



Amazon gets nod

A University appeals board and President Boyd appear to have come up with the same — and correct — answer for the latest in a series of controversies at the Amazon Family Housing Project.

During the summer, the Amazon Family Housing Appeals Board halted the Housing Office practice of including part of the Westmoreland housing project's debt service in calculations that set Amazon's rental rate.

Recently, Boyd endorsed the board's decision in the face of opposition from several University administrators, who argued that sharing debt service keeps the two projects' rental rates comparable and prevents vacancies from showing up at the higher-cost Westmoreland.

Beginning next July, the money thus saved in Amazon rents will go into a special fund for much-needed repairs at the project.

Given the high demand for housing in Eugene and the principle of renters paying only for services received, the decision by the appeals board and Boyd were both fair and politic.

yours

Not so tough

I appreciate Jock Hatfield's sardonic humor in his Oct. 13 column concerning the difficulty of learning Chinese. Since he made similar observations last year in the Emerald, it seems that he has some hang-ups over the language that was "created by God to stymie the devil."

Any human being with an average intelligence would not share Jock's phobia. The Chinese coming from his typewriter warmed in hell is so distorted that it is impossible to make any sense of it.

The fact that he went through all the trouble to get the Chinese words printed indicates his obsessed interest in a language that appears to challenge his diabolical mind.

Whatever his motive, the Department of East Asian Languages is grateful for the free publicity. I invite him to take Chinese as an experiment. If his mind is not completely gone, I can show him how to learn Chinese in a period much shorter than 30 years.

A little knowledge of Chinese may prevent him from becoming further disoriented.

Angela Jung
professor of Chinese,
East Asian languages

Ticket story hit

I was amused by your editorial in the ODE regarding the difficulty the Athletic Department had in "unloading" athletic tickets. It followed an earlier front page story in which the ODE reported that there were still tickets left, a situation which hadn't occurred in the Harter era.

The implication of both that story and the editorial was that basketball is no longer popular, and that the A.D. had trouble "unloading" tickets. In fact, as you would know if you read your own classified section, there were many ads for tickets at inflated prices.

I myself bought one at an extra \$10 mainly because your stories about the lottery were so poorly written that it wasn't clear at all that people over number 4000 had a chance late in the lottery week.

I think you would find that if you had had an informative story, the tickets could easily have been sold by Thursday of the first week. And I would have saved \$10. So don't blame the Athletic Department; try the Emerald reporter.

Geoff Nicholls,
freshman, math

Column panned

Please allow me the opportunity to air my opinion; one that I am absolutely sure a vast number of your readers can identify with.

In direct reference to Greg Wasson's article in the Oct. 18 ODE, I strongly question why incidental fees are used to support the kind of journalism that can only be described as "inept."

Wasson's article manifests the writer's confusion — the world is in dire need of enlightenment, not more confusion! Wasson states initially that "people are basically good" and self-sacrifice is not needed.

Perhaps it is because of naivety that Wasson equates Christ's supreme sacrifice with the "self-sacrifice" that those around self-centered individuals must exercise daily, but it is my opinion that Wasson is only trying to duplicate the techniques of his protege, Jock Hatfield, in his bid to secure space in the ODE.

Finally, my response is totally in concert with Mr. Wasson's conclusion that "... it's fair to assume people will speak up when they feel infringed upon. Your responsibility is to listen to them and pay attention to their needs."

How about it, Wasson, demonstrate some responsibility.

Tacheeni Scott
graduate, biology

We need LCDC

I find Ballot Measure 10 fascinating for a number of reasons, but one aspect is especially interesting.

The designers and proponents of the measure insist that they are returning land use decisions to the people. They claim that by dissolving the Land Conservation and Development Commission as an effective state agency (which is precisely what would happen) the power would shift from state to local control.

Actually, the power would become more centralized, as a small minority could determine the fate of local land use questions by procuring a small number of signatures to delay or block any attempted zone changes in any locality in the state.

Also, this measure, if passed, would unquestionably produce temporary chaos in the land-use planning arena. The speculators and land developers are the only groups who could benefit from this state of limbo.

Measure 10 is not a proposition by or for the people—it is a measure for special interests. Vote NO on 10.

Casey Killingsworth
junior, education

Bikes only a start

Hey, do you really think they are going to stop with just the registration of our bikes?

No, friends, the fascist, stinko pinko, nazi, capitalistic Dogs won't stop there. Next they will want us to register our tennis shoes. Yes, the day is almost upon us when the men in green start gunning us down to see if we are legal to walk the campus.

Sure laugh it up but it won't stop there either; the next step will be to register our condoms. Oh yea, I can see it now: the Feds kicking my door down, knocking me over the head with their billyclubs and ripping my rainbow colored prophylactic off and screaming, where is the little green registration sticker, boy?

The point is there are so many restrictions coming down on us, don't you think it's time to draw the line?

Dave Daugherty
junior, psychology

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 status) noted.

