



greg wasson

tabled indefinitely

A dozen years ago, campus life was marked by rallies, marches and demonstrations intended to force a reevaluation of America's values and morals. Often the protests were aimed at a government 3,000 miles away and the statements were loud.

But the Washington establishment wasn't the only target. Molten lead filled the locks of Johnson Hall as students demanded a place on the committee searching for a new University president. As tuition levels continued to rise, students were less content to sit passively by while the University and the State Board decided how much the students would pay and what subjects they would be taught.

About 10 years later, students were speaking much more softly. The movement had been inherited by leaders capable of stating student "requests" in the usual forums. The feeling that

spawned unorganized, and often gratuitous, violence found expression in the concept of "student as consumer."

On the campus level, the appeal resulted in the mostly symbolic co-govern-

ours

nance structure. While paying lip service to the idea of student input, Johnson Hall has systematically denied students a real voice in running the institution.

Consider the University's General Assembly:

That body must approve most important changes in University affairs and students have 18 seats compared to the 125 faculty representatives that usually attend the meetings. (If all faculty members were to attend, they would have over 900 votes.)

Against that backdrop, any discussion of the validity of filling out faculty evaluations must reach the same conclusion: The exercise is worthless. Aside from the fact that completing the forms kills 10 minutes of class, there's little to justify the waste of paper and lead.

A strong argument can be made that the only way to lend legitimacy to the evaluations is to allow their release to the student public. One of the hallmarks of the consumer movement is the realization that buyers need accurate information to make reasoned choices. Denying students the chance to view their peers' opinions of professors negates any administrative claim that student contributions to University governance are important.

But the University hasn't been the only institution to mute the student voice. When their attempts to gain access to the

evaluations were thwarted on campus, students took their fight to the State Board. When told it would take legislation to force action, the students went to the Legislature. But the lawmakers were no more responsive to students' pleas; thus, professors' grades are still locked up in Oregon Hall.

The situation conjures up the words of ex-ASUO type Mark Cogan.

"We recognize we're not going to be running the place," said Cogan in a 1977 interview. "Students just want a role that is consistent with their needs and interests. As consumers, we have a right to information, a right to make choices, and that's all we're trying to establish."

Wasson, a first-year law student, edited the Emerald in 1976-77 and has worked as a reporter in the last three sessions of the Legislature.

yours

Archie's pride

After over two weeks of viewing chastizing remarks from outraged readers of the Immorald, I find it difficult to understand how every one of these letter writers "missed the boat" on the Immorald's satirical intention. This April Fool's Day issue was indeed a farce — a satirical farce, however.

The Immorald, like Archie Bunker, was not sexist or racist, but a satire on the countless subtleties of sexism and racism existing in our society today. Too often the subtle prejudices go unnoticed until the powerful effects of bias are ingrained — first in our attitudes and behaviors, then in our teachings of these warped attitudes to our children, and their children, then their children's children. Archie Bunker, as did the Immorald, opened our eyes to these prejudices. As an exam-

ple, the now infamous "rape" ad found in the Immorald was obviously a comment on the real advertisement found in the Emerald a few weeks previously, in which dorm residents — as a supposed "joke" — solicited an invitation to impregnate women as a means of avoiding the draft. This original advertisement was sexist; the Immorald's version was a satire on this sexism. The difference between the two is quite important.

Satire serves an important function in our culture. It allows us to see ourselves in a different perspective and has us question ourselves. Perhaps not all of the Immorald's satirical comments were "justified," but they did open the reader's eyes and made them pause to think. Archie — you would've been proud!

Daniel Mitchell
senior, psychology

Relevant goals

Women's Referral and Resource Service would like to officially announce our endorsement for Alan Contreras for ASUO president.

Alan's experience with government, from the state Democratic Party to the IFC, is extremely important to an effective executive administration. Alan knows the procedures necessary for any action and is conscientiously responsible in following them. Knowing them so well, he has often offered suggestions on alternative methods of attaining goals.

Alan also has a very practical approach to what the ASUO executive office can and should do. He has faith in the independence of the programs and is willing to help them rather than demand of them. He has set reasonable and relevant goals for next year: the supporting of

child care legislation, of course evaluations, the limiting of tuition levels and watching the reapportionment of legislative and congressional districts.

But these would not alone be enough to gain our support. Alan has consistently shown an understanding of and commitment to changing the roles of women and men in this society, and, in particular, in this University. His stance on child care is the prime example of his position. Quality child care is essential to the educational opportunity of many women and cannot be handled adequately through Incidental Fees. Alan is also a firm supporter of women in politics and in all areas of society.

We have considered the other candidates. None seem to blend the experience, the concern for the needs of students and the support for women's rights as well as Alan Contreras does. We

urge your support for this candidate.

Katherine Jones
Mary Little
Jeanna Cernazanu
Women's Referral and
Resource Service

Correction

Dale Duhan's letter ("Survey claim," 4-16-80) was printed incorrectly. The last two sentences of the letter, when submitted, read:

"As I am sure the undergraduates in my elementary statistics classes will recognize, the sample used for this estimate can not be shown to be representative of the whole faculty. In fact, since the survey was sponsored by the AFT, it is likely that the response to the survey was higher among AFT members than among non-members."

theirs



DUST FIELD NEWSWAPER MAD/CATE

GREG WASSON 11-4