

Hello, Us & an Index

Hail from the chief

I've been advised not to write this piece, but it seems I'm going to do it anyway. Over the past few months I've spent a great deal of time thinking about where the Emerald ought to go this year and figuring out how to guide it there. I'd like to share some of my thoughts.

While not directly subsidized by the students (the student body contracts for subscriptions at a rate of 2½¢ per student per issue) the Emerald does have an obligation to serve students' needs. To me this means doing more than reporting what happens within the boundaries of campus.

1976 is an election year, and many of the issues to be considered directly affect the lives of students. In light of this a good deal of the Emerald's energy will be directed toward comprehensive coverage of the elections and the upcoming legislative session.

Another responsibility of the Emerald is to provide coverage of the activities of the ASUO. While many people complain about ASUO coverage, the student body association at this University is an extremely active one, and each student on campus contributes a good deal of money to fund it and its programs. Coverage of the ASUO provides a check on how that money is spent as well as information allowing students to make use of the services available.

Entertainment is another thing that should be provided in the Emerald. By maintaining a varied staff, we can keep the Emerald interesting. Anyone (Emerald writers don't have to be students) who feels he or she can offer new ideas or fresh talent is welcome to come up and experiment. In addition, we are going to try some new things this year remembering that even though schemes turn sour now and then,

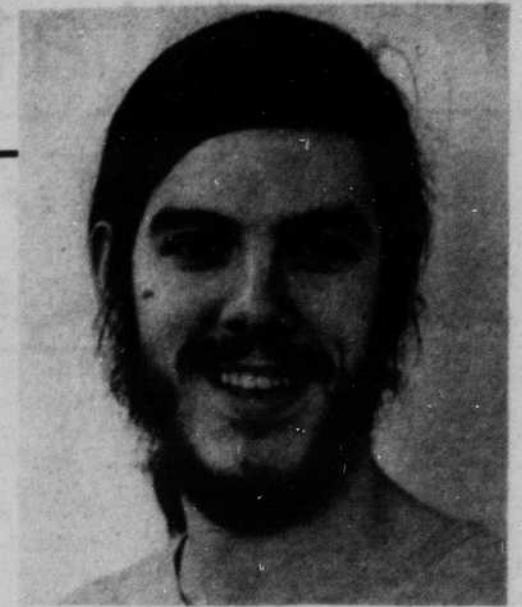
innovations come from experiments.

Finally, anyone in the Emerald's audience is welcome to make use of our ability to reach a large number of people. The editorial page is open to anyone with something to express, one restriction that any submitted material must be typed using 65-space lines (our process requires data be in that form).

Another form of reader access being planned for this year is a twice monthly section composed of reader-submitted material. The pages will be filled with poems, short stories, drawings, and even news reports written by non-Emerald people. The section will start sometime in Oct., and more details will appear before then.

A quick note about this orientation issue. A good many people have worked hard to produce a resource students could use. Someone who takes the time to read this issue will find a good supply of useful information and hopefully reason to keep it around for reference.

For those who've never been told, the Emerald is located on the third floor of the



EMU and the phone is 686-5511. Anyone who has a suggestion on how the Emerald could be improved, or is just curious about how things operate around here, should come up and see me. I'm looking forward to a productive year and hope that come June a majority of students will feel the Emerald has served them well.

Greg Wasson
Editor

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