Letters

For Warren

With the ASUO run-off elections this Wednesday and Thursday, I feel it is important to add my voice with those in support of Jeff Warren for ASUO Student Body President. Working with Jeff this past year on the Incidental Fee Committee I have full confidence in his creative and administrative abilities as an ASUO President.

Although Ramon Herrera has done an outstanding job and has shown needed creative abilities as the Director of MEChA, in the final analysis the need of an ASUO President who knows the ropes and hassles of working with the Oregon Student Lobby and ASUO Programs in general, is tremendously important during next year's legislative session.

Regardless of who wins in this election, it is my hope that both can work together in next year's ASUO Administration. We, as students, need more active, creative, and competent people such as Jeff and Ramon in student government. This election is important to you, if only because of the potential economic effect of ASUO to Higher Education. Please take the time this Wednesday and Thursday and vote. ASUO needs your support!

Doug Benson
Senior, Computer Science

Support #6

I would like to state my support for Ballot Measure Six, which would outlaw the "humane" society's decompression chamber. This ballot measure seems to approach the problem of the disposal of unwanted animals in a responsible way by offering a humane and workable alternative to the decompression chamber.

No one likes to think that we could live in a community that would needlessly destroy thousands of unwanted animals per year. The reality is that because of our irresponsibility, we do. To then destroy those animals in an inhumane way is a further tragedy.

Ballot Measure Six would permit these unwanted pets to die humanely. It's worth support from all of us. We should be aware, too, that each of us can prevent these unwanted animals from having to die at all by preventing their births. I hope everyone who has a pet will take this problem seriously and have his/her pet spayed or neutered.

Mrs. Michelle Bodner
38945 Carr Trail, Dexter

DEA is stupid

Whyever a bunch of clean cut American DEA boys would want to induce that obnoxious chemical construct Paraquat into the ecosystems of the friendly mountain folk in several Latin republics just to snuff a few little harmless mareewanee plants is, I must admit, beyond me.

I suppose the reason..er, well I know one reason is that they hoped to kill the plants so that those Americans who may use the drug would have their supply of the herb proportionally withheld. What happened was that those spunky mestizos cut their crops down on the spot and shipped them out pronto, with the result that most of the quality pot around here is a guaranteed lung rot. Assuming these intentions, it follows that the DEA is stupid.

But perhaps more sinister forces loom over the bureaucratic horizon. Suppose that the DEA hoped that, fearing Paraquat, American hippies would give up their ways or turn to an alternative smoke (maybe tobacco?). After all, the CIA is in Sir Walter Raleigh's Virginia.

However, the DEA has misperceptedthe psyche of the American Hippie. I do not use the weed, but I know one person who does, and when he mentioned a Paraquat party last Friday, out of journalistic spunk I asked if I could go along. There were a lot of hippie-types there, playing guitars and singing and smoking like little chiefs, every one. The weed (I think that's what they called it) was guaranteed to deliver, as a little bonus from our uncle, Paraquat.

What so few of the DEA flattops seem to understand is that the American dope smoker by nature is anti-authoritarian off the top, and I realize now that, rain or shine, several of these idiots will keep smoking as an act of dissent. I was reminded of those Buddhist monks who used to torch themselves in front of the U.S. embassy in Saigon. To assume such high idealism on the part of these gypsies seemed inconsistent with my impressions this night, however. As one of the longhairs remarked, "...in this age when poisonous chemicals are everywhere, we must learn to adapt." Remembering the Dinosaur, I nodded. He was really adapting a mile a minute, too.

I digress.

What I want to say is that this paraquat business isn't likely to end up anywhere but in the lungs of some of our finest young people, and I think it's a pretty fishy kettle, to say the least. If the DEA meant to kill the weeds, they were half right. If they meant to scare the reef-head, they may also be wide off the mark. Perhaps they just want to outlive us so we won't someday take over and terminate this bullshit? Is the rational and ethical state of our State analagous to the empty and crushed Buckhorn can I saw lying in the middle of the intersection of 14th and Emerald streets at 5 a.m. Saturday? Me thinks it so.

Philip Emerson
Junior, Journalism

We're not haters

People working to repeal Eugene's homosexual ordinance on May 23 should not be portrayed as haters of homosexuals. We are people who fear for the future of our society and our country if we continue to allow our morals to decline.

It is the homosexual acts we condemn, not the homosexual person himself. We view this as an unnatural life-style and a perversion of a God-given aspect of human-ness. We consider it our right to live in a moral society.

Just as decay spreads from one fruit to another, corrupt morals gradually taint the entire society. American cannot remain great while decaying from within.

Mrs. Doris McCready
476 Louis Str., Eugene

opinion

Goals and projects

Submitted by Jeff Warren,
ASUO pres. candidate

In my campaign for ASUO President one question continues to crop up, and it deserves an answer. That question is "does it really matter who the ASUO President is?" My response to that is: "Of course it does."

It is true that the authority of the President is limited by the ASUO Constitution and the general power structure of the University. But, by being an effective spokesperson and advocate for your needs before the State Board of Higher Education, the Faculty Assembly, and the State Legislature, the ASUO President can have a great impact on the quality of your academic experience here at the University.

I believe that I am your best choice for ASUO President. In my three years at the University, I have been extremely involved in student activities. I served for a year on the Student University Affairs Board. While on the SUAB, I fought against the return of the "D" grade, fought for a proposal that would have allowed students to drop courses, without a "W" recorded up until the last day of the term, and I, along with Andrea Gellatly, were the principle SUAB leaders for the public release of course evaluations motion in the Faculty Assembly debate.

In the 1977 Legislative session, I lobbied extensively with the ASUO and Oregon Student Lobby on these bills: state funding of childcare, this year's tuition freeze and public release of course evaluations. If elected, I promise the same high level of legislative work in the 1979 legislative session.

This year I am the Vice-Chairperson of the Incidental Fee Committee. On the committee I have worked to promote the interests of a diversified student body.

The goals and projects I plan on pursuing are as follows:

- A strong legislative program: To lobby for state funding of childcare, public release of course evaluations, and keeping tuition at as low a level as possible. Other problems that I will work on are increased financial aid for middle-income students and the prohibitively high costs of tuition for non-residents.
- It will be the responsibility of next year's ASUO President to continue the fight to get the State Board of Higher Education to divest its stock in companies that do business with the racist country of South Africa.
- The issue of academic quality is of primary importance. We must develop the student's role in faculty tenure decisions. We must work with the administration to re-order our priorities; much greater emphasis must be placed on a professor's role as teacher. Next year's ASUO President must work with the Student University Affairs Board to develop strong academic student unions.
- The ASUO must also advocate for students affected by the University Housing Office. I support the state audit of the housing office. We must find answers to questions like: Why did the Housing Office make a profit of $60,000 off of Amazon last year?
- I recognize that parking is a problem. We must work on alternatives to the automobile. I support the building of more covered bicycle racks, and an end to ticketing bicycles until we have adequate facilities.

The ASUO Executive has always had a problem in making students more fully aware of what is going on. To combat this problem, I will communicate with students through periodic newsletters.

My staff and I will make every effort to reach students through forums, brown bag lunches and an open-door policy in Suite IV. We will actively solicit opinions and ideas from all students.

I will manage my affairs in a responsible manner, and will be totally accessible.

Most importantly, please vote for the candidate of your choice, and give next year's ASUO President credible support.