

opinion

Speakers will risk government action

Despite the Reagan Administration's deluge of "get gov'ment off the backs of the people" and "stay the course," at least two leaders affiliated with the University are willing to risk government for the people.

Ralph Nader, who helped inspire the founding of OSPIRG, and Arthur Flemming, president of the University from 1961 to 1968, spoke here Monday about consumer advocacy, affirmative action and the present administration's undermining of both.

Nader stressed students should question such things as why they are at the University, effects of the products they buy and policies of the officials they elect. What Nader is talking about is using power — power that comes from knowledge and the vote and the pocketbook.

Nader, however predictable, is right in saying "there's nothing more corrosive" than the boredom and feigned powerlessness of the American citizenry (or student population).

If individual citizens do not believe they can control who is elected, what policies the government should have, or what's in their hot dogs, someone else will. There are those who are willing to seize power and deregulate environmental laws, sap the life out of social programs, and add bone chips to hot dogs.

Arthur Flemming has been involved in government since the 1930s and he astutely explains that governmental agencies were established to empower the government to right certain wrongs that exist in society — like discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or economic status in employment, education, voting and housing — the national ills.

Flemming calls the present administrations policy a "regressive movement" — a well defined strategy to weaken affirmative action and social welfare legislation. One of the methods of the regressive movement is the attaching of riders (amendments that do not go through committee) to appropriations bills. Another method is the Reagan budget which undermined or abolished all affirmative action agencies (Title I, SBA, CETA, housing...).

Nader and Flemming still hold their convictions high. They believe that citizen action can produce results. They refuse to believe that public service is a pejorative term and government regulation in the reason for every problem in America today.

Flemming argues that "genuine opportunities were opened up..." and could be again for the victims of discrimination. Nader still convincingly taunts us with the thought that corporate values don't have to be personalized.

It was refreshing to know there are still some liberals willing to look beyond their bank account and status and risk speaking out for an active government — one willing to risk programs for a better world.



letters

Appreciation

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest appreciation to the thousands of people who helped in my campaign for Congress. I was very fortunate to have an outstanding group of hard-working, dedicated volunteers throughout the 4th District. My campaign would not have been possible without them and my everlasting gratitude is owed to each and every one.

I would also like to express my appreciation to all the people who received me with such warmth and enthusiasm. I thank you all for your support, encouragement and your vote.

Ross Anthony

No communist

I am not a communist — I never have been and I am planning never to be one. In Tuesday's Emerald I appeared in a photograph with the caption "RCYB members..." I am not now, nor have I ever been affiliated with RCYB.

However, there is an issue which I believe has not received adequate treatment by the Emerald. Mr. McComb of the

Register-Guard has denied RCYB advertising space for two policy reasons. The RCYB ad contains endorsements which include identifying organizations, such as "Vic Affolter, Planning Dir., City of Tillamook." Also, some endorsements are anonymous, such as "14 students at the University Law School."

Mr. McComb is certainly entitled to his policy. But where was it on Nov. 2 when the Oregon Committee Against Rent Control ran an ad endorsed by "Brian Obie, President, Eugene City Council." In the same issue Mary Burrows is endorsed by "...Tree Planters, Log Truckers, Solar Advocates, Funeral Directors,..." I think that Mr. McComb is concealing his reason for denying the ad. I am not calling him a liar. Perhaps, I should.

When any organization is denied the fair opportunity to express its views, we all suffer. The Register-Guard should print the ad.

R. Carl Cole
graduate, math

Sitting among knowledgeable, intelligent people, throwing out ideas, discussing means and motives, examining problems, and ultimately learning about how to better manage Oregon's forests, resulted in a day better spent than if I'd been home preparing for classes.

Particularly impressive was that a majority of these professionals were learning along with everyone else. They attended various sessions in their free time, asking questions, and even taking notes! I want to thank the University, the School of Law, the Wilderness Society, and all the men and women who served as resources during the conference.

In conclusion, I want to strongly recommend that the University continue to support these intense learning experiences, and encourage students and the community members to continue attending them.

Jon Harwood

Future forest

Reading a couple of past issues of the Emerald, I realized the variety of workshops recently held on campus. I'd like to make a few comments on one of those workshops I attended.

On Oct. 17 a workshop on the future of federal forests in Oregon was sponsored by the Wilderness Society along with several other environmentally concerned organizations in Oregon.

Although I am a freshman with only an interest in Oregon's forests — I have no major yet, and my classes are nearly as diverse as my interests — after spending more than seven hours listening, talking and asking about forests in Oregon, I can confidently say that every minute was a valuable one.

The future of Oregon's forests is an immediate issue. There are no guarantees that the forest's will have a future — however dependent so many of us are on it for both economic and social well-being.

However, the topic was perhaps not the most important function of the conference for me. The exciting aspect for me was to see all of these concerned professionals working towards similar goals.

Jugglers

I got hit in the face with a plastic bowling pin Monday afternoon. It happened in the student union by the Forum Room. One of those no-good jugglers threw it at me and then said, "Oh, sorry man."

Well, these people have annoyed me all year. It was bad enough when they were in the courtyard, but being inside the building is going too far.

Have you ever noticed that they're all hippies? I'll wager they're not even students. God only knows why they try so hopelessly to juggle and make general nuisances of themselves (I haven't heard of any openings for CETA jugglers lately).

Something must be done about these long-haired juggling menaces. I am therefore encouraging all the decent students of the University to verbally harass these inconsiderate, untalented assholes whenever they are encountered.

This probably won't eliminate the problem, but I know I'll feel better if I hear people shouting "Get a job, you faggot!" at the hippies in the EMU.

Scott Williams
Junior, journalism

letters

Duck hunting

The new "homegrown" comic-strip is either a new low for the Emerald or a disguised Cort Fernald editorial. To paraphrase, Waddle Life is Twaddle rife. Warn Shawn Bird that this is duck-hunting season. I don't know what I'd do if I couldn't read Waddle Life,

but I'd love to find out.

David Mendenhall
computer science, psychology

Together

I wish to thank all the citizens of Lane County for working for our Republican candidates.

Now that the election is over, congratulations to the winners

and their opposition for giving us, the electorate, a choice.

May we, as citizens and elected officials, now put aside party labels and work together to bring about the most needed economic revitalization for Lane County and the State of Oregon.

George Boehnke, chairman
Lane County Republican
Central Committee

oregon daily emerald

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