

opinion

Article glorifies old budget news

The recent Oregonian article that reports the University administration overestimated the athletic department budget to garner funds from the Legislature, is a soggy mish-mash of old news and unsubstantiated accusations.

The Emerald is not in the habit of jumping to the defense of University administrators or pointing its finger at fellow journalists, but in this incident, the facts just don't support the charges leveled at former University Pres. William Boyd and Vice-Pres. Ray Hawk.

First, old news.

Last summer the Emerald printed three articles on the athletic department deficit. Most of the stories centered on an audit — commissioned by the ASUO — of the deficit.

In that audit, it was revealed the University administration basically inflated income projections to meet expenses.

"We were expecting a deficit," Hawk admitted in a July 24 article. He then defended the optimistic budget, saying a set of unforeseen circumstances — football game rainouts, athletic scandals — blew the pie-in-the-sky estimates to pieces.

After wringing their hands in despair, the administration socked students for an increased athletic fee amid loud protests from the ASUO.

In return, the ASUO made sure the State Board of Higher Education and some key legislators got copies of the athletic department audit. Shortly thereafter, the state board ordered the athletic department to balance its budget.

It finally did — by eliminating four sports in April. As the report said eight months earlier, "One might say there are just too many non-revenue producing athletic programs to be supported at their current activity level."

Point two: the article's accusations.

Did the University maneuver the deficit to convince the Legislature to allocate more money for women's intercollegiate athletics?

During the 1979 legislative session, Boyd spent his time lobbying for funding for the University Library, an addition to the architecture school and other program improvements. When asked to join Portland State University and Oregon State University officials in the fight for Title IX funds, he declined.

That's a strange way to get the Legislature to bail out women's intercollegiate athletics.

And the administration never blamed Title IX compliance as the main reason for the deficit. "We'd had financial problems before Bill Boyd came and before we beefed up the women's program," said Hawk, who has been at the University for 31 years.

The other Oregonian articles on the athletic department budget problems and personnel shake-up have been excellent and well-researched. It's a shame the first one glorified old news in a false setting.



letters policy

The Emerald welcomes readers' letters to the editor and will publish editorial pages during summer term as space permits.

The Emerald will accept and attempt to print all letters containing fair comment on issues, ideas and topics of interest to the University community. Letters **must** be limited to 250 words.

Each letter must be signed and the author's field of study or faculty or staff status noted. Each should be dated, and also must include the address and phone number of the author for verification prior to publication.

The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length, style or content. Publication of letters is dependent upon available space.

yours

Sexist horror

The greatest horror in life is death. I speak not facetiously of those whose minds and bodies have been decimated in the Third World War — the war between the sexes.

Death comes when, instead of learning to tend to others' needs, we seek self-gratification; for few at school can ignore the peer competition re size and looks. Thus begins a life of favor for the rich in sex appeal, and one of rejection for the poor; and the war of envy, jealousy and strife continues, manifesting itself oftentimes in crime. Hence, the police protect the rich, as do politicians serve big business.

But many poor men would make good truck drivers, if the

trains didn't block those jobs. It's a shame, but that's big business. But the freeways are in, and we no longer need the ugly monsters that bulldoze and blast their way through society. We also don't need to spoil life with the fuel waste from our personal chariots, another big business.

So for Father's Day, will the perfidious rich yield for the poor? But if not, a yet unborn generation "will" someday see a life without noise and violence, and where the rich envy the poor.

Old soldiers never die — they just find eternal life! (Romans Chapter 6.)

Wayne Johnson
P.O. Box 1711
Roseburg

ERA squirrels

I agree with the caption above my last letter; the ERA certainly is "in left field."

Why, reading the women's liberation literature is like listening to the arrogant chatter of squirrels in the trees at the University. What a nuisance to a college man!

Just the other day I was going to class when what should be sitting right there in the middle of the walk, but one of those liberated squirrels? Blocking my pathway to success.

I came to college to learn how to be a breadwinner. But nowadays the arrogant squirrels will snatch a sandwich right of a fellow's hand.

It used to be a girl went to college to find herself a husband. Why don't the squirrels go back to gathering nuts like they're supposed to?

Then instead of all this chatter, we might hear the nuts say, "You're the kind of squirrel I've been waiting for all my life. Will you bury me?"

Earl Gosnell
1293 1/2 Tyler St.

