

opinion

Cultural needs met

Tonight, students can go to a free punk concert in the EMU Ballroom.

This is not an ad.

This is an editorial to recognize that the Bush Tetras, along with Willie Nelson, Pat Metheny, Bobbie and the Midnights, English Beat, Beer Gardens, Noon-time Entertainment, Wednesday night jazz gigs, EMU Ballroom square dances, Robert Bly, Modern Times Theatre, EMU Photography exhibits, traditional African music and a marvelous selection of weekend movies, are brought to us by the dedicated student group known as the EMU Cultural Forum.

Tucked quietly away in a corner of the ground floor of the EMU, the 10 members of the 1982-83 Cultural Forum, their secretary, their adviser and the watchful eye of EMU Asst. Director Frank Geltner have provided a great year of diverse and stimulating student entertainment and enriching programs.

A few weeks ago the Forum brought students Willie Nelson in MacArthur Court. Emerald reporters and attendees were amazed at how professionally the concert was handled. A special thanks goes to Mike Quinn, this year's Popular/Jazz Concerts coordinator. Quinn also organized the Pat Metheny, T.S.O.L. and English Beat concerts. The punk-funk show is free because Quinn, responsive to student needs, would rather "take a slightly larger loss with a full hall than take a loss with a couple hundred."

Special notice also goes to John Nafsinger, who has put together one of the best film calendars in years and Phil Woods who is bringing us such speakers as socialist Michael Harrington, poet Gary Snyder and psychologist Rollo Mayo this winter and spring.

All student programs attempt to provide valuable services to the students, but it's rare that a group can meet so many of the needs of all the students — this year's Cultural Forum has managed the near impossible.

letters

Provide proof

How could they? How could the government of a country that supposedly supports freedom of the people actually force these same people to do something which may be against their wishes? I know that it is against my wishes, as well as my moral principles.

I am speaking of the new law that requires students to provide proof that they have registered for the draft. The law states that if they don't they will not be able to receive any federal financial aid. Since the major portion of that money that a financial aid receiver gets is from the government, this same government is forcing an opposer to the registration to go against their principles, to not receive any aid at all, or to possibly not attend school any longer.

For people who do receive aid, and are against the new law, Uncle Sam is forcing these people to sign up for something that could eventually lead to the death of another human being. Under no circumstances can I

uphold this, or condone this travesty of our country's morals.

I do not support registration, the draft, or the forceful action that requires students to become involved with it. This goes against my rights; I feel that it is unconstitutional.

We can't let this happen. We cannot let this one thing slip by. It could lead to other infringements of our rights as American citizens.

Manny Hernandez
freshman, theatre

Amusing

We just read the stories on Hank and the Milkmen in your paper and in "What's Happening". We found them very amusing, 'specially the parts about ol' Hank's "Trip".

Guess he thought he wouldn't bore you with the whole story. Don't know why not though, as he says he did what he wanted, why should he care what people think?

Well, at least his new group is aptly named. Hank has proven himself to be a "man of milk."

John Barley
The Last Explorers



— 'SCUSE ME, SIR, THERE'S A RING 'ROUND YER COLLAR!

letters

A vision

Here is a vision. It may give some insight into the "transients" issue. It goes like this:

Our Pioneer parents look gravely across the campus at each other. A solemn figure leans heavily against the base of the Mother, his back to the cold stone. There is a quietness in the dusty twilight. A frisbee glides through the air and lands with a sigh at the feet of the figure. A dog wearing a bandana approaches.

"Do you mind if I play through?" says the dog.

"What?" asks the man. He is rolling a cigarette.

"Frisbee golf — do you mind if I play through?"

"No, not at all. You've got a tough lie, though."

"Well, we all have such hardships to work through."

"Ah, yes," says the man as he goes back to work on his cigarette.

The dog examines the man a moment. "Something seems to be bothering you."

"Well if you must know, I was just ruminating over the fact that some people have an inherent feeling that they are the ones to make choices for others. As a matter of most undeniable fact..."

"The TV room," says the dog.

"Yes," says the man, "the TV room."

"I have an understanding of the situation. It seems there is a lack of feeling for those who used the room. Today I read a letter..."

"That letter," says the man with a rage.

"Yes, the letter by Mr. Cree. His sentiments were very misdirected."

"Most certainly," says the man.

"Although," says the dog with a pause, "I think feelings on the other side may be a bit misdirected also." There is another silence.

"In a world of anxiety and stress, I think it is important to realize that we create our own entertainment. Without imagination, there is no life. I am speaking of..."

"The theater in the mind," says the man.

"Most certainly," says the dog. He picks up his saucer. With a flick of his head he sends it soaring into the approaching night. "The TV room is where ever we want it to be." And in the distance there is the ping of the frisbee hitting a light pole. "A birdie," says the dog and he is off without a goodbye.

In the near darkness, the glow of a cigarette waves below the statue and, above, the Pioneer Mother winks imperceptibly at her Husband.

Yes, Mr. Cree, there is a TV room.

David Dulberg
senior, English

Offended

Last week, I found myself offended by a petition sponsored by one of the anti-craft organizations. At their table in EMU, I was confronted with a petition

that called for the ouster of ROTC, essentially because of their discriminatory policies. Recent Emerald articles and letters have spoken eloquently enough on the issue; what I found disturbing was the assumption that, because ROTC excludes homosexuals, then we must adopt the same methods and exclude them.

This University is for everyone! We have no right to throw the ROTC off campus. Indeed, by doing so we would deprive ourselves of a potentially valuable cultural and political resource. The purpose of military and ROTC groups is not in itself immoral; it is the manner in which they go about things that we should protest.

The existence of a military is, ultimately, responsible for the continued freedom that we enjoy. I thank them for that. However, I do not condone their methods nor their prejudices. We are no better than our enemies if we stifle free speech and thought, nor can we deny others their rights, unless we are prepared to give up our own.

Yes, ROTC discriminates. Is counter-discrimination an answer? Wise up if you think so. Those who deny others their rights — whether it be ROTC, gays, blacks, women, or whoever that feels the discrimination — are only contributing to the eventual loss of all our rights to some big-brother, totalitarian regime.

Richard Strawbridge
political science

letters policy

The Emerald will attempt to print all letters containing fair comment on topics of interest to the University Community.

Letters to the editor **must** be limited to 250 words, typed, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is turned into the Emerald office. The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length, style or content.

"Your turn" is an Emerald opinion feature submitted by members of the University community. "Your turn" columns must be limited to 500 words and typed. This editorial will not be edited by the staff, but selection will be based on appropriateness.

Letters to the editor and "Your turn" columns should be turned into the Emerald office, Suite 300 EMU.

Unsigned editorials appearing in the Emerald are based upon the majority opinion of the editorial board.

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