

Christian Arabs

It is incredible that an anthropologist and a professor gives such an opinion, and I quote: "to my knowledge, Jews and Christians do not consider themselves Arabs." (Emerald, Nov. 30)

Being an Arab and a Roman Catholic Christian from Lebanon, I totally reject the anthropologist's assumption. I am only one of the 15 million Christians who consider themselves the origin of the Arab revolutionary movements and are still giving the leadership for such national movements. Sorry I can't present you with all the facts now, but I promise to do that once the professor accepts the challenge to appear before the U of O student body or before the public opinion of Eugene anytime, anywhere, in two weeks; after I finish wrapping up my Ph. D. dissertation.

Jamil Effarah
Ph. D. candidate

Help the class

Recently, the Freshman representatives have met a number of times. Vice-President Mike Haddock, Secretary Liz Butcher and myself have gone over several ideas. We've also shared a few with ASUO Vice-President Jamie Burns.

With most of these thoughts still in the process of development, I think that now is the perfect time for all concerned freshmen to become involved. Please feel free to give any ideas or opinions that you may think could help the class.

Our campus addresses and telephone numbers are:

President: Mark Henderson, 1440 E. 19th St., Sigma Chi, extension 5293.

Vice-President: Mike Haddock, 312 Smith, Walton Complex, extension 6515.

Secretary: Liz Butcher, second floor Douglass.

In the weeks of Nov. 29 through Dec. 17 "souvenir centennial duck frisbees" will be sold. This will be our first money-making project and they will sell for 99 cents each. We encourage all freshmen to purchase one if possible.

If you would like to participate on the Committee of the Freshman Class, call or write to any of us. Help will be needed in any of the activities we promote, so don't hesitate to become involved.

Mark Henderson
Freshman — Journalism
Freshman Class President

Valuable collection

As a good friend of Hallet Cole for the last two years of his life, and as a bit of a zep freak myself, I enjoyed Alan Laster's article on the Cole Zeppelin Collection. I would like to add that Mr. Cole very badly wanted his collection to be open to the public and had donated it upon that understanding. Since Walter Wentz has moved, it has not been open.

Like Mr. Cole, I too would like to see the zeppelin airship return. Even the fright flick "Hindenburg" shows the comfort and quiet of airship travel. With modern technology zeppelins of twice the capacity of the Hindenburg could be made to fly at a fraction of the noise, fuel consumption, and air

pollution of the jet aircraft now used. Filled with helium, which will not burn, they could be even safer than modern airliners.

Even if the zeppelin never returns, Mr. Cole's collection is historically valuable. For some reason, historians have neglected the airship's contribution to history. The first commercial airline was flown by Zeppelin — in 1910! The first serious strategic bombers were zeppelins; a zep flew the Atlantic non-stop both ways long before Lindbergh and carried passengers to boot — in 1919! And, next time you see King Kong, note the funny-looking tower atop the Empire State Building. It's a Zeppelin mooring mast, unfortunately never completed.

Incidentally, if anyone out there is listening, and would like to talk about zeppelins, let me know. You have friends.

Kent Patterson
63 E. 15th #3
Eugene, Ore.

Aid put to use

I would like to share with you the following thank-you-note from the International Red Cross, to whom we sent the unclaimed portion of the contributions to China Earthquake Relief Funds:

"Our delegate to the International organizations has informed us of your donation of US \$200.00 — for which we thank you warmly.

"We shall allocate this to our relief actions in Asia. Please accept our thanks."

Signed, F. Perz, Delegate, Sector for Asia & Pacific, Comité International de la Croix-Rouge.

I add my thanks to all of you who contributed.

Angela Jung Palandri
Coordinator for Overseas
Chinese of Oregon

Lieuallen's funding plan poor answer

A three-point proposal to generate additional funds for sports programs at the state's colleges and universities was forwarded to the State Board of Education by one of its committees Tuesday. The board ought to send the proposal right back, stamped "not acceptable." The idea of state money being used to finance athletic programs is ludicrous when viewed against the backdrop of pressing needs elsewhere on this and other campuses.

Two or three years ago the University's history department came close to losing its accreditation because of the pitiful collection of research material available at our library. The law school recently faced the same threat for the same reason. Additionally, the state still hasn't provided adequate child-care support for student-parents.

Allocating state monies to support athletics would put sports in direct competition with academic programs. Until the academic problems of this and other campuses have been dealt with, the state should not even consider using general fund monies to provide scholarship money for tennis players and plush offices for football coaches.

Another section of the proposal would establish a separate athletic fee, free from student control. Chancellor Lieuallen assures students they would not be asked to contribute a larger percentage of the total budget than they do now, but that is not the question that needs to be answered. Ending student control over athletic funding denies students the power to make a financial statement saying "we don't like what the athletic department is doing, and we don't want to give them the money they want."

Lieuallen's argument that a separate athletic fee would provide "stability" to the funding process carries little weight. Under the present system, student governments can cut athletic funding no more than 10 per cent in any one year. On top of that, the funding level can't be cut two years in a row.

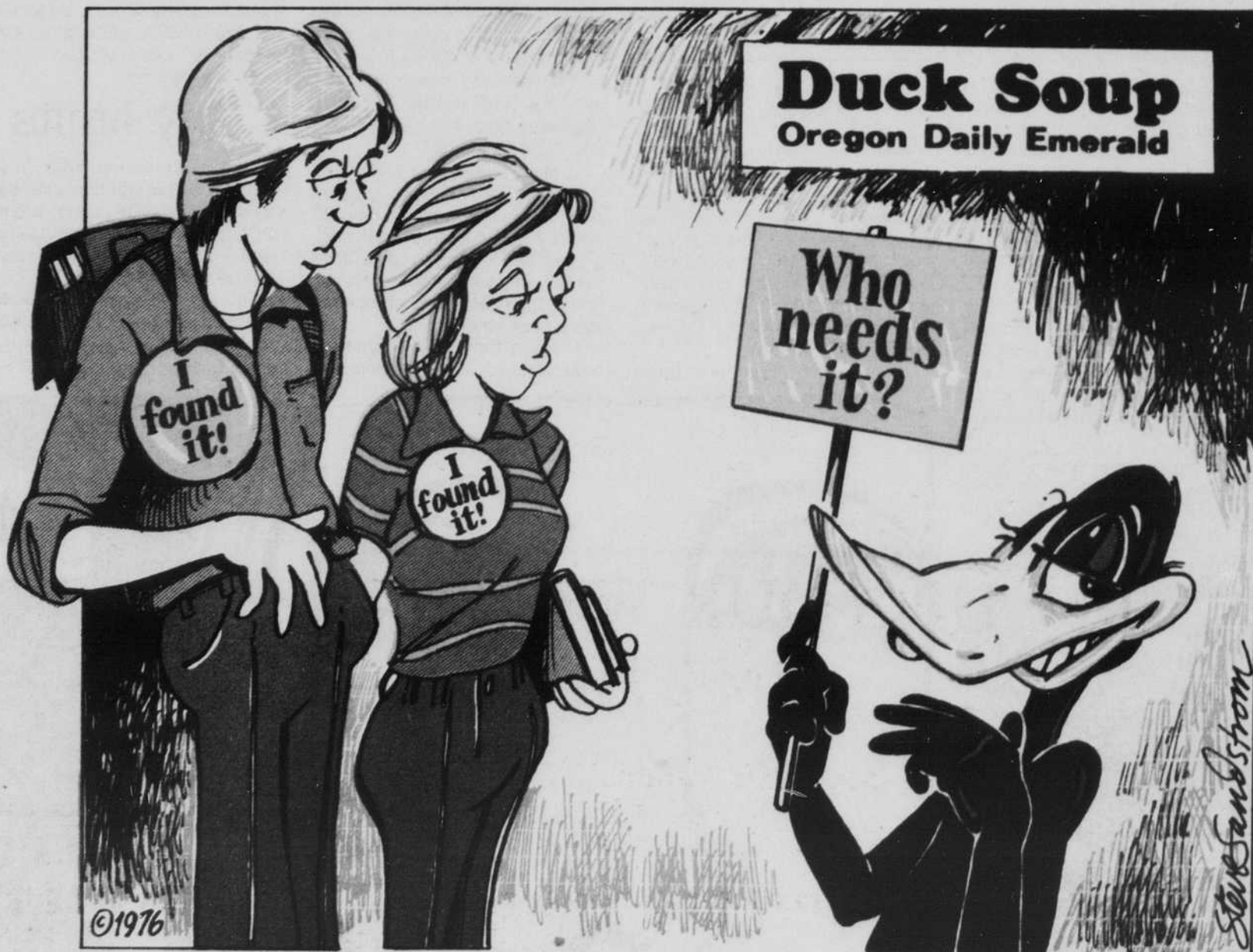
That even this safeguard is fair is debatable, and under this system, it would take a long time to make significant cuts in athletic allocations. In addition to time, such a cut would take an ongoing effort by a series of different student governments. If students feel strong enough about the issue to mount that kind of support, they should have the power to influence funding levels.

Oregon State University Pres. Robert MacVicar raised another point in support of the proposal, saying "the people of Oregon, not a handful of university administrators" should decide whether Oregon and OSU should remain members of the Pac-8, a reference to the financial responsibilities that accompany membership in the conference, and the suggestion by some that the two schools should drop out of the league.

Aside from the fact that it was probably a "handful of university administrators" that put the two colleges in the Pac-8 in the first place, the people of Oregon already have a way to encourage the two schools to stay in the conference: they can send them money directly, without routing it through the state general fund first.

Finally, the issue of Title-IX compliance has to be considered. There is little doubt that a good deal of the extra student money generated under the proposal would be used to achieve equity between the sexes without threatening funding levels of existing programs. As the Incidental Fee Committee has tried to tell the University for two years (by balking at the idea of funding women's athletics with student dollars), the students are not responsible for creating an allocation structure that is patently sexist, and therefore felt little responsibility to fund a solution to the problem.

Admittedly, athletics are an important part of many people's college experience. And, it's obvious that sports programs at Oregon's institutions are facing a financial crisis. But the answers provided by the chancellor's proposal are unfair, ill-advised and deserve to be rejected.



"The Devil made me do it!"