

## Access privileges favor 'professionals'

# Carter won't cater to college press

By MELODY WARD  
Of the Emerald

*Ed. Note: College journalists are excluded from Presidential Press conferences, but thanks to KBDF-AM Radio, former KBDF announcer Melody Ward (now an Emerald associate editor) was able to obtain credentials for Jimmy Carter's visit to Portland Thursday.*

Only one major thing stands between a journalist and a Presidential press conference. Credentials.

Aquiring them is a fairly simple process, provided one works at a "professional" media outlet and is not on the secret service's blacklist. Until last fall, "professional" status applied to both student news organizations and those lurking out in the real world. Then a young man on the East coast who was not a college journalist, succeeded in obtaining credentials by claiming to represent all the college television stations in a New England state.

According to a White House press aide, the fact that this same person appeared on national television while asking the President a question was fine. What "burned" them came later, when he granted interviews to several leading publications, in which he boasted of "duping the White House Press office."

The aide said the decision also assures professional journalists fairer access, because the president can only recognize a fraction of those attending during an half-hour press conference.



Jimmy Carter

The White House press office (Room 1137) scrutinizes the journalist, and a secret service man gives final approval. Next, one is equipped with a brief entailing the president's Portland schedule,

and a small paper identification card which reads "PRESS: Visit of the President."

Lose that, and one could probably be Walter Cronkite and not gain entrance to the press conference. The ladies in the press office remark that the secret service is quite "strict."

Strict indeed. The only answer they are permitted to give a journalist is "no comment." But one younger secret service man offered that he loved Oregon, and could see why "you all want to keep everybody out."

Another, whom the head of the secret service identified jokingly as the "chaplain" looked more like the gestapo. Clad in an ominous black overcoat, he growled, "I'm the rude one."

Though the press conference actually takes place up the street six blocks in the Hilton, the filing room for reporters is located at the Benson. In the lobby, journalists mingle with suit-clad secret service, searching through phone books, sitting singly, and combing their hair.

While many reporters are covering the President's arrival at the airport, others talk to demonstrators in front of the Hilton. Groups of protesters line both sides of the street, carrying placards and voic-

ing disapproval of nuclear power, the Shah of Iran, dioxins, paraquat and herbicides.

Near the Hilton Ballroom reporters are arriving from the airport and coming in out of the shower of protest. They gather in small groups throughout the waiting area, much like persons at a cocktail party.

"So far all we've got is garbage," says one photographer. "The boss said not to get any waving shots. So what's left?"

Not all reporters stand about engaged in casual conversation. A cluster presses near the Ballroom doors, appearing relaxed, but each person straining for some sign that the doors are opening. One-half hour is allotted to set up all the camera and taping equipment, and get good seats.

Print journalists and broadcasters chat while photographers, engineers and camerapersons find their places around the room. Several wonder if the President will call on them, some wonder what to do if he does.

Over the subdued din of speculation, the public address system intones, "Ladies and Gentlemen, the President of the United States." As one person, the Northwest press shoots to its feet.

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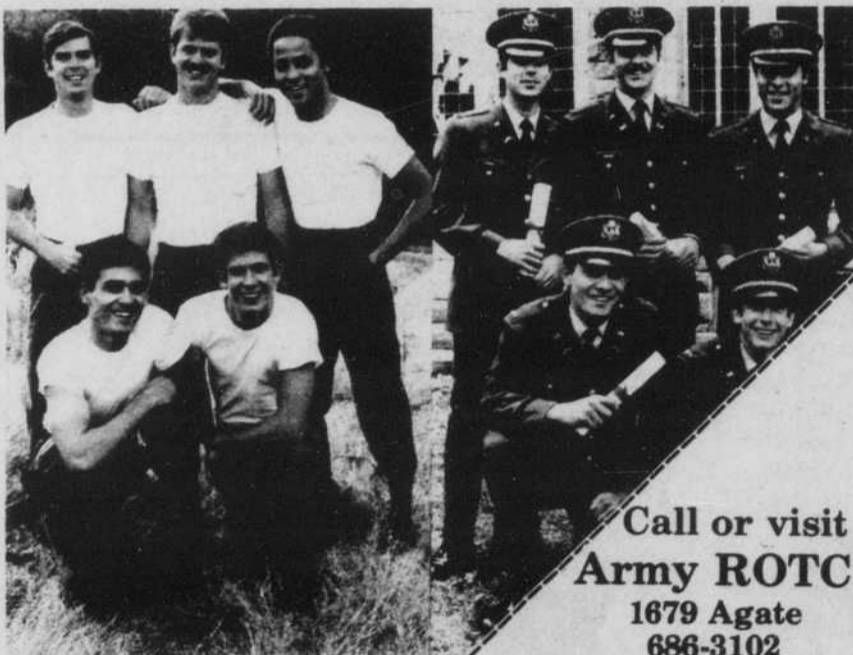
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## Student host program opens

Students interested in lending a helping hand to new students this fall, should attend a training session Tuesday night from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in Room 112-113 EMU.

The New Student Host Program, sponsored by the University's Orientation Office, is designed to use current students' experiences to familiarize new students with intricacies and opportunities of the University.

Don McCarty, coordinator of the program, says a hundred or so volunteers are needed for the program starting Sept. 18.

"Each group is likely to attend a number of new

student week activities together, will take care of particular orientation needs and interests of the group members, and will serve as a reservoir of information and support for the individual group members," said McCarty.

Each student host will probably work with a group of about 10 to 15 new students.

McCarty says there is no screening of candidates or any qualifications necessary to be eligible for the program. "Anyone who wants to help will be welcome," he says.

Volunteers will be expected to attend two training sessions Tuesday night and again May 16.

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## Conference features NW peace leaders

A conference on disarmament and human needs scheduled for today will feature slide shows and workshops to highlight activities in conjunction with the UN Special Session on Disarmament later this month.

The conference, opens today with a speech at 12:30 in the EMU, will also feature two leading non-violent activists from the Pacific Northwest.

Sister Kathleen Smith and Jim Douglass will both speak this afternoon in the EMU, followed by meetings with persons interested in a non-violent protest against the Trident Nuclear submarine project.

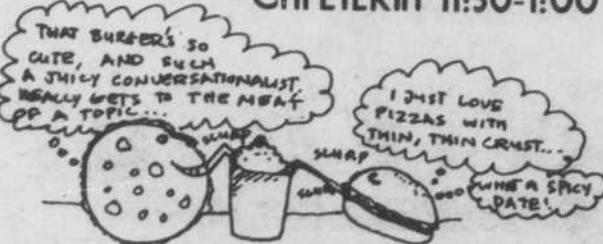
Smith, a founding staff member of the Spokane Center for Peace and Justice, has participated in an international seminar on training and organizing for non-violent action. She teaches a course on non-violence in American history at Gonzaga College and serves as a consultant on racism to the YWCA.

Douglass founded the peace studies program at Notre Dame University and was a consultant at the Vatican II conference on the issues of war and peace. He is working full-time in preparation for a legal mass demonstration at the Trident submarine base in Bangor, Wash.

Activities for the conference are set for most of the evening, with a complete schedule available at the Clergy and Laity Concerned Peace Office, 1414 Kincaid St.

EMU food service offers you a variety:

CAFETERIA 11:30-1:00 M-F



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