

## Students as second-class citizens

No one ever promised (except for an occasional Greek house) that becoming students would give us sudden social status, attentive audiences and preferential treatment.

But we didn't expect to become second-class citizens either.

Events in recent weeks, however, suggest that more liabilities exist in student-ness than our high school counselors told us about. And, since we were griping about them, we've put these latest slights and setbacks together.

1) The probable setting of a summer election date for a referendum on regulating the transport of radioactive waste and other hazardous material through Lane County.

Lane County commissioners, most of whom oppose such regulation, decided this week to give the county's residents a chance to express their opinions on this vital matter. Holding the vote during the summer, however, would effectively disenfranchise a bloc of likely "yes" votes — students who live three-quarters

of their lives here but go elsewhere during the summer.

2) The planned closing (still tentative) for repairs of the Eugene airport during finals week.

### ours

Although airport officials said they chose that week to minimize the impact on potential passengers, many students finish their tests early in the week and want to get out of town. Those who live far from Eugene often have no comparably convenient alternative to air travel.

3) Recent passage by the state House of Representatives of a bill that declares persons unavailable for work (and, thus, ineligible for unemployment benefits) if they are full-time students.

The Oregon Employment Division now judges full-time students' claims for unemployment compensation on a case-by-case basis to determine whether the applicant may be considered available for work. This bill (HB

2804) would deny all such persons unemployment, even if they had been laid off from a job held while attending school.

4) An administrative ruling by the state Wage and Hour Commission establishing a "90-day experiment" to start June 1 that would drop the Oregon minimum wage to \$1.85 for persons under 18.

This change, which was proposed by the Association of Oregon Industries, would apply to persons working for companies and organizations not covered by the federal minimum-wage laws: firms with less than \$275,000 annual retail sales or only one employee, and non-profit religious and charitable organizations. Persons now covered by state law are guaranteed a \$2.30 minimum regardless of age.

While this ruling would affect few students already in college, it would create a considerable hardship for those youngsters trying to earn money during the summer (the critical "90 days") to finance a college education.

5) A Congressional move to reinstate registration of persons between 18 and 26 for possible draft into military service.

The last time conscription was in vogue full-time college students and all women were exempted from Selective Service call-ups. Recent versions of draft proposals would eliminate those exemptions.

Every age of human life has its hazards, of course. Skinned knees and stubbed toes for childhood; cut-offs in food stamps or Social Security for the indigent elderly.

But some of our woes derive inescapably from the condition of student status (being known by social security number rather than name) and others are forced upon us (such as those discussed above).

Because of our collection into easily identifiable locales (campuses), relative poverty and unestablished political clout, students remain particularly vulnerable to these outside assaults.

The circumstances of our bookish lives, however, should not allow our victimization to occur unanswered.

### yours

#### MAD about war

Last fall term the University Veterans made several predictions of coming events concerning the draft/draft registration, recall of veterans/retired personnel and the role of women in the future Army. Virtually all of these predictions have been realized in the 96th Congress through a variety of bills such as HR 23, HR 2500, S. 109 etc.

Recent information has been coming in from different parts of the country that leads us to make another set of predictions that will be effecting us over the next two or three years. We will share these bits and pieces of information with you in hopes of keeping you informed of what is really going on inside the secret chambers of government.

The consensus among all groups is that the U.S. is definitely gearing up for war and that the military intervention will most likely take place somewhere in the Persian Gulf. Again, we see signs of the 1½-war theory coming to the surface with oil as the basis for the ½ war.

To make the point clearer, we are providing the following sequence of coming events to give you the 'Big Picture':

1) The 'Unilateral Corps' of 100,000 troops will be activated this fall. This Corps is *not* for the defense of Europe nor will it be used as a reinforcement for the European theater. The composition of the Unilateral Corps is one Airborne Division (probably the 82nd All Americans), one light armored division and two Marine regiments for a total of 40,000 combat troops. The 60,000 support troops will be contained in at least two carrier strike forces.

2) On August 7 the Army will be pulling the files of 78,000 retired personnel under the age of 60 for the purpose of determining their status for active duty. 33,000 retirees will be officers/warrant officers and 43,000 enlisted personnel.

3) The Draft debate will begin in late June early July on the 'Sonny' Montgomery bill calling

for the induction of 200,000 males per year into the active reserves.

4) The 'short intensive war' that Secretary of Defense Brown has mentioned is expected to last no more than six months. If the Russians do *not* intervene the casualties will be light. If Russia *does* intervene the casualties are expected to be between 350,000 and 650,000 within the first six months.

5) The use of *tactical* nuclear weapons is being given very strong consideration. For those of you who are new to this subject, the neutron bomb is a tactical weapon.

6) Military camouflage is changing from jungle to desert.

7) The recall of veterans, especially 150,000 Vietnam combat-trained veterans, is once again being pushed in the 96th Congress.

8) The strategy of the Pentagon for public support of the draft and military intervention includes the current gas shortage, pitting the veterans against draftees over recall vs. draft, and the manipulation of the SALT II treaty for increased military expenditures.

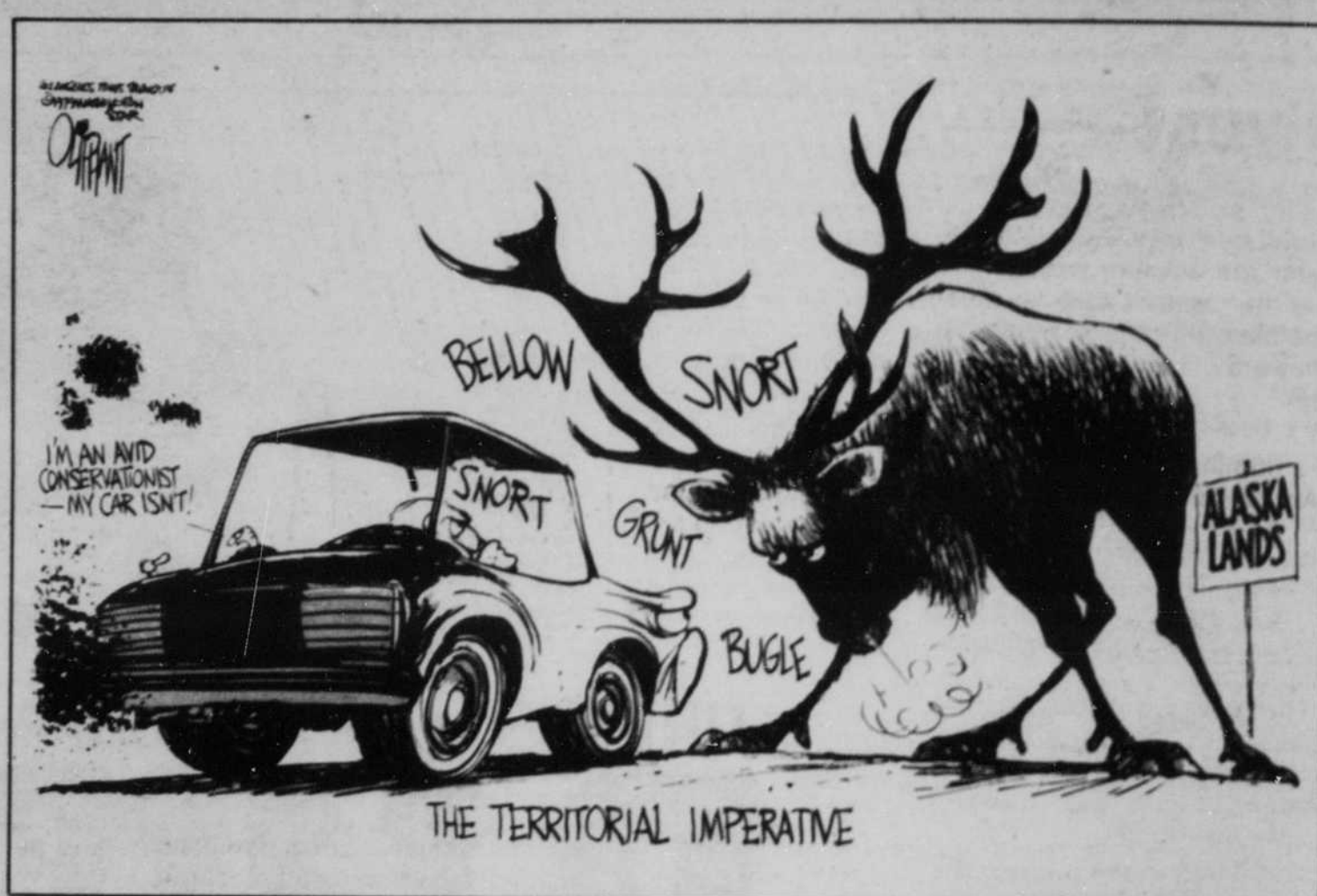
The trouble with making predictions about the military's plan for war is nearly the same as a weather forecast. We see storm clouds on the horizon while standing under peaceful, sunny skies. If this is merely "saber rattling" to scare the Third World and the Russians, we wonder just how big this saber has to get before the desired result is achieved.

These are some of the issues that have led to the Mobilization Against the Draft (MAD) Rally, today and Saturday. We urge you to get involved and stay informed.

Staff and directors  
University Veterans

#### 'I remember yet'

Listen: As an older grad student and ex-combat officer I am quite amused at the "Baby Revolutionaries" strutting and posturing about campus. Perhaps *bemused* would be a better term.



I realize that college students are quick to grab any and every cause — it goes with being young and idealistic. I'm aware that most of these kids are young and naive and that Mom and Dad are footing the bills and that at 19, if you've taken a course in World Literature you feature yourself a literary giant, etc.

But I also know that 10 years from now, most of you will be insurance salesmen and "Avon" ladies — (It's true.)

But I also remember, because I've been there, how a ripe corpse looks — the skin like a ripe banana, the sweet, sickening smell of death. A dead human bloating and rotting alongside the road with no more dignity than that of a dead dog — probably less. And pain, lots of pain, and fear, and exhilaration.

But you know nothing of this; it's all rhetoric and posturing on your part — dressing just so, putting on a revolutionary front, using just the right phrases. But remember, young cupcakes, if you buy the ticket, you must be prepared to take the ride.

Revolution on campus is really hell, isn't it. The study

hours lost, picking the correct costume, practicing becoming righteous and very indignant, the feigned outrage, playing the role.... So it goes.

But I remember yet.

Stuart Hilton  
graduate, recreation and park  
management

#### 'A lot of nerve'

University Greeks, you sure got a lot of nerve. Why, how can you possibly favor San Francisco Riding Gear over sandals and tank tops, Business Administration over Anthropology, 240 Zs over VW Buses, and (gasp) Donna Summer over Bob Dylan. How dare you have such preferences!

And who are you to be selective in choosing your roommates; to demand a show of loyalty from your new pledges; to keep private meetings unopen to the general public. Of all the audacity!

Yes, Greeks, your overall philosophy and corresponding practices really burns me up. Why can't you people be more like the flower children of the 60s. For, everyone knows that

their views regarding social consciousness and materialism are the only really correct ones.

So, Greeks, in the future would you please try to curve your ideals, and conform more towards the lifestyles of the 60s. Remember, there is no excuse for the way you feel. You people have no right to live the way in which you choose.

Courtney Wilton  
senior, economics

#### Gravestone quip

Here is a great quotation I ran across in The Daily Astorian of 26 April 1979 page 1. I thought you might like to feature it, perhaps as an engraving on a gravestone for humanity cartoon or something. Robert Short, president of Portland General Electric, is quoted thus:

"We are not concerned about Three Mile Island. Nothing happened, nobody got hurt and we've had worse things up here that nobody ever knew about."

I thought this was the best promotional statement for nuclear power I've seen yet.

Bayard McConaughy  
professor, biology  
Friday, May 18, 1979

### theirs