

\$30 reduction, a small step and bad trade

The State Board of Higher Education made a sound decision for the future of higher education in Oregon when they decided on their nominal tuition reduction for next year.

The state board, in a meeting last week, agreed on a \$10 reduction in incidental fees each term. Such a reassessment of the incidental fees will decrease total tuition by about \$30. The state board's action has been called a break with recent trends to increase incidental fees.

The \$30 incidental fee reduction is the result of a \$1.5 million overpayment by the State System of Higher Education to Oregon's self-insurance fund. The \$30 amounts to a refund for students statewide.

But before you think that the rapid escalation of educational costs in the state have slowed —

remember that tuition increases determined by the last legislative session are still in effect. This means that resident tuition and fees at the University amount to nearly \$1,386. Non-resident tuition and fees are set at \$4,011.

These increases include the \$49-per-term surcharge — so there has been very little gained from the \$30 reduction. In fact, it appears to be more of a bad trade in the long run.

The state board seems willing to change its tuition policies for the 1983-85 biennium, and eliminate the \$49 tuition surcharge. Whether or not the state board is willing is quite meaningless as it would take the addition of \$11.2 million in state funds to the higher education budget. Accomplishing that is next to impossible with Gov. Vic Atiyeh in office. Atiyeh has not been agreeable

to supplying higher education with such vast — but nonetheless essential — sums of money.

Talk of the state board dropping the \$49-per-term surcharge remains just that... talk.

A number of valuable ideas on "rational" tuition policies were kicked around by the state board. They consist of setting tuition to more accurately reflect a percentage of the cost of instruction. It is important for the board to engage in an ongoing evaluation of tuition with an emphasis on keeping the cost of higher education realistic.

We are thankful to the board for the \$30 repayment to students through reduced incidental fees — but we urge the board to continue to work toward making the cost of education in Oregon more affordable.

letters

Misleading and unfair

In her letter "vicious propaganda" (June 2nd) Helene Johnston levels several unfair and misleading accusations at Ron Hunt and the Emerald which warrant a response.

First: it is incorrect to assert that the Emerald has failed to represent various views on abortion. Obviously Johnston is upset because Mr. Hunt chose to cover a viewpoint which she doesn't share while she ignores that several articles have appeared from a pro-abortion perspective. Why didn't she demand "equal time" when the pro-life viewpoint was ignored?

Second: Johnston criticizes organizations against abortion because they present their point of view over the pro-abortion bias and she feels they have a responsibility to present both sides objectively. Well, I notice pro-abortion groups aren't known for objectivity and fairness during their rallies and presentations. Also, instead of attacking those who set up a video tape film on abortion, which I might add included interviews with pro-abortion activists, she should try to understand the concerns they have.

Third: Should the Emerald censor all coverage of events sponsored by religious organizations — as Johnston suggests? Come on now, freedom of press is protected by the First amendment and shouldn't be curtailed because of some policy called "separation of church and state" which isn't even found in the Constitution.

Michael Cross
Senior, political science and psychology

Mock senate moves to live

I thank the Emerald for giving the U.S. Mock Senate class press coverage. But it seems we were damned with faint praise and a number of bad jokes.

The Mock Senate, because it is student run, is subject to critical review by the University administration and by students as well. To make a mockery of the mock Senate is to cut the students' nose off to spite their faces; or more simply, it erodes student credibility.

Rather, I like to recognize the hard work the vast majority of students put forth. I include the leader, Richard Mathisen, the steering committee staff, the committee chairmen, the executive officers, the lobbyists, the press, the party leaders, the Senator (Republican and Democrat), and Professor Klonoski, who endorsed the course and watched our proceedings for several hours.

It is no simple task to get a course such as this off the ground. Unlike other classes where 100 students to gather hundreds of pieces of information. It is like having 100 courses occurring at once. I know I listened very hard to my fellow colleagues during committee

meetings and on the floor.

U.S. Mock Senate is a class for those who want to learn how our government operates, who comprises the factions controlling legislation, how to work with others as a function of ideological reasoning and purpose, the principle of parliamentary procedure, the qualities of good public speaking, and how to do effective research on matters of consequence.

I move that U.S. Mock Senate be allowed to live on at the University so that what we have learned may be passed on to the students next year.

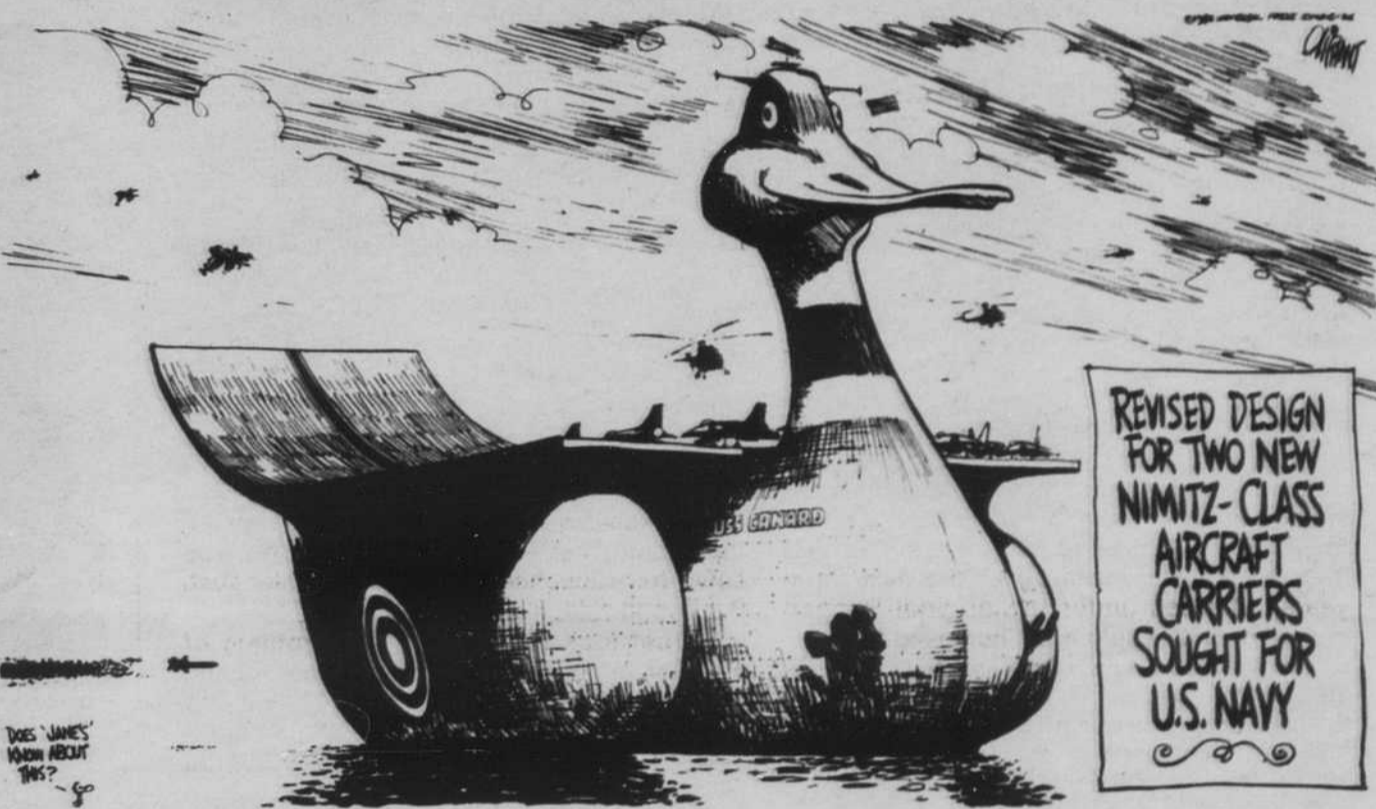
Alan Herskowitz
Senior psychology

Cheat and win

Hey! Listen up. Here's a way you can cheat and get away with it. Just run for office in the ASUO!

During and following the elections of last month, the various candidates running on the S.P.A. ticket discovered an amazing thing. They could threaten and harass their opponents, misuse various ASUO agencies, and commit other flagrant violations of election rules, and still remain in office. Neat trick!

They discovered that if you cheat and get elected, you're home free. Even if you get caught! How, you ask? It's simple. When (or if) you get nabbed, just go before the ASUO Constitution Committee, sit around for a month, and then, if they find you guilty, just pay them \$36 and they'll let you keep your office (as happened in the ASUO elections of Oct. '79. Look it up!) But don't worry too much about the money, they'll probably let



you off for nothing!

Either way, you win! And those poor dummies who were stupid enough to follow the rules? Well, they're still the losers.

Maybe next year the good guys will learn the lesson of the S.P.A. too. CHEAT and WIN!!

T. Kyle Dodge
Senior, political science

Language barrier

A June 2 article which appeared in the Emerald entitled "Language Barrier Hurdled" raised a number of negative implications which if not challenged breed racism, and at minimum widens the chasm between the speakers of English with an American accent and those speakers of English with other than an American accent.

The most serious import of the article to the readers is that GTFs and professors born and raised outside the U.S. have difficulty articulating their specialties to their students. Although this might be true in some cases, difficulty of communication and articulation at the university level is also prevalent among some GTFs and professors who speak the language with an American accent.

I was left wondering what purpose the article served.

Dr. M. Reza Behnam
Director, Institute for
Advanced Middle Eastern Studies

staff

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published Monday through Friday except during finals week and vacations by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co.

News 686-5511
Advertising/Business 686-3712
Classifieds 686-4343
Production 686-4381

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