

More than a 'mutt' Craft is a symbol

Christine Craft is not really the "mutt" she purports to be. If she is a "mutt," she's a symbolic "mutt."

Craft has been going around the country on the lecture circuit since she won her landmark sex discrimination suit with a Kansas City TV station. Craft spoke to a group of media representatives in Eugene on Friday.

The settlement in the case was a whopping \$500,000, but Craft hasn't seen a penny of it — and may never see the full amount as the case goes through the arduous appeal process.

For some inexplicable reason Craft has been condemned as an opportunist — accused of "milking" her sex discrimination case for everything she can.

Condemning Craft as an opportunist is reprehensible and seems to derive from the same mentality that labeled Craft a "mutt" in the first place.

On the other side of the coin, Craft is a symbol of what can be righted in broadcast or print journalism.

The charge of opportunism is really inappropriate considering Craft's intentions to "help raise consciousness" on the problem of sexual discrimination in broadcast journalism. She has a very unique perspective on the problem.

Craft's opinion of broadcast journalism has changed very little since she was demoted from her job as an anchorwoman. She called the industry without backbone, with mixed-up priorities and possessing no sense of individuality.

Probably Craft's most apt and incisive charge against broadcast journalism is that it goes for ratings over journalistic integrity. To increase ratings they hire "clone blonde" newscasters who look and talk alike. Craft called her sex discrimination suit a "feminist battle, a humanist battle, a human rights battle and a battle for journalistic integrity. Getting the news right had better be our first priority."

Craft, while getting the news right, is having an impact on righting the news industry.

Many faculty members deserving of awards

We applaud the decision by the State Board of Higher Education to honor outstanding faculty members at the state's colleges and universities with cash awards.

The Faculty Salary Enhancement Award will distribute awards from \$2,500 to \$10,000 to a select group of outstanding faculty. The funds come from a \$200,000 legislative appropriation effective through 1985.

Faculty salaries have suffered because of budget cuts in higher education. Faculty pay increases have been sacrificed in recent years due to a lean budget.

It's unfortunate there isn't more award money in the legislative appropriation, there are more outstanding faculty in Oregon's colleges and universities than a select few.

Best of luck to the 'Commentator'

We were pleasantly surprised Monday morning to see a new paper on campus. For some time we have thought it best that students have a choice of, and an abundance of, information sources.

Whether the *Oregon Commentator*, a new campus alternative paper, will offer fresh and viable choices is a good question and something readers should consider.

We are concerned especially with the *Commentator's* editorial policy. From Dane Claussen's "Publisher's Files" comes this gem of a policy statement:

"*Commentator* articles will tell you what the other publications on campus are unable to tell you because of inexperience, incompetence, or narrowmindedness of their staffs. Our articles will include the why and the how, and our editorial writers will spew forth 1960s rhetoric without thinking."

Hmmm... That might require a little thought before any endorsement is spewed forth.



QUESTION: "AS A FEDERAL EMPLOYEE, ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF A NATIONAL HOLIDAY OBSERVING MARTIN LUTHER KING'S BIRTHDAY, OR DO YOU NOT PARTICULARLY CARE WHO'S BIRTHDAY IT IS?" ANSWER YES OR NO

ASUO decides politics, morality

Does it ever bother you when those representatives you appoint to office and charge with the responsibility of expressing your views, don't? While we all watch national events, some gross representation problems are pretty evident right in our own ASUO. So sure is the student government on campus this year that they know how you think, that they have undertaken of their own accord the right to decide your morality and politics for you.

comments sterling coke

Remember that big flap about Kevin Kouns' speech to all the incoming students? Instead of speaking on the role of the ASUO and ways for students to get involved as NSHP requested, he decided that the new students were better off knowing about world problems and how incorrectly America is handling them. That speech was given with no polls taken, no opinion requests, nothing. It was your representative's idea about what you should think.

How about the stand on the registration bit and student financial aid? The ASUO has made it very clear how you should deal with this one. Do you think it is the student government's responsibility to protect the students' rights, or to make a political statement on the issue? The ASUO decided to take pot-shots at the registration process, calling it a virtual sign-up for the draft — of which there is none, of course. By the way, how does the ASUO know that 100 percent of the students on this campus are so

adamantly opposed to the process of registration? ASUO Pres. Mary Hotchkiss' "kitchen cabinet" was voted into office partly due to a dormitory dislike for the Greek system (something which is gradually changing) and partly due to the work of the political party SPA (Students for a Progressive Agenda), which cornered a fairly large block vote. When the final tally was in, the SPA group had won by a lousy 3 percent or so. Yet this was touted by the Hotchkiss group as a "sweeping mandate for change." I particularly liked the "end of student apathy" march that drew perhaps 45 people. That is a sweeping mandate? Enough of a mandate to justify the SPA people deciding your politics for you?

So positive has the ASUO been of itself, that it even took the liberty of placing its SPA party symbol on those ASUO Magicards that we all have. While that in itself is an issue going to Constitution Court, how many of you knew that the SPA symbol on those cards is the older logo of the Democratic Socialists of America? How is that for representation, when a socialist group on campus decides your politics for you, both here and in Salem? And what happens when Salem finds out?

Now, I have no qualms about the people running ASUO; they are well-intentioned. But who gave them the right to so omnipotently decide how I want to be represented? I hope they will reflect all of our views from now on, and not just the views of a few extremists.

Sterling Coke is a junior majoring in decision science and minoring in political science and computer science. He is media spokesperson for the College Republicans and has worked over the last year in several political projects for various groups, as well as for the ASUO.

letters

Doin' time

As part of my sentence, my judge requested that I write a letter to the editor of the Emerald telling of my experience. The purpose was to inform other students of the stiff fines laid on bank accounts for making a false application for a driver's license.

A sympathy letter this is not and I doubt if it serves as much of a warning letter. I say this because if someone really wants fake I.D.

they will take the chance at the nearest DMV with the security that the system is easy to beat. For every person who tries to get I.D. (for convenience sake) but finds himself with a court date, a heavy fine and a slap on the hand, there are many others who simply walk into a DMV, casually request a new "false" identity, and skip out with a smile to a favorite bar for a victory gin and tonic.

I am not endorsing attempts at convenience I.D., but am merely writing what I have seen. I have neither statistics nor facts to back up my rather narrow-minded view; however, one fact does loom heavily; submitting a false application for a driver's license is a Class A misdemeanor com-

plemented by heavy fines.

Carrie Clark

Root of 'sin'

This letter is written in regard to Doug Nash's shallow expose of mentality.

Nash's article about the Stadium Club typifies the attitudes and viewpoints of the Emerald and the ASUO. They feel that money is a "sin" and the root of all evil. Nash and the like do not realize and appreciate the generosity of the private donors who built Autzen Stadium. Perhaps Nash would rather have the games played at Hayward Field.

Tom Newberg

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 in. The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length, style or content.

"Comment" is an Emerald opinion feature submitted by members of the University community. "Comment" columns must be limited to 500 words and typed.

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

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