

# opinion

## Increased activity

The University's campaign to entice undergraduates is showing definite results, especially the radio advertising that lists six different degree programs and their stature according to national rankings.

"Activity" — the bureaucratic name given to such things as admissions applications and requests for information — is up 13 percent in the admissions office, according to administrators.

That's good news for the University. It's not only good PR work and a boon to enrollment, but it gives some high profile credit to top-notch, nationally ranked programs in Energy Conscious Architecture, ranked first; Art Education, ranked second; Human Development and Performance, fifth; Journalism, seventh; the College of Education, 13th; and Marketing, 20th.

## An alternative view

It seems that students are getting what they asked for, an alternative view.

In the last two issues, *The Commentator*, that bastion of campus "enlightenment," has given the University a unique analysis of student elections where a 1,715-790 defeat is a victory and a 1,331-1,218 victory is a defeat.



'C'MON, SAM, I PROMISE I'VE ALMOST GOT THE PROBLEM LICKED — JUST GIMME ONE MORE LITTLE DRINK TO KEEP ME GOING WHILE I FINISH HIM OFF!'

# letters

## Disgusting

I remember sitting at the breakfast table thumbing through the *Emerald* like a loyal student attempting to keep in touch with campus politics. The reporting in the *Emerald* was usually disgusting, but I knew the comic strip "Oliver" was somewhere near the end of the publication.

The *Emerald* was lucky to have a winner of the Region 10 (Western U.S.) Society of Professional Journalist, Mark of Excellence contest in 1983 on their staff. John Gorman, the outstanding cartoonist who wrote "Oliver" was the recipient of this award. However, I, like many of my neighbors, have noticed "Oliver"'s disappearance from his usual place next to "Bloom County". This displeases us.

I was left to wonder if "Oliver"'s constant girl chasing offended the moral conscience of the student editor. If this is true, I'm sure Gorman is just as well off not making my breakfast stroll through this cheap newspaper more enjoyable or even tolerable.

Paul Matthews  
economics

## Biased

The recent article entitled "Roommates beware" is among the most flagrant examples of biased, yellow journalism (in keeping with the fine tradition

maintained by the *Emerald* staff) that I have recently come across. To begin with, only one side of the story is presented. As a result, the reader is subject to Jacquie Steiner's slanted perspective. In fact, the "parasitic" third roommate was able to prove his case in court by providing canceled checks and receipts as evidence that he did, indeed, fulfill his obligations to each of his roommates. Next time, please make a stonger effort to present both sides of the story.

Hal Zweben  
junior, English

## Graph error

The recently painted graph along 13th Avenue has received much attention over the past few weeks. This graph, which allegedly represents the federal budget outlays for fiscal year 1985, is misleading, inaccurate, and inappropriate.

A most serious error is, simply stated, incorrect figures. The graph depicts military spending as comprising almost two-thirds of the total budget (\$431 billion out of a \$687 billion budget); in fact, 1985 budget proposals submitted to Congress allot less than one-third of federal expenditures to the Pentagon (\$305 billion out of \$925.5 billion). The distorted figures are partially due to the inclusion of the national debt interest payments under the category of military spending. The faulty logic of

those who constructed the graph dictates that our immense national debt is entirely unrelated, an absurd suggestion. In reference to Ross West's letter: "This graph was, as they say, just the facts ma'am"; actually, sir, they clearly are not.

Ironically, in the year of Orwell, groups such as CALC and SNUFF that continually accuse the government of "doublespeak" and half-truths must themselves resort to deceit and "Big Brother" tactics of chicanery to promote their ideological claims. The complex issue of military spending merits honesty and integrity as cornerstones to debate. Without these primary principles, discussion of the issue inevitably deteriorates into a stalemate, with nothing accomplished.

Michael Schaeffer  
freshman, classics  
Paul Maslen  
freshman, business

## Makin', breakin'

Pres. Ronald Reagan, do you realize what power you have? Do you realize that you can make or break humanity? That you have become responsible for every living thing on this planet? Has it come to your consciousness that what breathes fresh air; what smiles and laughs in joy of friendship and love; what soars with the help of the west wind; whatever exists in its uniqueness of design on

this earth can be eradicated with the push of a button?

It should be obvious, that with the current course of action we are sure to be reduced to cave dwellers once again. We have come so far — from the Iron Age, the Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, to the Reformation, the Industrial Revolution, and the Information Revolution — and yet we have done so little to preserve all that we have accomplished. Just think of the loss, to have demolished all human successes and achievements that have accrued from the beginning of time.

Each one of us has a gun held to our heads. Yet why haven't we actively addressed this problem and sought solution as it stares us in the face. This problem demands that we must no longer seek a balance of power, but a balance of sanity. Life and existence itself must be our focus: not our differences of opinion and ideology. It is required of us to learn to accept our differences and work with them not die with them. So Mr. President, let's act on the problem by developing trust through constructive communication to save our future, and the future for generations to come.

Dave Bryant

## Simpleton

Dear Dave Zauner, with all due respect, you are a simpleton. Your awareness of nuclear arms statistics and ability to make calculations from them is touching but your shallow reflections upon them shows your political immaturity. Does it actually take so much more analysis to realize world events may not be what they appear? Did it ever occur to you that a large portion of the real world picture may be hidden from *les citoyens*? You say "Reagan's 'bargain-chip' diplomacy has obviously continually failed." But did it ever occur to you that there may be a completely different reality beyond the obvious? Did it ever occur to you that reactions of fear and distrust for the president (such as yours) may actual-

ly serve the interests of Soviet officials?

Zauner, no one wants nuclear arms. But I propose the road to their eradication is more twisted and confusing than either of us would like to believe. You must fight nuclear arms in your own way, I in mine, and the president in his. But I must say that the president has a little more inside information that we do. Let us all support him.

Paul Parks  
senior, journalism

## Justice

I noted with pleasure and amusement that the IFC chose to uphold Mary Hotchkiss' veto of funds for the *Commentator*. The *Commentator* developed a personal vendetta against Hotchkiss this past year for daring to suggest that the sign in the EMU should be changed and for taking other stands which ruffled its political feathers. That vendetta culminated in their April Fool's Day issue in which (under the guise of being "witty") they insulted and humiliated Hotchkiss in the ugliest ways imaginable. It was a new low.

Therefore, I think it's a genuine case of poetic justice that, as her final act in office, Hotchkiss was able to deprive the *Commentator* of student funding for next year.

I'm also glad that Julie Davis felt that funding the *Commentator* would "damage people's notions of what the right to vote means." That's a good beginning.

It would be great if we had a publication on campus in which all kinds of "alternative" views could be expressed, but that certainly wasn't what the *Commentator* was doing. Rather than giving us fresh perspectives, it tended, much more often, to give us journalism at its biased, petty, vindictive worst, and I think the overwhelming vote against funding for next year reflected the feeling among students that the *Commentator* was in no way representing their interests.

Carol Imani  
English

<p>oregon daily <b>emerald</b></p>		<p>Editor Managing Editor News Editor Assistant News Editor Editorial Page Editor Photo Editor Sports Editor Sidelines Editor Entertainment Editor Assistant Entertainment Editor Night Editor</p>	<p>Debbie Howlett Sandy Johnstone Frank Shaw Brenda Thornton Cort Fernald Michael Ciapp Doug Levy John Healy Angela Allen Morgan Kim Carlson Sandy Johnstone</p>
<p>The Oregon Daily Emerald is published Monday through Friday except during exam week and vacations by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, OR. 97403.</p>		<p>Associate Editors Higher Education Departments and Schools Student Government Features Politics Community</p>	<p>Doug Nash Melissa Martin Jim Moore Julie Shippen Brooks Dareff Michael Duke</p>
<p>The Emerald operates independently of the University with offices on the third floor of the Erb Memorial Union and is a member of the Associated Press.</p>		<p>Reporters: Costas Christ, Diana Elliott, Paul Ertelt, Brent Paz, Lori Steinhauer, David Stone, Steve Turcotte, Lois Yoshishige.</p>	<p>686-5511 686-3712 686-4343 686-4381 686-5511</p>
<p>General Staff Advertising Manager Classified Advertising Production Manager Controller</p>	<p>Susan Thelen Larry Swanson Victoria Koch Jean Ownbey</p>	<p>News and Editorial Display Advertising and Business Classified Advertising Production Circulation</p>	
<p>Ad Sales: Rachel Bellamy, Gindi Biagg, Laura Buckley, Julie Buirice, David Kosse, Jo Meeks, Roberta Oliver, Richard Skeen</p>			
<p>Production: Laurie Becharas, Sharla Cassidy, Michael Ciapp, Kelly Cornyn, Kathy Gallagher, Carrie Greaves, C. Hanson, Christy Horning, LeeAnn Lovgren, Lauri Neely, Kelly Neff, Mark Pynes, Michele Ross, Margaret Solonika, Debbie Stoll, Tim Swillinger, Colleen Tremaine, Hank Trotter, Kathy York</p>			