

Keep infirmary open

People don't talk about the cost of health care anymore — It's always the "soaring" cost of health care. All that stands between the seriously ill student and the poorhouse is the Student Health Center's infirmary, and there's a chance the infirmary will be forced out of business.

Every student pays \$18 a term to keep the Health Center open. That amount, high as it is, will have to go up about \$2.50 a term next year or the Health Center will have to start cutting services. And the first service to go would be the infirmary.

But cutting Health Center services is out of the question. Each of the Health Center's services — infirmary, women's clinic, emergency room and general health care — is essential to the physical well-being of every University student and anyone students happen to be around.

A room at Sacred Heart hospital costs \$212 a day. A visit to the doctor averages about \$30 a throw. Students don't go to the hospital or see a doctor very often, but when health care is needed it's nice to know it's already paid for. The loss of any of the Health Center's services would be a loss of medical security.

If Health Center services were curtailed students would hesitate to go to the hospital or make a doctor's appointment because of the enormous expense. Without the Health Center students would have to choose between ruining their health or ruining their savings.

So the option of closing the infirmary — or any other Health Center service — isn't really an option at all. Another suggestion has been to put certain services on a pay-as-you-go basis.

But the pay-as-you-go idea isn't a solution either. If students had to pay the full cost of needed health care it would cost more to get medical attention than most students can afford.

The pay-as-you-go suggestion has specifically centered on the women's health clinic. The argument goes that since only women use the service only women should pay for it. But as Dr. Long says, "If it weren't for the boys the women wouldn't need the clinic."

Dr. Long's reasoning can be extended to the other services offered by the Health Center. The best way to protect one's health is to make sure that the person sitting next to you in class isn't sick. By protecting and subsidizing the health of others we all remain healthy.

The Health Center needs to know how students feel about maintaining the quality of health care on campus. The ASUO has prepared a half-page form to make it easy for students to make their opinions known. These forms are available at the ASUO offices in Suite 4, EMU or by calling Michael Jones at 686-3724.

At the moment it seems students have no choice but to pay the extra \$2.50 a term to maintain the present level of Health Center services. The general student population can afford the higher fee more easily than the few students unfortunate enough to need the infirmary can afford astronomical hospital costs.

The University's health care system is organized and funded in a way that recognizes the fact that health is the concern of the community, not the individual. Let's keep it that way. Cutting any of the Health Center's services would introduce the irrational elements of American health care into the University's fairly rational system.

Letters

Gilmore a martyr

I would like to commend Governor Straub for his courageous stand on the death penalty. It is reassuring to find that the governor is willing to lead the fight to uphold human compassion, even though 66 per cent of the nation is in favor of the death penalty. The concept of a life for a life is questionable at best but made unconscionable by its unequal and arbitrary application.

It has never been proven that the death penalty deters homicide. Indeed, it might have the exact opposite effect. The case of Gary Gilmore is a striking example. Mr. Gilmore could have committed suicide if he no longer had a desire to live, without killing his innocent victims, but where would the fame and pseudo-glory be? The state of Utah played right into Gilmore's hands by martyring

him. While not claiming to be a seer, it is my guess that the two victims of Gary Gilmore would still be alive today if there was no death penalty anywhere in this country.

Jeffrey S. Warren
Geography — Sophomore

Immoral sense

Observing France's 'progressive' method of dealing with terrorists brings to mind one of Mark Twain's many insights on man and morality. "There is only one possible stage below the Moral Sense; that is the Immoral Sense. The Frenchman has it. Man is but little lower than the angels. This definitely locates him. He is between the angels and the French."

Charles Silverstein
Educational Psychology

Greeks dominate fair and square

The Greeks are at it again! Just when I thought things had settled down into the complacency of winter term, the Greeks have once again created a ruckus. Every year they dominate the men's intramural scene, mercilessly beating all the independents and co-ops for the coveted intramural athletic championship. But this year they have extended their domination into another area — the Incidental Fee Committee. This disturbing fact was pointed out to me by William Dickey in Monday's Emerald.

Now I don't like the idea of a committee composed of all the same type of people. And the more I thought about it, the more I realized how dangerously similar everyone on the IFC was. Not only are five Greek, but four have mustaches, six have brown hair, six are male, seven are white, and the average height is 5'8". How could these seven people who are so obviously similar possibly be rational about dispersing student monies?

I was talking about this problem with a mustached brother of mine that afternoon while shooting buckets at Mac Court. It was a dangerous situation, he agreed. He suggested Grecian formula for starters, and maybe a sex change operation if the heat was on. If things got totally bad he suggested I step down and let Magruder pitch for the fraternity softball team this spring.

Anyway, being the conscientious person that I am, I began to wonder if everyone was aware of this perilous situation. And if they were aware of it, I wanted to know what they thought could be done about it. I went right to the top and talked to ASUO President, Jan Oliver.

"Jan," I said to her seriously, "are you aware of the fact that there is only one woman on the current IFC and no blacks?"

She tilted her head to the side a bit and leaned back in her chair. With a deliberate motion she adjusted her glasses, all the while keeping her eyes riveted on my mouth, the place where the words had come from, as if she couldn't believe what had just been said. "Aw... come on. You're shitting me!"

"No, Jan, I'm serious. The students are really worried this time, they're writing editorials and everything!"

"Man, only one woman? This is serious! Ever since I left that IFC, it has been going downhill." "Jan, it's not my fault. You took some of our best IFC people and made them into ASUO'ers. I was the only returning letterman. What could I do? I didn't know the students would elect Greeks!"

Silence. Behind her glasses those eyes narrowed. Hardened. She looked down at her desk and swallowed. "Greeks?" she asked submissively. "Only five out of seven. But that's who the students elected."

"Greeks?" she managed again meekly. "What can we do now?"

"There's not much that I can think of now. After all, they were elected. I mean, the majority of students voting thought those seven would do the best job of dispersing their money."

"Yeah, that's true, I suppose, I was elected too, you know."

"Anyway, Jan, the students are revolting. They're writing anti-Greek editorials and everything. I think I'm gonna write an editorial reply. They're getting down on the IFC!"

"Great idea. What's gonna say?"

"I'm gonna say that I don't know that there is any one Greek opinion or Greek politics. So far this year, we have allocated money to programs ranging from off-campus housing to Cultural Forum to the Office of Student Advocacy."

"And I might add that the budget process is built around the programs themselves. They are given a good set of criteria and are free to make up any budget they feel is necessary to run their program with. If programs are running scared and don't feel they can meet the IFC criteria it is not because of political ideologies. The criteria we are using this year is basically the same criteria used by all the previous IFC's."

"And finally, and most importantly, I might add that the students sure as hell should come to the IFC Budget hearings. We need student input as well as program input if we're going to allocate funds fairly. After all, it is their money."

Gary Feldman
I.F.C. Chair

Devaluation scam

I am afraid I do not have the same faith in the Australian government as my fellow countryman, Mr. Peter Jackson.

I would question the fact that the ultra-conservative Australian government, elected by universal gerrymander, acted "for the good of the country" with its recent devaluation and revaluation of the dollar. I am sure my opinion is shared by 45 per cent of politically under-represented Australians.

I am of the opinion that the Australian government acted on behalf of those sectional interests it represents — the Squattocracy, large foreign multinationals, mineral exporters and speculators. I would support this opinion by the fact that speculators made over \$600,000,000 during the devaluation-revaluation fiasco. I may ask "who will pay for this?" Simple — those who have always paid, the urban working class.

Mungo Redenbach
Senior — Recreation and Park Management

Work in Salem

The 1977 Oregon Legislative Assembly convened this month and will be considering legislation directly affecting the cost and quality of higher education in this state. The Oregon Student Lobby (OSL) will be present in the halls and hearing rooms of the State Capitol representing student consumer interests in such areas as tuition and fee levels, child care for

student-parents, financial aid appropriations, and a student information bill of rights.

ASUO President Jan Oliver has taken a very active role in promoting child care, a 6 per cent tuition reduction and increased financial aid. If you are interested in the OSL legislative program I urge you to contact Jan in the ASUO office or myself at 528 Cottage Street N.E., Salem, Oregon, 97301. If you have the time and energy to travel to Salem and assist us in our efforts, please contact us.

Kirby Garrett
OSL Executive Coordinator

Rhoades dedicated

The resignation of Donald Rhoades, Dean of Student Administrative Services, prompts us to pay tribute to a colleague who has given the University eight years of dedicated service.

His absence will be felt by many of us. His effectiveness has benefited students, faculty and the institution. Student service has been his primary concern. That concern is reflected in the principles of fairness, equity and improved service. Many students could testify to his availability and openness.

He has consistently placed the University's welfare foremost. One little known incident will illustrate. Dean Rhoades was in succession to the presidency of the American Association of Col-

legiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO). AACRAO is the most prestigious society of his profession. He withdrew from the succession because the office's demands would have interfered with our institution's needs. His on-the-job effectiveness is characterized by thorough preparation, resourcefulness, and wise counsel.

His personal attributes which we respect above all include integrity, moral standards, and forthrightness. You always know where he stands.

We wish Don well and thank him for his dedication and unselfish service to the U. of O.

Arthur Mittman
Henry Dizney
Educational Psychology

Tragic decision

Incidental Fee Committee member Dave Tyler's attempt to crush the ASUO TV series, based solely on his apparent fear that the United Farmworkers might fare better than Gallo and the Teamsters in a televised discussion, reeks with the stench of the worst totalitarian censorship. Are the Teamsters paying Tyler? Or was he drunk on complimentary Gallo wine when he dreamed up the idea to reconsider funding for the series? A decision to kill the series owing to the whim of one reactionary member would be tragic.

Paul Weiner
Political Science Grad.
Wednesday, January 19, 1977