



## Letters

### Conservation

Is conservation of energy having the classrooms so hotly heated that windows must be opened for comfort?

**Cheryl Lea Moersch**  
Junior, Art-Education

### Bizarre grading

In Richard Seven's article on Jan. 18, he points out some of the absurdities of the changes in the grading system and the new D grade. He may have missed the full implication of what he reported. After reading the graduation requirements in the catalog, I have reached the conclusion that through the incompetence of the people responsible for designing the new requirements a crucial phrase concerning the D grade is not intended to mean what it says. It states: "...and 90 percent of credit earned (A, B, C, D, P) must be passed with grades of A, B, C, P."

Consider two students attending the U. of O. One student receives 32 credits of N and F out of the 186 credits he has attempted. This student must merely take the 32 credits he is lacking in order to graduate. Another student receives 32 credits of D grades out of the 186 total credits he has earned. To satisfy the requirement stated above, this student must now take 134 additional credits with grades of C or better to provide the coverage which one of takes 102 more credits than the student who received the F's!

Can this actually be the correct interpretation of the requirement? The phrase is incorrectly worded. It should read, "D credits in excess of 10 percent of the total credits earned at the University of Oregon may not count towards graduation." This, clearly, is what the administration meant when it wished to limit the amount of D credits used towards graduation.

Under this requirement, the student who received 32 D credits would have only 18 of them count towards graduation. He would then have to pass 13 more credits with a C or better. The student would have 199 credits, 13 of which would not count, leaving the required total of 186.

If I am wrong and the requirement does actually mean what is stated, then the administration owes an explanation to all students as to why it considers a D grade vastly inferior to an F.

**Frank Morton**  
Senior, General Science

### Track neglected

While the Emerald is a good college newspaper, I have noticed that the sports coverage this week has neglected one of the University's finest groups of athletes: the track team.

Last Saturday, the track team competed in the Portland Indoor Invitational Track Meet. Many members of the team had outstanding performances in the meet. Yet the Emerald, for whatever reasons it may have had, failed to provide any coverage of these fine performances. Instead, there are articles on major league baseball (Kuhn's rejecting Vida Blue's trade to Cincinnati), fencing, a film of the 1976 Olympics, a commentary on the balance of the Pac-8 in basketball and the Oregon duck head.

Although I am not a member of the track team, I feel a grave injustice has been done to the team by omitting the results of Saturday's meet. I am not saying that some of the other stories you chose to give coverage to should have been eliminated from the paper. What I am saying is that you have, either by intention or design, failed to provide the coverage which one of the finest athletic programs at this



"SO IT'S DANGEROUS TO COMBINE SMOKING WITH TAKING THE PILL --- WELL, I'M CERTAINLY NOT GIVING UP SMOKING!"

University deserves by its continued outstanding performances, including last Saturday in Portland. I think the Emerald owes an apology not only to the Oregon men's and women's track teams, but also to the many fans of the sport who have been deprived of the opportunity to read the results of the meet. A serious injustice has been done to these people. It is too late to print the results now, but at least let those of us who appreciate the sport of track and field and who are loyal fans know that we are not forgotten.

**Mike Frank**  
Senior, Journalism

### Emerald infiltrated

And so here I am immersing myself in the Emerald as I do most everyday: Front page, Peanuts, Letters to the Editor, when I get to page six and stop...!! almost missed it, like a subliminal blip that says "have a coke." But no, there it is.

What am I talking about? The ad that says "Employment, U.S. Central Intelligence Agency — unique professional opportunities are available." The CIA. Did I read that right? Yes, the CIA is looking for students skilled in such field as

Polish (ha ha), Nuclear Physics, Photogrammetry, Interpretation and sooo much more.

And so, here I am immersing myself in the Emerald and here's the CIA, who was lurking around Martin Luther King, Watergate, Chile, etc., etc. — and now page six of the Emerald.

Oh don't worry, we've got a new emperor now with a new set of clothes; have a coke.

**Tom Knight**  
789 W. 11th, Eugene

### Stand and fight

In response to David Greene's letter (Jan 30).

You are weak! You suggest that students who do not support South African government should refuse to attend school and not pay tuition. Now that would be just fine if the whole student body went along with that idea, but that would be the wrong way to go. First, because the student body had already voted to dump the stock. There are also too many weaklings like yourself on campus who would be afraid to stand up and say dump the stock. Therefore, there is only one other alternative for those who want to dump the stock; don't run away, but stand up and fight.

That is why I respect the folks

who sat in Johnson Hall and protested the South African stock. They were not afraid to stand up and fight against something big. Sure that Mack truck will hurt when it hits. But, if you keep trying and gain enough support, you can stop it. Otherwise it will just keep on rolling.

So, according to your suggestion, by remaining in school and paying tuition, you must support the State Board in retaining the stock. Your philosophy is exemplified by the political cartoon which appeared below your letter, where the one man firmly state "ME FIRST!" David Greene, go suck a Krugerrand!

**Paul Hanson**  
Sophomore, Undeclared

### Letters policy

The Emerald will accept and try to print all letters and opinion columns containing fair comment on ideas and topics of concern or interest to the University community. Letters and opinions will be run on a first-come, first-served basis. Both letters and opinion columns must be typewritten, using 65 character margins, and should be triple-spaced. Letters and opinions must be signed and the author's field of study (or faculty) noted.

## opinion

# State Board stalling, student support needed

Submitted by **Ismet Guchan**  
for the Southern African Liberation Support Committee

The struggle to oppose the apartheid system in Southern Africa and to divest the State Board of Higher Education's stocks that support the minority regimes there has been pushed forward to a new stage by the events of Wednesday, Jan. 25.

The militant rally, leading to the occupation of the Chancellor's office and subsequently to the arrest of 23 students, has demonstrated the determination of the students to put an end to two months of stalling by the Board since their November vote.

It is crucial to evaluate the current situation correctly, since the University and the Board are bent on doing all they can to mislead people in order to prevent divestiture, or at least stall it as long as possible. An examination of the facts shows clearly that (1) there is no legal barrier now to the sale of the stock, and (2) the Attorney General already ruled in 1976 that the Board does in fact have authority over investment decisions. So their attempts to drag the issue to the courts are part of an effort to stall divestiture. Such stalling serves only the interests of the U.S. corporations who are today ripping off huge profits from the plunder of Southern Africa.

Last Wednesday, the students stated with their action that we won't stand for this situation even if we're threatened with arrest, just as a few years ago students and others rose up in a mass movement to get the U.S. out of Indochina. As the struggle to end U.S. involvement in Southern Africa and to dump the stock grows, the lines are being more clearly drawn, in Southern Africa and right here on campus. The Emerald, too, took its position by

appointing itself to the job of slandering and discrediting the struggle.

Friday's editorial derided the demonstration as "mis-directed," "theatre of the absurd," etc., and claimed the demonstrators accomplished "nothing" and their demands were "unreasonable."

What is behind the talk of "formal legal opinions" and the slanders against the struggle? The administration and the State Board fear the growing strength of the student movement, which made itself felt when the students forced the Board to vote to divest in November. And now students, outraged by two months of stalling, are determined to raise hell until the stocks are actually sold. What the Board is trying to do is to convince students that demonstrations and militant actions won't accomplish anything and that instead the students should put faith in judicial and bureaucratic procedures. They hope that by doing this students will become cynical and the struggle will die down.

But this effort, fully backed by the Emerald, flies in the face of reality. University students know that the gains that have been made up to this point in the efforts to dump the stocks have come through our struggle and not by relying on the good will of the Board, which has opposed divestiture from the beginning. The November vote was preceded by months of battle with the board, from leafletting, demonstrations, petitions and referendums on the University and Portland State University campuses, to taking the Board on directly at meeting after meeting.

The history of the Southern African peoples' struggles against apartheid brings this out clearly. Their efforts at change "through the system" relying on the "good will" of those in power were met with guns and clubs of the racist regimes. A bitter lesson was learned in 1960 at Sharpesville where hundreds were gunned down in a

protest against the hated Pass Laws. All of this has led up to the growing liberation struggles of today which are winning support around the world.

This, and the many struggles of students and working people in this country, makes clear that victories and gains are won through struggle. The history of the fight for unions, the eight-hour working day, the Black liberation struggle and the anti-Vietnam War movement, are all telling examples of such fights.

A well organized, militant struggle will be necessary to get the stocks dumped without further stalling. When students stood their ground at Johnson Hall Wednesday and demanded, "Dump the Stock, Now!" they knew that it might be necessary to face arrests, \$3,000 in bail (which had to come from food, rent, tuitions) and possible convictions, to further the struggle against apartheid. The same U.S. government that protects U.S. corporate interests in S. Africa also works to protect those interests here.

We need an organized movement, not the Attorney General's opinion, to force the Board to divest. Our struggle here is part of a broader fight across the country to get the U.S. out of Southern Africa and to limit the ability of the U.S. imperialists to continue supporting the minority regimes and the apartheid system. Thousands have participated and hundreds have been arrested in building occupations and other actions. Just last year over 700 California students were arrested in a struggle against University of California investments.

We call on all University students to support the demands: "State Board: Dump the Stock, Now! Drop the Charges Against the 23 Arrested!" A petition with these demands can be signed at the EMU Lobby table; contributions toward the bail are needed — at the table or sent to: Southern African Liberation Support Committee, P.O. Box 3723, Eugene OR 97403.