

Letters

Little one can say

There is very little one can say about the recent "Voters Pamphlet" produced by our local "student association" which is good. Unable to let this example of blatant disregard for fairness go by, the following reasons shall make the point.

First off, the message from Mr. Garrett is uncalled for. Second, the inability on the part of this literature's authors to clarify for us not-steeped-in-politics students whether this booklet represented the "Primary" or "General" election is inexcusable. Third, the failure to list the candidate's qualifications in the same order as represented under the page marked "Voting Procedure" is unforgivable. Fourth, the separation of the first listed candidate for president by a printer's device and a section titled "Married Student Housing Elections" from all other candidates is unanswerable.

Fifth, the failure to limit each candidate to a specific length of pamphlet space is unwise. Sixth, though more excusable, is the presentation of the "Constitutional Amendment" to voters. It helps to provide the old wording and some history of why students are being asked to vote on this. Lastly, and repeating, when the voter has read to the bottom of the last page of the pamphlet, it is still not clear which stub is to be included.

Frank Geltner
speech, grad.

Platform explained

The most recent *Emerald* editorial has managed to "misinform" anyone who is still capable of following exactly what is going on involving the SEARCH Program for Alternative Education and its recent involvement with the student politics of this University.

Maybe I should begin by attempting to clear up some things that are not altogether factual nor true. First, when I assisted in writing the initial letter disclaiming any support for the Jim Davis Campaign, I realized full well the support position that was being implied by his campaign literature. The position that I felt at that time and that I continue to feel is that we are being used as a plank on his political platform. According to the *Emerald*, Davis is running on a seventeen-plank platform. If you read and understand the campaign literature, you will see that SEARCH is listed as one of these seventeen planks.

Let me take a few lines to verbally diagram exactly what a presidential platform is: A platform is something upon which a campaign hopeful stands for support, generally in order to be visible to the assembled crowd. A platform is constructed of firm pieces of wood, commonly referred to as "planks." These planks offer the campaigner support: this is the ideal metaphor for the term presidential platform. To reiterate, a platform is something upon which the campaigner relies for support. SEARCH has been misrepresented as being a plank in the platform of Jim Davis: I've said it before and I'll say it again. I hope you readers are able to understand this aspect of our campaign involvement.

The *Emerald* has not allowed itself the necessary objectivity to grasp this simple issue, nor have many people in the student government.

Yesterday's editorial also states

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that "some SEARCH members are unhappy that the writers (of the initial anti-Davis letter) implied that they (the writers) represented the program's staff when they used their official titles." If this is the case, none of these unhappy people have expressed their discontent with us to us. We at SEARCH keep rather regular office hours; we welcome any member of our program to come and discuss with us their areas of displeasure.

SEARCH is the outlet for alternative and innovative education of this campus. We espouse alternatives to every level of consciousness; an individual, a group or a nation that closes off alternatives quickly becomes stagnant. Nothing lives in stagnation; being involved daily in the action/interaction between our program and the student government as it now exists, I have failed to enjoy the experience of support or co-operation which should exist among concerned individuals.

Since our initial letter was printed nearly two weeks ago, I have felt a small portion of unnecessary bad vibrations whenever I walk into Suite 4 of the EMU. I trust anyone involved in all this unnecessary factionalism will understand that it is the system which must not be allowed to control our individualities. It is altogether too easy to allow the machine of impersonalization to run away with our lives, our selves, our values and our priorities. To say I love and am truly concerned about each and every one of you may seem mushy and trite, but if I didn't, I'd honestly be guilty of writing a letter of "half-truths."

Michael Connelly
SEARCH
religious studies, sen.

Stand stated

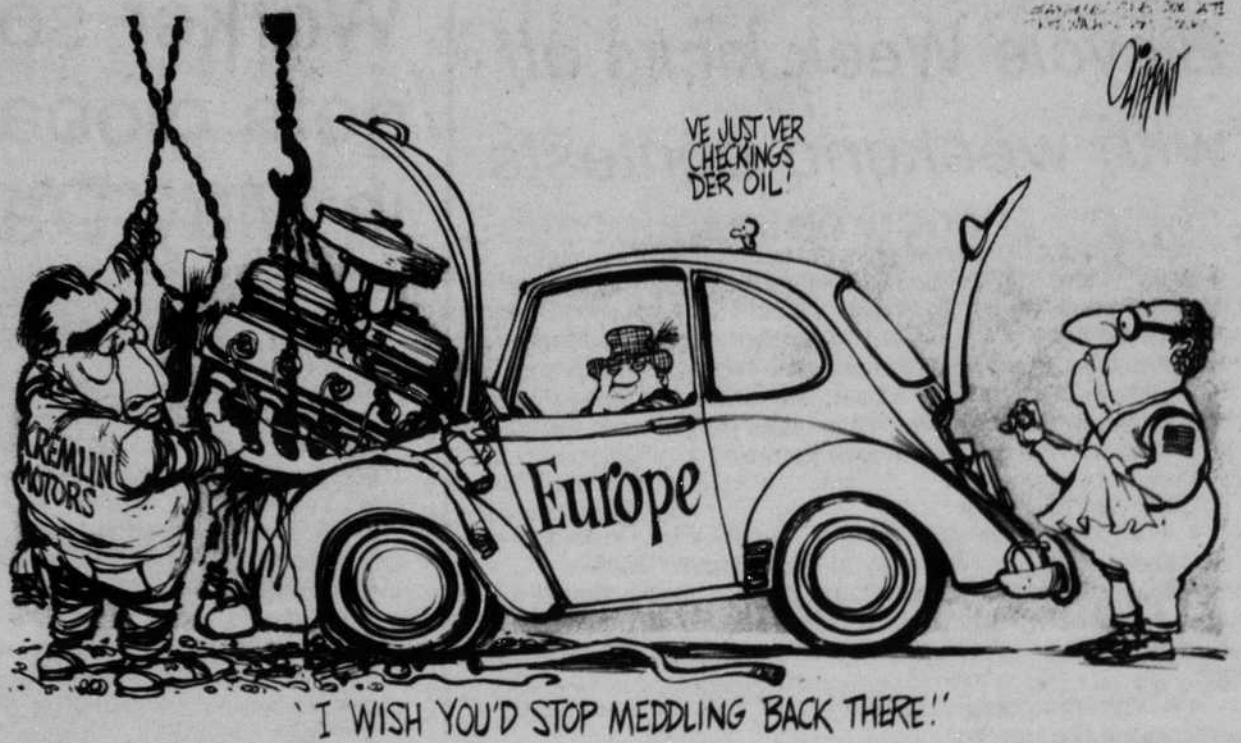
Perhaps the greatest irony of elections is that candidates seem to spend more time working hard and listening well prior to elections than once in office. One person who has not spent an overwhelming amount of time distributing posters and making promises is IFC candidate Derek Wilkins. He has stated his stand and left it up to the students to decide for themselves whether what he says is reasonable or not.

As we know, those students involved in student unions, CDCC, club sports, etc. want to see their needs met, yet students not involved in these say that they are supporting a small number of students with money from everyone. Derek says, fund these programs at a reasonable level, but make them available to enlighten the whole student body. Cultural nights, etc. fulfill both needs; they promote harmony, education and allow for diversity.

Needed programs, such as CDCC, which do not serve the full student body should be partially funded and partially self-sufficient. Money also is an issue in itself. When programs are funded, monies for publicity must be included, so as to make the services known to everyone. How many of you know about a group funded by IFC that loans power tools? There is such a thing, but of what use is it without publicity?

So! Remember Mr. Wilkin's stand, think about it, and then vote for whomever you think best, but don't forget that Derek Wilkins will work for you while in office.

Jeanine Rabedeau
English, secondary ed., jr.



opinion

Nickel says no shorts

Many of us townfolks read the *Emerald* to find out what's happening up on campus these days. Generally, your newspaper appears to be informative and (surprising to some of us) objective.

So when I read Les Zaitz's first column promoting John Charles for district attorney and taking a partisan swipe at Pat Horton, I assumed it was just a little youthful overexuberance. When the second article came out last week making Charles sound like Young Lochnivar and Horton like Rasputin, I decided your man Les was either on Charles' payroll or he had gotten his journalism training at the *National Enquirer*.

The first thing that made me suspicious was when I read that "Eugene's legal community is split between Charles and Browne." Now I know quite a few lawyers myself, and not too many of them think too highly of either of those two, not that what lawyers think makes much difference anyway. For what it's worth, however, most legal people I know certainly don't agree with Horton all the time, but like me they figure he's head and shoulders above his two opponents. Anyway, unlike Les, I'll readily admit my partisanship.

Instinct told me I should look at the article more closely.

In the first sentence, Les got Horton's name wrong (obviously a subconscious effort to warn the reader that the rest of the article couldn't be trusted either). Then he spent the next few paragraphs engaging in the latest popular reportorial technique, psycho-journalism. This is where the reporter looks into the mind of the subject and determines what his/her/its thoughts are, i.e. "Horton is confident he will win the race with little effort...he's not terribly impressed with his opposition...Horton is listening to people who are telling him he doesn't have a problem in bagging the election...Horton hasn't realized how much the publicity over his use of county funds for travel has hurt him."

I was naturally curious how Les could know more than the rest of us mere mortals, so I decided to call up Horton (you really can reach him personally by phone) and ask him. Amazing thing, Les, he'd never even heard of you! I told him he would before this was over, probably introducing John Charles on "the radio and talk show circuit" or flying his banner "from the tail of an airplane."

Anyway, it seems that the real Pat Horton is genuinely concerned about his opponents. Apparently, they have refused to discuss campaign issues with him at public forums or anywhere else. He knows their names, but not their platforms. "If John Charles sends out 100,000 picture-filled brochures like Les says," Horton sighed, "I suppose a lot of other folks will know his name too." Horton said he's fully aware that he has some powerful, well-healed (sic) enemies who'd like to see him out of office.

"I guess Les is right," he said. "Get that name out. Get it known. Pull a banner with his name on it from the tail of an airplane." Maybe I should start packing up now."

True progressive

There's a three way split in this year's county commissioners race between a progressive, Doug Melevin, and two status quo conservatives, Nancy Hayward and Archie Weinstein.

Originally, Hayward was a liberal commissioner but she has in recent years become a bureaucratized, stagnant conservative. Doug Melevin is the only true progressive in the race.

Doug is for marijuana reform,

stopping nuclear power plants and increasing taxes on Lane's big businesses.

Steve Penzol
1905 W. 6th St.
Eugene, Oregon

Friday, April 30, 1976

"Of course," Horton went on more hopefully, "Les probably told the folks about Charles' stand on marijuana. That should cost him plenty of votes on campus. Helps him with some people, though."

I grabbed for the article. Not a word! You mean Les left something out of his campaign pitch for Charles to the University community?

"He did if he didn't mention dope," Horton stated emphatically. "Look, four years ago I was practically alone in law enforcement circles calling for an easing up of marijuana laws. Practically cost me the election. But I won the University area almost two to one. The campus voters put me into office. Now Charles wants to turn the clock back and restore the stiffer penalties."

"Come on now," Horton sounded a little incredulous. "It's the only issue I've even heard him take a stand on."

Not a word in the entire article! Shame, Les, shame!

But what about this using county funds business, I asked. Les says, "the people who do the voting at the poll still smell something fishy."

"It really hurts," Pat said, "but I guess some do. And it's the phoniest issue they could have dug up."

"It always irked me that politicians were constantly flying here and there on county time and at county expense. So I made certain that when I was invited to testify or speak on law enforcement issues that I'd do it only on my vacation days, and that I'd insist the county be reimbursed for my expenses whether I was paid or not. Go see for yourself. The county has paid out less total expense money for me than any other county official I know of."

"When your political opponents want to get to you, they'll try almost anything."

But Les says you're not politicking, you're not out shaking hands.

"Well I do have a job to do, you know. And I'm at my desk most of the time. But I'm spending my evenings at mills and shopping centers and issues forums and with small groups, and I've got dozens of campaign workers who are doing the same thing. I'm even setting up a table on 13th Avenue near campus. Tell Les to drop around."

OK, Les, drop around.

And, incidentally, or maybe not so incidentally, those of us who are resentful of anti-feminist remarks were none too pleased to see Les, ever the shill for his candidate, end his article with the statement that "Charles and the voters could very well surprise the shorts off a lot of people."

Presumably, Betty Browne would be one of those people, Les, and my nickel says she doesn't wear shorts.

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