

## opinion

### IFC did a good job at difficult task

The *Emerald* would like to take this opportunity to commend the overall good work done this year by the Incidental Fee Committee. The IFC has done a thorough job with its unenviable task of allocating the students' fees.

The IFC has worked long and hard to achieve an equitable budget for next year. Achieving an equitable budget and satisfying a majority of the myriad of special interest groups is an extremely difficult undertaking. The IFC, on almost all accounts, satisfied the groups' and the students' wishes.

This year the IFC was faced with a serious challenge to holding down incidental fees from the athletic department's \$850,000 budget request. The IFC did not roll over and rubber stamp the athletic department's exorbitant request. More than a few committees in the past have bowed down to the University's athletic department. The IFC pared the athletic department's request by \$120,000, which doesn't raise fees inordinately nor substantially affect the athletic department for next year.

The only blight on the IFC's character was its funding of the *Oregon Commentator* in spite of IFC guidelines and that publication's ballot measure suffering an overwhelming defeat in the election. We criticized the IFC for this action in the same manner we would have criticized the IFC had they ignored the students' wishes and not allocated incidental fees to the marching band or the United States Student Association.

But, overall, the IFC, under chair Julie Davis, has done an exemplary job. This bodes well for students and next year's ASUO. (Davis was wise enough to name fellow IFC member Marc Spence as her vice president.) If next year's ASUO under Davis' leadership functions as well as this year's IFC the students will have an ASUO government that is representative and responsive to their wishes.

### Bipartisan House votes sound policy

The House of Representatives has taken a significant pause in what might have become a mad dash into the gaping maw of all-devouring war.

The House, with bipartisan support, voted 341-64 Wednesday to prevent U.S. troops from being sent "into... El Salvador or Nicaragua for combat." The only acceptable criteria is if embassy personnel or other American citizens were in peril sufficient to warrant rescue.

The bipartisan measure withholds funds in 1985 for U.S. military forces "for the purpose of delivering weapons fire upon the enemy."

The measure clarified the acceptable exceptions as a declaration of war by Congress or specific legislation that authorizes combat activity; or actions by the president necessary "to meet a clear and present danger of hostile attack upon the United States," to "meet a clear and present danger... to the United States Embassy," or to "meet clear and present danger to United States government personnel or United States citizens."

Rather than scotch the Reagan administration's efforts to militarily aid El Salvador and Central America, the measure defines the perimeters of how U.S. military may be used in Central America. Such perimeters will silence fears of an escalating U.S. military presence in Central America and the possibility of increasing U.S. involvement. The measure does not usurp Pres. Ronald Reagan's powers, but does guide his hand with a sound policy in Central America. And Central America is a troubled area that would greatly benefit from a sound policy.



## letters

### Typical

I am very disappointed to hear that "Oliver" has lost his place in the *Emerald*. While "Oliver" may be a little hardline on drinking and scamming on girls, it seems to me he (Oliver) typifies many University students. Is reality too harsh?

"Versatile Cow" doesn't even compare to "Oliver." Send it to Moo U-Corvallis.

Ray Byzewski  
physical education

### Seriously wrong

There is something seriously wrong here on campus. A minority organization is being economically discriminated against by our government. One bureaucrat's veto has negated the votes of 800 students; and other students are applauding this action. I'm talking about the veto of IFC funds for the *Commentator* by ASUO Pres. Mary Hotchkiss. And frankly, I am appalled.

In open campus elections, over 30 percent of participating University students voted to support the *Commentator* with \$10,000 of their own money. How many other student organizations can boast the same degree of support? And yet, these organizations receive funding from the IFC without challenge from our illustrious (ex)president.

Hotchkiss said that the IFC funding of the *Commentator* was "extraordinary." Well, the *Commentator* is an extraordinary publication. In a mere seven months the *Commentator* has gone from nonexistence to the second most widely read campus paper. The *Commentator* has well written articles,

thoughtful editorials, and humorous, biting satire. For sheer journalistic merit I believe the *Commentator* should receive IFC funding.

However, the *Commentator* caters to a minority group on this campus; and, unfortunately, not one of the more chic minorities. I guess if you are an unpopular group with the current administration then your vote is worthless. At least that is what Hotchkiss seems to be saying by her veto of the *Commentator*'s IFC funding.

This close-minded, hypocritical action by our student government is a sad reflection on the current state of affairs at our University. Free speech has been compromised by those who claim to champion it most. It is a tragedy that the students of the University continue to tolerate, even support such a student government.

Ronald Harper

### Xenophile

If campus philistine Dan Goulet really is a political science major he should note: U.S. citizens consume ten times as great an amount of natural resources in their lifetimes as people do in most of the rest of the world. A U.S. growth of 2 million people (typical for a given year) is equivalent to a growth of 20 million in a Third World nation. In terms of depleting the already scarce resources of this planet, the U.S. is just as, if not more to blame in increasing its consumption by increasing its population.

Goulet, in his typical xenophobic manner, sees other nations as objects whose statistics must always be competed against, even in areas that have clearly reached levels of concern that ought to transcend petty and archaic nationalism. Even small amounts of U.S. population growth can and will have devastating effects on the world. Since we and other Western nations are in a better position to control our population growth, a zero rate for us should be given renewed emphasis.

The horror stories we heard in the early 1970s about the population explosion are close to becoming reality. Soon this issue will prove to be the primary ecological, economic and political concern of the world. The friction between the U.S. and the Soviet Union will seem foolish in comparison.

Land area for agricultural use declines while population increases geometrically. This time bomb will prove just as devastating in its detonation as a nuclear holocaust — and there is less political and social will in this country behind finding a solution than there is behind finding a solution to the arms race problem. Because of this, I thank Goulet for bringing up the subject.

Rolf Erik Sjogren  
history

### Rock on

I sat down to breakfast this morning, on one side was cafeteria food for consumption, on the other the *Emerald* for entertainment. And I was entertained, but I was also concerned.

Although the article presenting the Maranatha views on modern music provided an endless source of amusement for my tablemates and myself, I couldn't help noticing that it left a distinctly foul aftertaste, an aftertaste far surpassing that left by the food.

As an amateur musician I spend a good deal of time listening to modern music so that I might be able to play it better. I have listened to some of these songs played backwards and the only things I heard were a reversal of the melody line and some intensely garbled lyrics. This was entertaining but hardly filled with mystic messages. Maybe I just don't have what it takes. Maybe my brain doesn't function properly in reverse.

You see, the human mind is an amazing thing, when confronted with confusing or conflicting facts and impulses it will attempt to assemble them into a more familiar and sensible framework. In this way, garbled, reversed lyrics are reassembled and later read so that they appear to make some sense to the listener. What is produced is determined by the mental processes and subconscious of the hearer.

To you Mark Hayter, and to all of your ilk, I suggest that the next time you hear reversed lyrics order you to "start to smoke marijuana," you should examine your own thoughts and subconscious before you go off on some lyrical witch hunt or melodic crusade.

And so I close, still chuckling, "Long live rock, I need it every night."

Douglas Michel

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