

Telephone calls, telegrams effective, too

Letter writing not necessarily waste of time

Depending on the subject and the thought put into it, writing a letter to your local or state government official is not a fruitless effort, says Jack Desmond of the Oregon Wilderness Coalition.

Members of the OWC are urged to write letters because they impress as well as persuade, Desmond says.

"It's really worth it if you have hundreds of people writing letters," he says. "The bulk will have effect."

Petitions and form letters, however, get little attention from state legislators and congressmen, despite the number sent by constituents. The formats don't have the same involved thought process working for them, Desmond says.

Both Sen. Hatfield, R-Ore., and Sen. Packwood,

R-Ore., say they're responsive to letters, and claim they have the best letter response committees ever, says Peter Gray, director of the University's Survival Center.

"Letter writing on the state and local level is extremely effective. I certainly feel that it works," Gray says.

Officials in Washington D.C. are not as accessible as their more local counterparts by regular mail, he says. Telephone calls, telegrams and mailgrams are more effective — and more expensive — than most concerned citizens would like, he says. But officials are "really impressed by the money you spend to reach them," Gray says.

Letters can also work on the county level, says Kit Thompson, Trojan Decommissioning Alliance member. TDA was able to prompt additional hearings on a



proposed nuclear waste ordinance because of letter-writing efforts aimed at county commissioners, he says.

Fleeing patient captured in PLC fracas

By LARRY SIGURDSON
Of the Emerald

A Sacred Heart Hospital patient was subdued on the second floor of Prince Lucien Campbell Hall after a violent struggle with hospital attendants late Thursday morning.

"We had a severely ill patient in the Johnson Unit who went through a ground floor window at about 11 a.m.," said a hospital representative. "He was not injured in the incident and he walked back under supervision to the hospital."

"I was having a conference with a student and heard some noise in the hall," said Diane Williams, a graduate teaching fellow in the English department.

"Then the noises got louder and there were cries for help. I then went into the hall and saw a young man, who looked to be of college age, being held on the floor by five or six men."

"He was shouting all sorts of

things," she continued. "He said, 'This isn't human what you're doing. No one should do this to a human being.' They held him on the floor for a while and then scooted him into an office. Security arrived first, then Dr. Cook and several others, and he was taken away."

"All of us were completely helpless," said Barbara Bacon, a creative writing GTF.

"The people here were very responsive. We didn't know where to call, but we knew we had to call somewhere. We attempted to reach the paramedics at Sacred Heart. It was all very sad."

"Campus Security was very helpful by providing communication between the University and the hospital as well as the students and faculty who assisted by providing us with their offices at the time of the incident," said a hospital representative.

"When confronted with an

emergency situation, members of the University population should call Campus Security right away," said Richard Tanner, assistant director of the Public Safety Dept. later.

"Provide as much information as possible, such as the building number, room number and the situation. Then we will get someone there right away, who can handle it."

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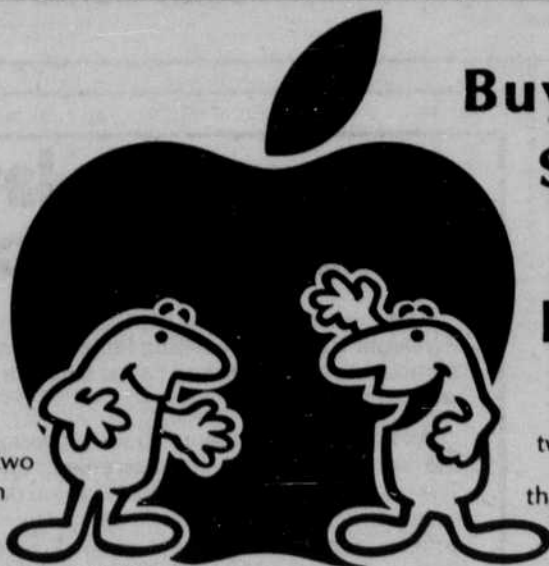
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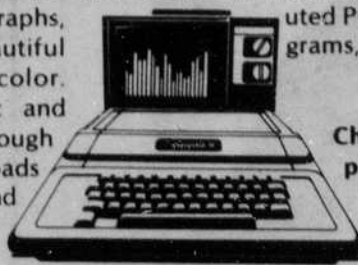
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