

letters

Whose news?

Twice in two weeks, advertisements for the Marine's pilot recruitment program have been printed in the Emerald as news stories. First the Emerald gave us the urgent news that the Marines would be showing a free propaganda film (as if anyone could have missed the Marine's quarter-page display ad). Then we learn that the Marines will give free plane rides to male students.

In this same two week period, several anti-war and anti-nuclear groups, both on and off campus, have had meetings. None of those meetings were covered as news stories.

The Marine's primary purpose on campus is the recruitment and training of pilots for combat planes. Apparently, the plan of this program is to put a relatively inexperienced pilot who is also an inexperienced combat soldier into an expensive plane and send him to "provide air support for ground troops" to send them into war.

The program is only interested in the best of America's educated young men. Young men with very high GPA's, proven leadership ability, proven self-sufficiency, and stable personal histories. When one of these pilots die (and some will die) the nation will not only suffer the tragic loss of a young man but will also lose the intelligence and drive each of these young men possess.

I guess I just don't understand why the Emerald is acting as if the Marines were offering a new educational program. The Marines are looking for soldiers. The fact that the Marines want to enlist young men just doesn't strike me as news.

Shasta Hatter
Psychology

"Smiling Ron"

I am frankly amazed at the number of students on this campus who believe that Ronald Reagan is the best choice for their future. Apparently these young Republicans don't remember "smiling Ron" as Governor of California in the late Sixties, who ordered in the National Guard detachments that tear-gas bombed students on the Berkeley campus and shot and killed them in the People's Park massacre in May of 1969.

During this time he fought student deferments from the draft, denounced student draft evaders, and crushed student protesters who were terrified as their classmates disappeared one-by-one and came home from a senseless war in body bags.

Today, the Reagan administration is seriously considering a military solution to the Central American problem. We have seen that the President has few qualms about charging in with the military at the twirl of a Red cape. If you vote for Reagan and become cannon fodder in his war, you'll have no one but yourselves to blame.

Brent Rasmussen
Eugene

Shocking letter

I write this letter in outraged response to Page McCallum's "letter to the editor" (ODE Oct. 22). I still can't believe I read it.

McCallum would have us Oregon Daily Emerald

THANK Adolf Hitler for the Volkswagen? He would have us THANK Hitler for our space program? He would have us THANK Hitler for anything?

I agree with him when he writes, "When Adolf Hitler came to power, there was 22 percent inflation in Germany, closed factories, and astounding unemployment." The same kind of conditions in the United States when Ronald Reagan took office.

Hitler cured his nation's ills, he opened factories, put people back to work, brought down inflation, just like Ronald Reagan, by building the single most horrifying and destructive war machine in the history of the world.

The end result was torture, slavery or death to over 50 million human beings; and the almost successful attempt to annihilate an entire race of people.

I read an article recently in which an east coast university sociology professor stated that he thought today's college students, because of their mindless allegiance to strong leaders such as President Reagan, were "ripe for fascism."

When I first read the article, I thought the point nothing more than interesting. But when I read Mr. McCallum's letter, I thought the point nothing less than frightening.

Dan McCue
Journalism

Save the trees

On Nov. 6, Eugene citizens will be able to vote on a city-wide charter amendment proposal protecting historic street trees. Ballot Measure 52 requires a public vote before 50-year-old trees within the city's 1915 boundaries can be removed for street widening projects. Adoption of the measure will help preserve the historic character of Eugene's older residential areas and its downtown.

Last summer sixty-seven volunteers circulated the historic street tree charter amendment petition to collect a requisite 5,807 signatures to get the measure on the ballot. This effort was an outgrowth of frustration felt over a decision by the Eugene City Council to support the proposed widening of 6th and 7th Ave. between High and Washington St. The widening would create two highways through the heart of town, and would necessitate removal of stately street trees.

At heavily attended public hearings held for discussion of the 6th and 7th Ave. project, the preponderance of public testimony opposed the widening. The Eugene Downtown Commission voted against the project, as did the majority of the Design Review Committee appointed by City Council to review the widening proposal.

The council maintains that creation of a major transportation corridor through the core of Eugene is necessary to allow heavy traffic to reach West Eugene where sites are available for industrial development. Proponents of Measure 52 say that heavy traffic should utilize roadways on the periphery of town, thereby minimizing air and noise pollution in downtown Eugene and nearby neighborhoods.

With passage of Measure 52, disregard of public sentiment would be less likely to occur,

and citizens could influence the evolution of Eugene's urban fabric. We urge you to vote yes on Measure 52.

Ronald Lovinger
Eugene

Insane world

There are 50,000 nuclear weapons in the world. With all the shitbrains in power, is it any wonder people are nervous? China has four intercontinental missiles at last count. Just a little mistake on the part of some underling there could destroy us all. Comforting, isn't it? Nuclear weapons tests must be nipped in the bud once and for all. We can no longer allow our leaders' power trips and sexual inadequacies to hang over our heads. Once this very initial step is accomplished, we must negotiate the dismantling of all the weapons we possess in the world.

Naive, isn't it? But that's the ideal we must strive for. It's bad enough having the amount of weaponry we had 25 years ago. If we keep on raising the stakes with satellite weaponry ("Star Wars"), there's no hope. The only solution is for a worldwide conference presided over by the American President and Chernenko on the issue of disarmament and a freeze on technological research and development.

Insanity has become an accepted norm in the world. The powerless sane ones don't have to stand for this. The gun has been held over our heads as long as we can remember, so as to encourage paralysis and apathy. "Let the buggers do their own thing in Washington — they must know what they're doing." Well they're really not that superhuman.

We've got to remove the cloud over our heads so as to get on with the really important matters at hand such as human rights and oppression. It's probably too late but it would feel a lot better trying to approach these goals rather than sitting around waiting for the mistake of a very mortal man.

Paul Sturtz
Eugene

Any minute

Forget the economy, taxes and abortion for a minute and consider this: We could have only 10 minutes to live. There are nuclear warheads aimed at every city in the United States with a minimum population of 10,000. Every person you know — sons, daughters, parents, and grandchildren could be dead or dying in the next 10 minutes.

On top of this is a president who has said 11 times in the last several months that we are the last generation. He believes in Armageddon taking place in the next 10 years. Consider that every year there are at least 240 computer errors that signal that the Soviet Union has fired at us. That's 2 out of 3 days a year we are on the brink of a holocaust greater than Hitler could ever imagine.

President Reagan says we need to spend \$2.5 trillion more on nuclear weapons to be "strong." There is already enough fire power in the U.S. alone to blow up the world several times. A vote for President Reagan will be sealing the fate of the world. You will in effect be condemning your own family to death. When you vote Nov. 6, remember you may have

only 10 minutes to live and counting — 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1.

Christine Beneda
Eugene

Armageddon

Mr. Ron Munion, Chair of Students for Reagan, accuses me of having "attacked the messenger", instead of the "message", in my letter to the Emerald. After this promising beginning he turns, unfortunately, to matters completely unrelated to my statements, leaving me to guess at what he means.

I thought long and hard. Maybe this was a waste of time because as a loyal follower of the mental enigma in the White House, Mr. Munion may regard it as his duty to be confused. However, believing him to be an erudite person I think there is a more positive explanation.

Mr. Munion, I believe, regards Ronald Reagan as a messenger. This isn't exactly novel, since many people have done so for a long time. The latter think he is the messenger of the greediest part of the "elite", the arrogance of which is so impressively displayed by George Bush, as well as of the Fundamentalists who expect everybody else to go to hell. Mr. Munion, however, sees a different message giver. Inasmuch as Ronald Reagan apparently regards himself as God's tool in bringing about Armageddon, surely it isn't too bold an assumption that Ron Munion sees God as the giver of the message. On my part I wonder when theologians will advise Mr. Reagan that Armageddon will come about as the culmination of western man's permanent devil-inspired revolt against God, but not as the result of God's whim.

A. Brettauer
Eugene

Stop Reagan!

An excerpt from "Reagan for Beginners," by David Smith and Melinda Gebbie: Joblessness, spiralling prices, taxes, and global conflict make voters insecure. They tend to feel that if the welfare state is not the answer, it may be the problem. Skillful politicians, Reagan in particular, offer an ingenious equation:

He promises more — more prosperity, security, and freedom — by means of less — less government. The irony is that, in the name of prosperity and security, Reagan has been able to lead the public into higher joblessness, fewer unemployment benefits, and fewer services for the truly insecure.

Meanwhile, taxes have not fallen for ordinary taxpayers, budgets are less balanced than ever. The state grows wildly. Wars have not become less likely."

"Wars have not become less likely" is an understatement. A nuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union seems much more likely. Do you feel safer knowing that arms control talks broke down last December? President Reagan has yet to even meet the Soviet Premier, and the Soviets have more submarines bearing nuclear weapons deployed near our coast than ever before! Has Reagan's massive increase in military spending and his "evil empire" rhetoric against the

Soviet Union produced results? I think not. The Soviets continue to build more nuclear weapons, kill innocent people in Afghanistan, and imprison dissidents.

Reagan's domestic policies are brutal and unfair; his military and foreign policies are dangerous and ineffective. His administration has served no one but big business and the wealthy, and has brought humanity to the edge of extinction.

John Jordan
Mass Communications

Vote for Rust

I'm not easily impressed by most politicians. As a matter of fact, I'm easily depressed by most of them. But I was mighty impressed with Jerry Rust when I first met him in 1973, and I still am.

He was a treeplanter then — big-boned, fresh spirited, and with a wit as sharp as a saw chain. But it was the quality of his mind that impressed me the most. He had the ability to size up a situation, to dig deeper than most people, and to come up with an innovative approach to all sorts of problems.

Jerry was a founder and the first president of the Hoedads, a worker-owned reforestation company that has employed thousands of people and brought in over \$14 million to our local economy. Jerry didn't just talk about economic development, he did it, and in a way that involved and excited many people.

Outside of the Hoedads, there were no women working in reforestation. No one would give them a job. Women made up 35 percent of the Hoedad workforce by 1974, and Jerry's consistent support was instrumental. He did more than just talk about opportunity.

Jerry Rust has been a Lane County Commissioner since his upset victory over two conservative opponents in 1976. He has proven to be a popular, capable, and innovative administrator. Along with Marge Hendriksen and Jim Weaver, Jerry has served as a beacon of progressive leadership in this community.

Jerry is worthy of your vote on election day. He won't depress you.

Roscoe Carson
Eugene

Lights please!

The complex from 13th and Kincaid St. to 13th and University St. has been without lights since Sept. 8. The areas affected are PLC, Condon, Chapman, Art Museum, Gilbert, Fenton, and Friendly. One of the officers in the security department stated that the problem is a broken cable for which parts are unavailable. Measures need to be taken immediately to insure the safety of those who are on campus after dark.

The University has been extremely negligent in providing a safe environment. Are they waiting for an assault to happen before the situation is remedied?

We urge all concerned people to contact Campus Security and express their feelings about this matter. A safe campus is our right!

Woman's Referral
and Resource Service
Room 336, EMU