all aware of the inefficiencies of the way this institution is run, I would like to ask the students and the administration for an explanation of a situation. On Monday, Jan. 26, I was walking on University Street towards Esslinger Hall when I viewed what I assume was a typical State of Oregon work crew. I observed them from 9:30 a.m. til 10:15 while having a conversation with two of my friends. During this time there were three State of Oregon vehicles and seven workers. I was shocked into a state of disillusionment to see two of the seven pounding on a metal grating pipe while the five others watched or did various other things. These various things included reading the *Emerald*, talking, sitting on the yellow barricades and watching some of the sights.

The question I am asking of anyone in the administration or others is this: Why should all of us pay to have these unnecessary people on the payroll? In just this one instance we paid these five people \$8.62 (assuming minimum wage \$2.30, for three-quarters of an hour), just to sit and have fun. After all, I did not pay tuition to the UO Welfare Fund. Of course, I'm a bit old-fashioned thinking that people ought to earn their wages.

By the way, if the administrator who does attempt to answer my question disbelieves my story, I have two other witnesses and the license plate numbers of the three state vehicles to prove my point.

**Steven Fogelson
Junior, Political Science**

I wish I could say that some

administrator did disbelieve this story. I wish that I had been told by some righteously indignant official that no University personnel was guilty of goofing off on the job, and that there must be some mistake.

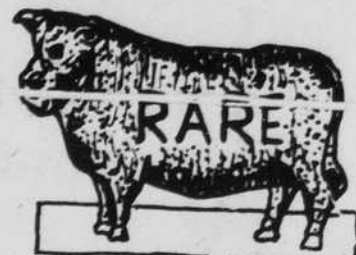
Unfortunately, according to Harold Babcock, Director of the University Physical Plant, occurrences such as the above are not uncommon. "I'm sure this kind of thing happens all the time," he admitted, "and I'm sure that the amount of money here was much more than eight dollars."

Babcock cited instances in which he had come across workmen apparently lounging around during working hours. "Maybe they had nothing to do at that particular moment, but it really is in poor taste; it just doesn't look good to any tax-payer-including myself."

When situations such as this

The Beef Box

By CAROL MURKOWSKI
Of the Emerald



are spotted, the best method of stimulating action is to call the Physical Plant immediately and report the date, place, and license numbers of any state vehicles present. With this information, it is possible to go back to the job orders and trace the persons involved. Calling the information in early will get more accomplished than writing a letter of complaint to the Editor or the Beef Box, as it is difficult for the Physical Plant staff to follow up on dated protests.

"Anytime anything like this happens and we can get the details, we're anxious to check it out," Babcock stated. "It costs us money, too." For those persons with complaints concerning the Physical Plant, call 5243, or stop by the office at 1300 Franklin Blvd.

Got a Beef? Let us know! Drop off your beefs at the Emerald office, 301 EMU. Beefs published every Friday.

Sailing club charts for San Juans

The San Juan Islands north of Seattle are the destination of a contingent of University sailing enthusiasts over spring vacation.

About 50 members of the University Sailing Club have rented 11 sail boats for a seven-day cruise of the islands.

"These boats are really yachts," said Tony Burns, coordinator of the cruise. "They range from 25 to 37 feet in length and are fully equipped."

All types of boaters, from novice to expert, will be making the trip. A discount from a charter boat outfit based in Seattle and Anacortes will keep the cost to under \$100 per person, including food, transportation there, and the boats.

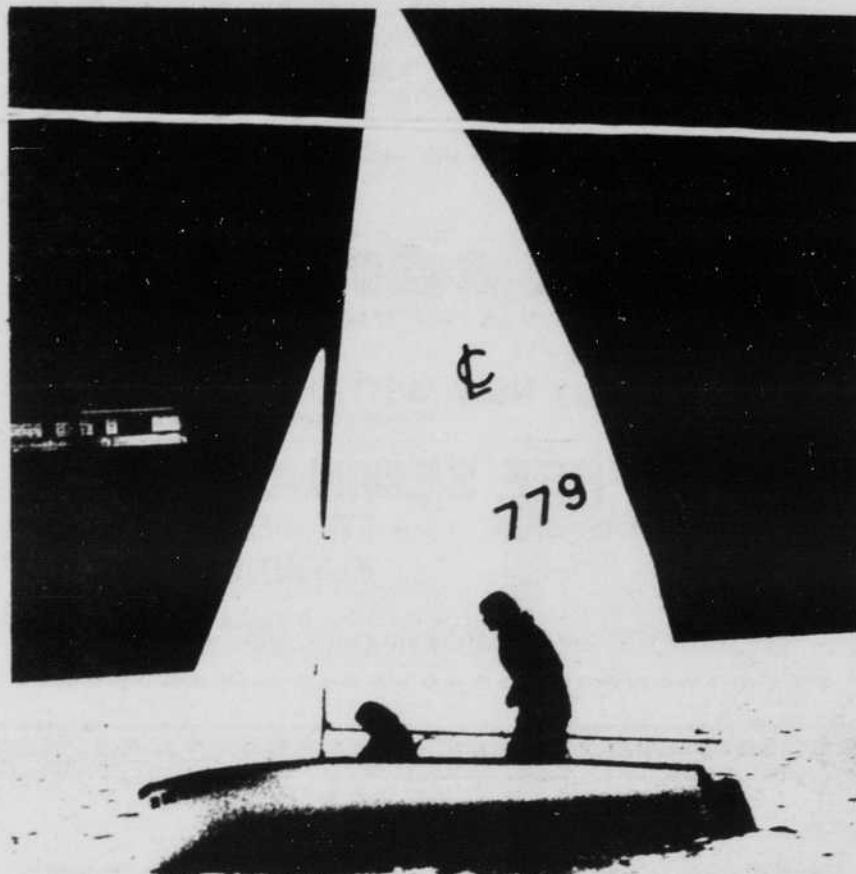
"We have a lot of people on the waiting list," said Burns. The group is looking for additional boats for the trip but has little hope of finding any more.

This is the fourth year the club has gone to the San Juans over spring break.

"It's close, yet still an adventure. The weather is usually very good since it's sheltered by Vancouver Island. I've been up there in February when it's been 70 to 80 degrees," said Burns.

Charter boat operators in the past have had lower winter rates for spring vacation, according to Burns, but the increased interest in sailing at Northwest universities has resulted in greater demand and increased prices.

"This is still about the most reasonable deal around. The boat rental for the week will be about \$50 per person," Burns said.



SEARCH needs lots of people to get classes together for Spring Term. Courses in demand include languages, artsy-craftsy things, out-door activities, music topics, and many others too numerous to mention here. So bop (or Boop) on down to the SEARCH office and get the ball rolling.



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