

Invalid coverage

The article that appeared in Monday's Emerald about the Torture Ridge run would have been better placed on either the editorial page or in a column with a byline. The personal opinions expressed by the anonymous writer invalidated the article as news coverage.

The two hundred athletes, for the most part well-conditioned, well-trained, and well aware of their physical capacities, who preferred the challenge of Torture Ridge to more traditional runs, no doubt do not appreciate the writer's opinion of them as "suckers."

Safety is always a major concern at any grueling physical activity, and PEK had qualified trainers on hand to deal

with any accidents or injuries. In a conversation on Monday with the man who suffered from the heat, I was told that he felt just fine. He told me that he simply did not take in enough salts and liquids prior to the race.

The intent of PEK's Torture Ridge run is to provide a stimulating option to the proliferation of road runs held in this area, and is in no way "sadistic," as the writer implied. The physical education professionals and students who are the members of PEK are seriously committed to physical fitness and would not promote any event detrimental to that concept.

**Randy Tjaden, President
Omicron Chapter
Phi Epsilon Kappa**

Jeans vs. tuxedos

What is formal attire for the Quacks is not necessarily "formal" in the traditional sense of the word. As a group who wears blue jeans and Birkenstocks daily, formal is anything other than that. We never meant that people should go out and rent tuxedos!

We're not.

We want everyone to come, all students included, and wear anything you like but come celebrate and enjoy a boogie in your honor.

**Maria Rojo
senior, CSPA**

Why the attack?

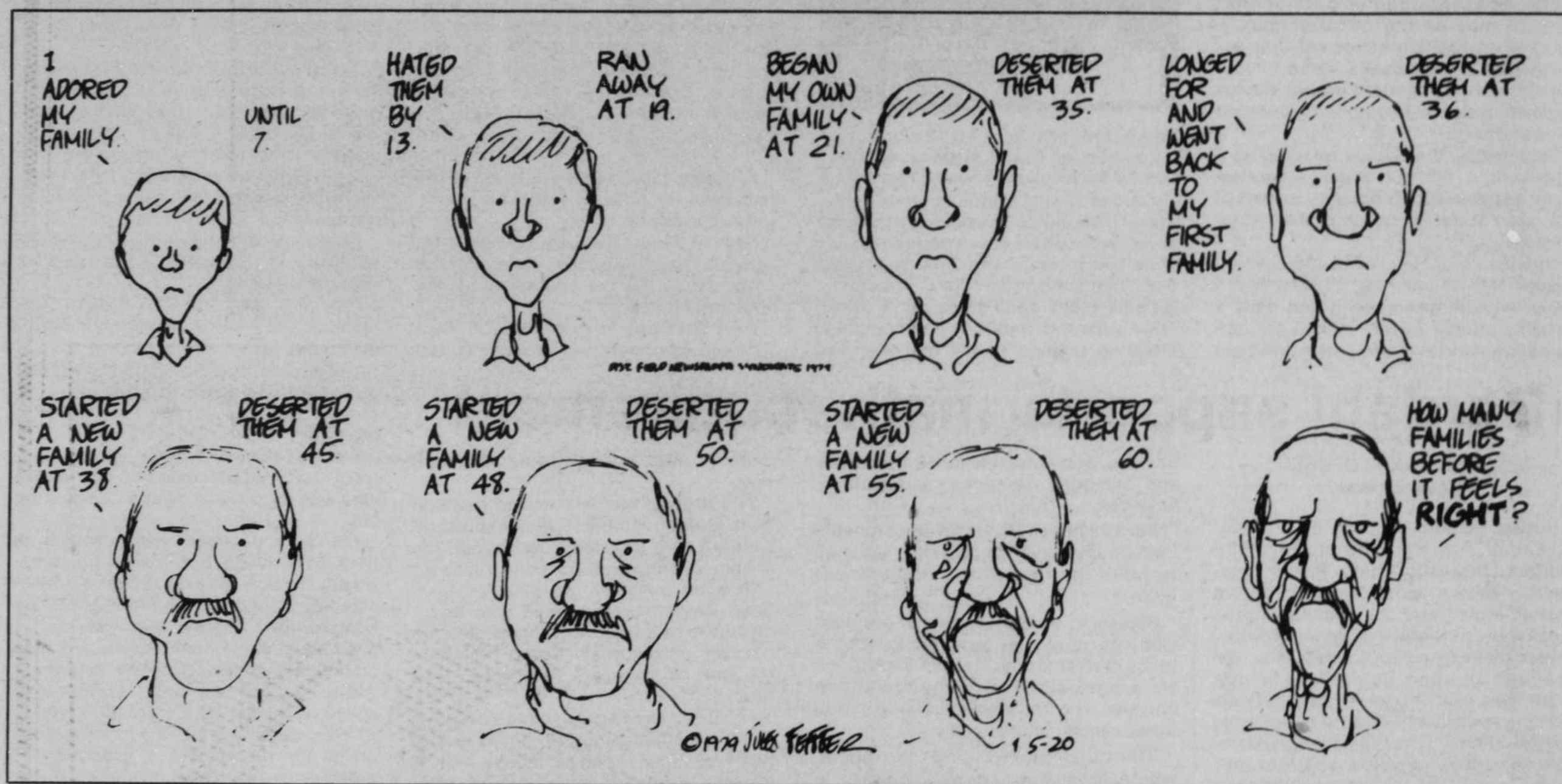
Okay Independents—you've had your chance. Now "Get down on Greeks" week is over. We can accept your cri-

ticism because it shows your ignorance of the entire Greek system. But how can you honestly challenge our right to live as we choose? Every person has at least this measure of tolerance.

We don't put you down for your Birkenstocks or unkempt appearance (an Interview Seminar might show you the light) or for your lifestyle. So why attack us so vehemently? Is it that you are feeling inferior because, thank God, we are not blessed with the apathy of the 60's generation? At least we are making an effort to participate instead of being so called "laid back." Remember, this is the lifestyle of the 70's and the future is ahead, not behind.

**Vicky Jorgensen
junior, Journalism**

theirs



Can she be serious?

I have been following the letters published in this paper recently concerning the Greek system, and up until now I have chosen not to become involved. However, the letter written by Karen Henthorne with its absurd, outrageous, generalizations, irked me so that in all clear consciousness, I can stay out of it no longer.

Karen claims that the prerequisites to entering the Greek system are, "Honesty, ambition, enthusiasm and scholarship." Can she be serious? Open your eyes!

I went through fall rush and was met by women ready to be my best friends, smiling and open hearted. Then I left the house, the women got together, voted to see if I was good enough and promptly, in some cases, decided I was not. One sorority (unfortunately I do not know which one) called my home in Portland and asked my parents what religion I was and what my dad did for a living. This is honesty!

As for ambition and enthusiasm, well that depends on what one chooses to be ambitious and enthusiastic about. Many women I know in the Greek system are

very enthusiastic about spending hours putting on make-up and fixing their hair; and many men I know in the Greek system are very ambitious about getting wasted so they can not quite manage to get up and go to class in the morning. So, I guess they do seem to have these amazing prerequisite qualities, I'm just not sure in what area, they're the strongest.

Personal friends of mine in the Greek system have laughed over their ability to easily achieve good grades. I'm sure their records show they are very scholarly, but what their records do not show is the fact that they had the answers to the midterm before they took the midterm.

I find it amusing that Karen Henthorne can make such hasty defensive generalizations about the Greek system and call another person's opinion ignorant. Who's being ignorant?

No, I'm not in a sorority. I disagree with the system and think it is wrong to judge people, but I have many good friends who are in the system and who have chosen to take the bad with the good, I chose not to. But let's be honest with ourselves. No one, not even Karen Henthorne, although I think she would

like to think she can, can generalize any one group of people.

**Annette Lassell
freshman, undeclared**

You guessed it

Yes, you guessed it, another letter concerning the Greek controversy. But this letter is different. This letter demands to be read — and printed. For its author is a non-Greek (GDI) taking a — "gasp" — moderately pro-Greek stance.

As a transfer student from a California school (Santa Clara University) where the Greek system was virtually nonexistent, I too was at first overcome by the general anti-Greek sentiment. They were all wild, immature, and elitist — I live across the street from the Betas, mind you — and I wanted very little to do with them.

But as I became acquainted with a number of Greeks from various houses, I began to realize that, believe it or not Greeks are people too. Those people whom I knew in high school that are now in Greek houses had not become "snobs;" in fact they are as friendly as ever. Amazing how they could still be the

same after going through "the ritual."

As to the charge that Greek houses are socially exclusive organizations, every organization, by its very nature, in establishing criteria for membership practices a form of social exclusivity — otherwise everyone would be a member. By this definition every university is a socially "exclusive" organization, in that each establishes certain academic standards which must be met by those attending, and each sets a numerical limit on the size of every entering class. Have you, as a U of O student, been accused of social exclusivity lately?

Finally, in regards to the charge that Greeks practice "secret initiations" and "rituals," I think it is interesting to note that — although this probably doesn't mean much, but what the heck, it sounds impressive — the Roman historian Tacitus, nearly two-thousand years ago accused an obscure Palestinian religious sect, whose members followed the teachings of a crucified carpenter, of much the same thing.

Boy, when you think about it, the world is full of social exclusives!

**G. Kevin Klely
senior, history
Thursday, May 24, 1979**