

letters

Hard beliefs

I find it hard to believe that 80 percent of the college students in this country can afford to go to a private school but choose to go to a public school. I find it hard to believe that 80 percent of the students in this country prefer over-crowded classes and under-paid professors. I find it hard to believe that 80 percent of the students in this country don't need financial aid. I find it hard to believe that 80 percent of the students in this country don't care how their money is spent. I find it hard to believe that 80 percent of the students in this country don't care about a single political issue.

Unfortunately, it's true. Here, at the University, we have followed the national trend of low-voter turnout and are paying for it. By not voting we have given Gov. Atiyeh and the state legislature the opportunity to eliminate \$59 million from higher education without their worrying about how we're going to vote. If we can't afford to go to private institutions and if we can't afford to go without financial aid, then we should spend 15 minutes on Nov. 2 and vote.

If we don't spend 15 minutes on Nov. 2, how long will we spend regretting it?

Robert Mead
Eugene

Stop decay

In the previous two years, Oregon has slipped four places in funding for higher education — from 44th to 48th.

Currently Oregon has the highest tuition rate of state supported schools in the West.

Also, Oregon's professors are among the lowest paid for the Pac-10.

Although one man cannot be blamed for all these problems, the current state administration under Gov. Vic Atiyeh has not shown concern for the decline of higher education.

During the past four years, the current administration has cut the state budget by \$55 million. The cuts were in services and not bureaucracy. Specifically, the cuts in higher education have resulted in declining enrollment, less research dollars and in professors leaving our universities.

In effect, the current administration settled for short-term political gains, but long-term sacrifices — the bad effects on higher education have only begun.

On Nov. 2, students will have a chance to stop this decay of higher education.

Ted Kulongoski, candidate for governor, believes that a strong system of higher education is a key to recruiting high-tech firms and diversifying Oregon's economy.

He believes that the budget can be balanced without cutting student loans and grants.

As a state senator, Ted Kulongoski has been a strong supporter of higher education and believes that we can get our colleges and universities back on their feet.

Vote Ted Kulongoski for governor on Nov. 2.

Barbara Dedianko
senior, journalism

Favorable

It seems that Ross Anthony, an honorable man, has said in effect: "I come to bury Weaver, not to praise him!"

I think Jim Weaver's strong record should insure that he will not be buried when election time comes and should further insure for him the praise of our favorable votes at the polls.

For Jim has stood up against all kinds of special interests and massive opposition on the questions of environment, power, decent forest management, forest industries, atomic arms control and many other issues.

Anyone who chooses to serve his state as Weaver has chosen to serve Oregon is following a rough path, things being as they are in this world. As a tough and honest fighter for us, the people, he has my complete confidence and my vote.

Edmund Soule
professor emeritus, library

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