

Earth Week, Ground Zero, forces for life

It's ironic that the Earth Week activities sponsored by the University Survival Center coincide with the week-long national observance of Ground Zero. Whether intentional or not, both activities are inextricably bound.

Earth Week activities and events include a multi-image concert, a film on energy — and speakers who'll explore areas of environmental concern such as nuclear power and world hunger. The week is concluded with a clean-up of the drained Millrace at the bridge on Alder Street.

Ground Zero is a national movement to alert Americans of the lethal realities of nuclear war. Groups on 450 campuses and in 750 communities across the United States plan to hold seminars and teach-ins and various activities — such as a

"dance against death" and a "run-for-your-life" marathon.

The Earth Week activities on this campus include a Thursday convocation on preventing nuclear war.

While the populous movements that have been touted by the media as more representative than the '60s and '70s Viet Nam war protests are calling for a nuclear freeze, Pres. Ronald Reagan is clothing his hawkish inclinations in doveish garb.

Reagan, in a weekend radio address, held firm to his stance that has this country and the Soviet Union tracked on a veritable collision course. The semantical trickery Reagan speaks would bring a blush to Nazi propagandist Joseph

Goebbels' cheeks. The gambit is pure Goebbelian — speak the lie, repeat the lie until the truth is forgotten and the lie becomes accepted as the truth.

Reagan said "to those who protest against nuclear war, I can only say I'm with you." His actions and previous statements indicate otherwise. He told the radio audience he opposed nuclear war, but that the United States cannot "unilaterally reduce its nuclear arms stockpile without similar action by the Soviets."

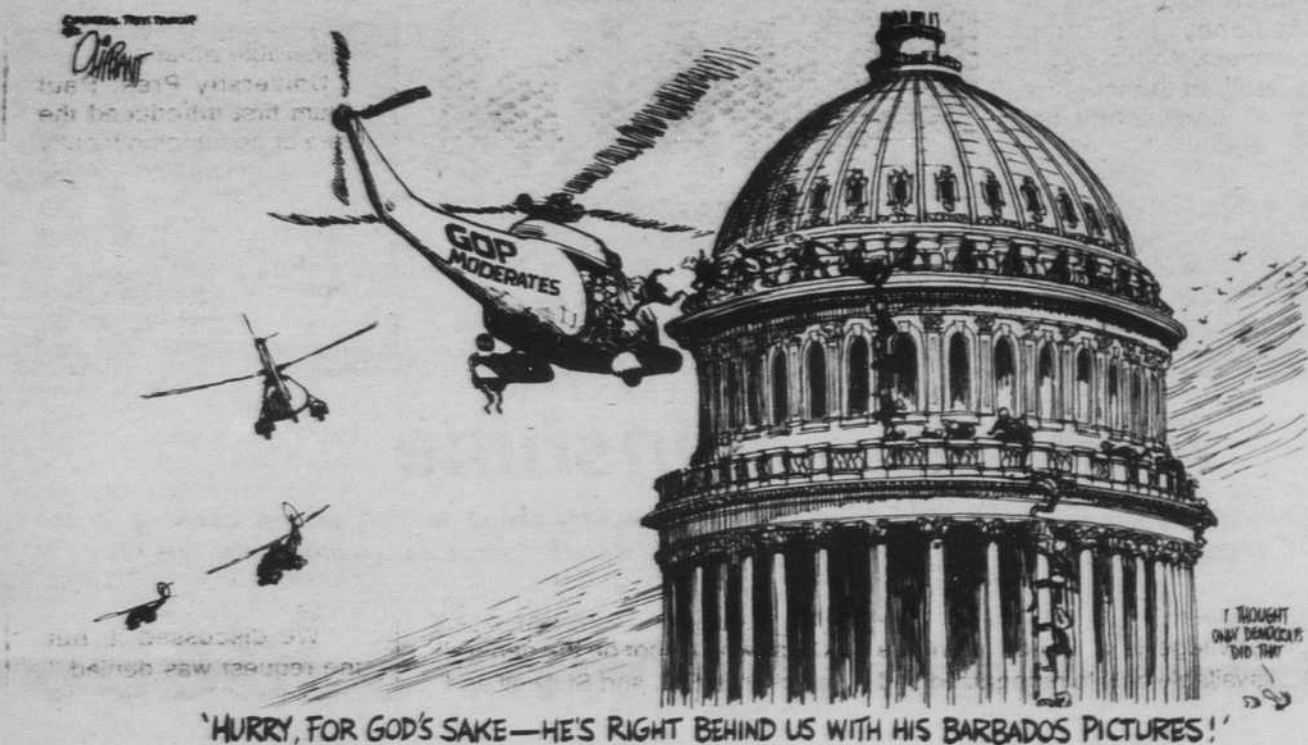
He went on to acknowledge the movement calling for a nuclear freeze — debasing the movement while intimating a continued arms race.

"That (nuclear freeze) would be fine if we were equal (to the Soviet Union) in strategic capacity. We're not. We cannot accept an agreement which perpetuates current disparities."

Statements such as the above only serve to perpetuate the nuclear belligerence between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Are these "misstatements" — or dangerous Reagan challenges? Reagan repeated the conservative dogma that the U.S. and Soviet Union were in a balance of power after World War Two. That's not altogether true. Through the '50s and into the mid-1960s the U.S. had the greater strategic power. Reagan says the military balance which permitted the U.S. to maintain peace in the world is now threatened. That "peace" was a "peace" achieved only through the threat of annihilation.

The lies continue to be compounded. Populous movements such as Ground Zero and activities like the University Survival Center's Earth Week, are the means to break the structure of lies regarding nuclear armaments constantly foisted upon the people.



letters

SPA tactics

The Students for a Progressive Agenda have shown that by running a dishonest, illegal, and misleading campaign, they may be able to take control of the IFC; and thus be able to spend \$2.2 million in student money on their own special interests.

A glance at the campaign flyers for SPA candidates shows that SPA has made an organized effort to avoid the real issues of the campaign. SPA knows that if we are made aware of SPA's "stand" they would surely be defeated. The real issue in the IFC election is how \$2.2 million of student money will be spent. The information SPA has let slip out indicates SPA will consider only their own special interests and not the interest of the rest of us. By SPA's "stand" on the issues they have shown they don't deserve our support or votes.

An even more compelling reason to withhold our votes from SPA is their dishonest, illegal campaign tactics. They

have used an office paid for by student money for campaigning. Campaign posters for other IFC candidates have been covered by SPA material. Worst of all it is charged that a poll worker campaigned for SPA candidates while working in a polling booth. All SPA candidates should withdraw or give up their claim to ethical and honest campaigning.

SPA managed to pull the wool over our eyes in the primary election, but in the run-off, we must rise up and deliver our message: We won't be fooled again.

Michael A. Larson
Law school

Mind-control

I would like to thank Ann Portal for writing the two-part article in Thursday and Friday's issues of the Emerald on the Maranatha Ministry. Having been through the whole ordeal of this ministry myself I strongly suggest any student of this campus to stay away from the

house for the very reason that they have been charged with. They practice mind-control techniques and are considered a cult.

Maranatha uses the Bible to cover up their absurd and spurious ways. The ministry's main concern lies in lifting their own narrow views above everyone else's by slapping people in the face and never taking the time to listen. True Christianity isn't this way folks so please keep both your eyes and ears open.

Pamela S. Burns
Freshman, Journalism

Don't care

All students complain that their interests aren't represented by government. The issues complained about range from legalization of marijuana and lowering the drinking age, to military involvement in various jungles to cuts in financial aid; however, only 30 percent of the voters in the 18 to 25 age bracket vote. Fewer write their elected officials. How can

elected officials represent our interests if they don't know them?

The same can be said for those students elected to various ASUO positions. 85 percent of the students at the University didn't vote in last week's primary, and 90 percent of the independents running for the IFC were eliminated. (In the presidential race all independent candidates were eliminated.) The top 12 vote receivers were endorsed by two relatively small yet highly organized coalitions — Students for a Progressive Agenda and the Greek/Law school coalition. Each of the independent candidates had a slightly different view of how the incidental fees should be allocated, and, if voters had spent a few minutes and talked to a candidate, read statements in the Emerald and Voter's guide, or read campaign materials, they would have known who they wanted to represent them.

At a time when money becomes increasingly tight, I

find it ironic that 12,000 students don't care how \$2 million dollars will be allocated next year.

Bob Mead
IFC candidate

Correction

A typographical error appeared in the letter entitled *Scapegeeks* published in last week's *Letters* column. The following is the corrected version. The Emerald regrets any misinterpretation the typographical error may have caused.

I don't think I'm a stereotypical Greek. However, if that stereotype includes those who have worked for the ERA, the nuclear arms freeze, rallied against U.S. assistance to El Salvador, and condemn elitism and white, male supremacy, than perhaps I do represent the stereotype, because there are many other Greeks who fight for the same goals as I. Yes, it's true. Greeks are people too.

Juliet Hyams
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staff

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