

Letters

Machine breaks

By now it should be clear. Oregon is a state where political machines break down. The landslide victory of Jan Oliver in the ASUO presidential race was inevitable. It was made so by a handful of ASUO executive VIP's who thought they could bulldoze their man into office.

A barrage of pro-Davis letters and endorsements appeared in the paper with nauseating frequency. The Emerald itself not only picked Davis as the only candidate worthy of endorsement, but repeatedly came to his aid with flattering editorials.

It was all doomed to fail. In Oregon people think for themselves. Who doesn't understand that doesn't understand Oregon. The next time the ASUO execs or the Emerald or any coalition thereof wants to railroad an election they should think twice and go somewhere else. Like Chicago.

Richard K. Mueller
Eng., jr.

Boots off chairs

Numerous students on campus appear to have few qualms about draping their feet across any temporarily unoccupied chair, desk or table during classroom and library hours. It seems fair to conclude from this behavior that they care more for their personal comfort than about the discomfort of others who have to sit in the filth left from their boots and shoes. I, for one, would appreciate it if these loungers would begin to make some distinction between a public institution and "home swinish home."

Burt Kornegay
history, sr.

Out of character

Elections, campaign, candidates, libel, slander and courtroom are all common words in an election year. Nationally, these words appear in the daily papers in hundreds of cities all across the country, but let me localize them for you. This past week in the runoff election for the vacant Incidental Fee Committee (IFC) post, two candidates, David Parr, the incumbent, and David Tyler, the challenger, fought an out and out war for the position, with Tyler the victor by some 70 votes out of 1,500. An over zealous David Tyler in the quest for this coveted post outrightly accused David Parr of several violations of campaign ethics. First off, Tyler accused Parr of insufficient research concerning the discussion of the Panhellenic Council's budget. The director of the Panhellenic stated that she said nothing to that effect concerning Parr's research ability. Secondly, Tyler accused Parr of excessive absenteeism from IFC meetings. The average number of absences for an IFC member this year was 11.5 times. Parr missed a grand total of two meetings. Finally, Tyler accused Parr of general incompetence concerning the IFC and the budget appropriations for the coming year. Tyler apparently based his statement on the two previous charges and this charge as well as the other two is totally absurd. Tyler in the quest of justice had Parr appear at a hearing concerning the charges. At the hearing all charges were dropped and Parr

was totally exonerated. Tyler, even though he didn't win his case, did raise enough doubt in the voter's mind that it may have cost us the presence of a competent IFC member in David Parr. If underhanded tactics such as these are any indication of Dave Tyler's ethics and responsibility, I have a great fear that my \$76 of incidental fees will be misappropriately handled and needlessly wasted. Waste is nothing new to someone that spends over \$100 on a campaign for an office in student government. I, for one, feel a public apology should be made on behalf of David Parr. I think this is the least Tyler could do, but I also expect no apology to be made, for it would be out of character for the new IFC member.

Richard Kuhn
psych., soph.

Same old boss

I was surprised to read in Friday's paper your report on Crow Dog's lecture. In the question and answer period Crow Dog expressed his views on the position of the Indian women, in which he said it was the woman's place to stay at home. In case there was any doubt as to what this meant, he further stated it was necessary for her to be behind the men. He said the women were "our shell," so that everyone would realize when he said "we" he meant male Indians. The Emerald failed to make note of this in its glorified report of Crow Dog. I'm sure if Gloria Steinam came here and spoke on women's rights, adding that, of course, this would not apply to Indian women, there would be cries of "Racist." I react the same way to Crow Dog's blatant sexism. Fortunately the political leaders of AIM at least pay lip service to women's equality, but I wonder how they can hold a feminist position and also recognize Crow Dog as the spiritual leader of the movement. How can I empathize with a man who wants the freedom to determine his way of life, so that he in turn can dictate to women? It seems ridiculous for women to put energy into a movement that will only shift power from white men to black men or to red men. Meet the new boss. Same as the old boss.

Carol White
non-matriculant

Image suffers

Saturday evening, May 22, I rode my bicycle to Alton Baker Park in search of the stars. What I found was less than heavenly. The Native American Student Union at the University was sponsoring a week-end-long gathering in the park. I am sympathetic to the American Indian and in favor of their gathering. I was offended, however, by the blaring amplification which I considered excessive and incongruous. What angered me most was the great number of broken beer bottles lurking along the bike path and sidewalks, waiting for the unwary biker. At one point I had to carefully walk my bike about 100 feet through a field of broken glass along the path. (Do these Indians wear moccasins?)

No doubt, only a few of the group were guilty of this abuse. The local image of American Indians suffers, though. I would



satire

'Bigger, better' philosophy still alive

When I was a teenager, somebody told me a joke that caught my fancy. The joke goes like this: The United Nations undertook a research project to make a complete study of the elephant. Each nation was asked to contribute research on one important aspect of this majestic animal. England chose to report on Her Majesty's Navy and the elephant. The French promised to find out everything about the love life of the elephant. India decided to look into the role of the elephant in non-violence. The Russians picked the subject of the elephant and dialectic materialism. And finally, Americans proposed to devise ways of making bigger and better elephants.

Today when I look at different parts of the joke, it seems to me that the world has really changed since then. Once mighty Britain hardly has a navy to be proud of. The French are not too keen on the subject of love; other nationalities, like the English, Scandinavians and Americans, are making many of the new moves in this area. India has abandoned non-violence and is on the brink of becoming a dictatorship, perhaps dreaming of becoming an atomic super-power. Even Russia is copping out on dialectic materialism.

How about America? Is America still interested in making bigger and better things? Does that frontier spirit still dominate the American scene? There is a lot of growing concern from a lot of people on this subject. Many people have expressed apprehension about the environmental consequences of this "bigger and better" philosophy. Others have pointed out that even in America, the resources are limited. There is an energy crisis at hand and we cannot go on making everything bigger and better and being number one. Even Detroit seems to be making smaller cars.

Is America changing, then? Losing in the battle against entropy, is America willing to settle for second, third, or, even tenth place, maybe, in the push for grandeur? No, it doesn't look that way. Beneath the surface, this country is still as bullish for the bigger and better philosophy as ever! Our navy is the biggest in the world, but they want more. Our defense budget is the biggest in the entire history of mankind, yet there is unrelenting pressure to make it even bigger. Our giant conglomerates are so much "bigger and better" now that they can buy and sell entire foreign governments.

We have built new skyscrapers which outstrip the magnificent Empire State Building. We have made the big 747 and still contemplate making the better supersonic. Our nuclear power plants are the biggest ever in the history of the power industry. The new word from Detroit is that they are going back to bigger cars again since that seems to be what Americans want. Even in politics, instead of a few scattered primaries, we have thirty, perhaps to demonstrate that we have a bigger and better democracy. No, like the elephant, this country hasn't changed in its basic philosophy.

Here in the state of Oregon the power industry has started yet another campaign to make the economy of the state "bigger and better." Even in Eugene, the new athletic director at the University wants this city to become a big-time football town. In fact, I have to look very hard to find something around me that is shrinking in size. The UO faculty is one. Perhaps the Oregon legislature is doing something desirable after all!

Amit Goswami
professor, physics

hope that the organizers of the event are more offended by this incident than I am.

Stuart Kelly
2925 Oak St.
Eugene, Oregon

Report dismays

I spent most of the winter weekends in Eugene and came to admire the University of Oregon. Therefore I was dismayed when the news media this morning reported that Oregon State University students booed Reagan on the "pot" issue. I have openly opposed Reagan from his entrance into politics and at present am an active Udall supporter (Church is equally commendable). But why boo Reagan on the one issue where he may be right? Would you rather quibble over the issue of "pot," have your "pot" and go to pot rather than tackle the substantive issues? I am afraid too many with their alcohol and drugs cop out from facing the national and international evils which need to be tackled with clear heads and vigor. I hope the news media was wrong and that you are showing at

least an equal concern for such matters.

Eugene A. Hessel
13043 109th Ave. N.E.
Kirkland, Wash.

Get involved

In an effort to continue the tradition of student participation in the affairs of the political science department, I am inviting every political science major to participate in the election of a new president of the Political Science Student Union (PSSU). The PSSU works closely with the department in the selection of courses, the admission of grad students (who become your TAs) and department policy.

In addition to sponsoring the highly successful Mock Democratic Convention last month, the PSSU has sponsored a Senate Simulation class, a symposium on Watergate and several films and speakers.

The election will be in the EMU (room to be posted) Tuesday at 4 p.m. and I would urge that every major in political science that can

attend to do so. This is the perfect opportunity to do something about the department that has so much to do with your four year stay here at the University.

Please come and get involved.

Michael A. Schaefer
pres. PSSU

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 250 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.