

Letters

Frozen beer

As the sun rose over the Emerald Kingdom this morning, I awoke in the magnificent splendor of my dorm room. From beneath my pillow I spied the wreckage and carnage of the prior night. All three varieties of the Colonels' chicken were represented on the floor, and both regular Cheeto's and the quick fried to a crackly crunch lay like snow over the clothing, books and records.

But what stirred me most as I lay in my UO sheets was the keg. Now 54 hours since its' loss of virginity, the ice I had so carefully banked in the corner of the room had not melted.

Now fully roaring in my alcoholic stupor, I scream "Ibn Sharmuta!! What swill is this, this Oly that will not melt?"

In excitement I reach for my shorts, but pull away only a hem as they are frozen to the desk top. I inadvertently knock my chalice of hair of the dog (mug to the illiterate) from the desk top to the floor.

But as the chalice bounces among the Cheetos, does beer spill forth? NO!!! The beer lay on the carpet, solid as the ice, solid as my chances at grad school. A curse on ye, H.P. Barnhart of the University Housing Office, a curse on ye for freezing my beer!!!

It is now three hours since I last tried melting the door open with my BIC butane. I am now burning the last chapter of my last text book, *Organic Chemistry for Fun and Profit*. How Strange, text books are quicker and easier to burn than read.

As I munch down the beer cubes — much better than Breakfast Squares — I pray that the OLCC will forgive my sins as I have forgiven theirs.

And may H.P. Barnhart be locked in the first floor Carson Hall men's room till he truly repents of

his previous sin of leaving the heat turned off in over 1200 dorm rooms.

c-c-c-coldly,
Dusty
Junior-Accounting

Bartel for IFC

I was shocked to read in the ODE the other day that the positions on the Incidental Fee Committee and the SUAB are receiving as little interest as they are. The University of Oregon is one of the most open to student input of any in the Oregon System and the nation. We have the direct responsibility for allocating over \$1.3 million in Incidental Fees while other campuses don't. OSU, for example, allocates theirs on the whim of the University President. We must be jealous of what power we have or it will be taken away in the same subterfuge that stole Mac Court from the students.

I have chosen to run for the IFC because I am a firm believer in popular control of the environment, in this case the University community. Students must become involved. How can we get them off our backs (to borrow a phrase from a local rhetorical group) if we don't get off our butts?

Paul Bartel
Sr. Political Science

Uzbek is Uzbek

A headline in Thursday's Emerald proclaims: "Russian art at public library." And if you go to the library, you will find a poster identifying the exhibition as "Russian graphics from Uzbekistan."

However, it appears that these works are Uzbek graphics by Uzbek artists. The Uzbeks are utterly distinct from the Russians in language, religion, and culture — including their artistic traditions.



Eating at the dorms: Onoda's view

Both the Emerald and the Statewide Services office have made a mistake comparable, to let us say, referring to works by Bengali artists as "English art" back in the days of the British Empire.

Of course, this is confusing to most Americans, and our news media generally commit errors of this sort at every opportunity, spreading and perpetuating the confusion. This year, however, you can cut through all the nonsense and misinformation simply by signing up for Geography 410G, "Soviet Nationalities," taught by Ronald Wixman (Geography) and Stephen Reynolds (Religious Studies). It's something a little different on Tuesday afternoons, and we think you'll like it.

Stephen Reynolds
Religious Studies

RSB misguided

As could be expected, the Revolutionary Student Brigade failed miserably in their planned protest at Philadelphia on July fourth. I pity them in their misguided idealism, but the flame of liberty continues to burn brightly across this nation. That flame would not survive in the so-called "working class" revolution. We've seen the results before. No, America isn't perfect, but our imperfections only serve to illustrate that our task as a nation is yet unfinished. Certainly some reforms have been slow in coming, but change is beginning to accelerate as we enter a new era; not an era of limits, but an era of growth in the cultural rather than the physical sense.

The new and now proven election reform laws signify the first step in "cleaning up" government. Here at the University we must follow suit by overhauling our own election rules. Some improvements have been made, however, the rules must be completely overhauled as the first step in reaching the vast number of students who, judging from the voting turnout, feel disenfranchised from the ASUO. The ASUO is the greatest tool we as a student body

have to provide relevant educational opportunities. Let's work to make it effective.

David Tyler
Sophomore, Economics

Defender of rights

Your editorial, Politics of Altruism, although "tongue in cheek," was a good estimate of my thinking on the matter, with one exception. I haven't found it necessary to place "your interests" above my own, since I fail to see any difference.

My interests as a candidate are the same as yours — I want better government. If the other three candidates shared my view, they would withdraw tomorrow since I do not think any of them is as qualified as I am to produce the desired change. Obviously, they do not agree with me and that is what makes an election race.

I would like to point out that, in fact, I can represent the interests of every person in the fourth district because I am a consistent defender of individual rights, (the right of every person to live his/her life in any manner, as long as he/she doesn't violate the equal rights of others.) Since each of us has an "unalienable" right to exist, regardless of whether the law chooses to recognize it or not, I oppose the Washington power lusts who try to regulate, restrict, harass, control and destroy our rights because my rights depend on yours.

A recent editorial comment described me erroneously as being "on the right" of my opponents. I would like to know where freedom is on the left-right spectrum. And I would like to know where my opponents stand on the issues of abortion, pornography, drug use, compulsory schooling, prostitution, homosexuality, taxes and the draft. For or against individual rights, gentlemen?

Well, you know where I stand.....

Tonie Nathan
Independent Candidate
for Congress
4th Congressional District

Wrong race

Please note that Jerry Rust is running for County Commissioner Position No. 3, and is opposing Frank Eliot and Andy Maxon. Jerry Rust is not running for the position contested by Archie Weinstein and John Parkhurst. These two races were somehow confused in your Oct. 1 article on the benefit dance for Jerry Rust.

I might add that besides enjoying a good party, Rust is a founder of the Hoedads; he supports land use planning with emphasis on his commitment to make the county government more accessible to citizen input. He supports nuclear safeguards (Measure No. 9), recycling, and lower Commissioner salaries.

In fact, Rust is so good you may want to dance on down to 1740 Willamette and volunteer to help the campaign.

Kitty Tattersal
Junior, History

Twisted logic

I am amazed at some of the logic being used in opposition to Ballot Measure 9, (Nuclear safety legislation).

An excellent example of the nearsightedness is prompted by Gary Wright, (Republican candidate for Oregon's 39th District legislative seat) who stated, "We have the most stringent laws on safety in nuclear power plants in the United States."

Is this to mean then, that because we have the most stringent laws of nuclear safety, that all is well and safe? Hardly!

I think it folly to measure safety by "the most stringent law in the U.S.," as it is much more practical to measure safety by "a safe law concerning nuclear power."

Let's just hope our voters and administrators can someday recognize this difference.

Bruce Berg
Freshman, Public Affairs
Wednesday, October 6, 1976

Apathy and democracy

The claim of the Democrats and Republicans to being majority parties is being called into question by events.

According to the Associated Press, "Jimmy Carter, President Ford and Ronald Reagan each won primary election votes from 4.2 per cent of the country's voting age population."

AP said that "based on official returns from earlier primaries and unofficial totals from the later races, 16.1 million Americans voted in Democratic presidential primaries this year and 9.7 million in Republican contests.

"That amounts to 17.6 per cent of the 146,573,000 Americans of voting age in this country..."

According to AP, Carter received the highest percentage, 4.2 per cent of eligible voters. Ford received 3.4 per cent. It means the combined primary vote for the majority candidates was less than 8 per cent of eligible voters.

This week an extremely revealing poll conducted by Peter D. Hart Research Associates was released in Washington. Registered voters were interviewed in order to determine whether they planned to vote in November. The pollsters predicted that a majority of eligible voters may not vote.

This poll confirmed that a downward trend that has been apparent in American politics in the last decade is continuing. Fewer and fewer registered voters vote in the presidential elections; fewer Americans actually register to vote.

In recent elections the following percentages of registered American voters voted: 64.0 in 1960; 61.8 in 1964; 60.6 in 1968; and 55.6 in 1972.

Almost two-thirds of the nonvoting people that were interviewed in the new poll said "it doesn't make any difference who is elected because things never seem to work out right."

"Non voters, who are approaching majority status in the adult population, seem to know better than ever just why they want nothing to do with politics," the New York Times states September 5.

"Two thirds of them in a new national sampling made public this weekend agree on the theme 'candidates say one thing and do another' as reason enough to stand off from the presidential election."

One of the pollsters told the New York Times, "the strangest thing we learned is that nonvoters aren't that strange. Demographically and in their attitudes, they're pretty much like the rest of us — cynical about Washington and about politicians in general."

Reprinted from The Militant
September 17, 1976