

letters

Bitter harvest

There you go again, Mr. President. You claim the Soviets are bent on exporting revolutions throughout the world and yet you demand we fund the contra rebels in their rebellion against the Nicaraguan government.

You condemn the cowardly act of state-sponsored terrorism in Lebanon, yet you insist that the mining of Nicaragua's harbors is acceptable policy.

You cry foul when the Sandinistas refuse to recognize political parties allied to the contra rebels, while you rationalize our endless support of Pinochet in Chile, Botha in South Africa, Marcos in the Philippines, and a global litany of other repressive governments we support.

Historical blindness seems to be your most consistent shortcoming, sir. It was our hand-picked capitalist-sponsored Somoza dictatorship which the Sandinistas overthrew. Still, they have requested aid repeatedly from your administration and the previous one, but all pleas have fallen on deaf ears.

A war-torn nation requires a willing benefactor. If we refuse to help them, other nations are waiting to supply the capital. The soil is fertile for Marxist revolutions in Latin America due to economic and political "fertilizer" we have spread there during the last 85 years. The endemic poverty of most people in Latin America is a bitter harvest. Without the most basic recognition of these realities, we are doomed to watch the Nicaraguan situation repeat itself many times. Unchecked, your very policies may ultimately create a lasting Soviet presence in Central America... everyone will be a loser.

Michael Sheehan
Biology

Job list

Efforts to assist students identify companies recruiting on campus have been less effective this year because the Briefs section of the Emerald has not included the full list of recruiters.

Students may acquire a recruiting schedule at Room 244 Hendricks Hall, across University Street from the EMU lot, for 25 cents. Copies of the recruiting schedule are also available for viewing on department bulletin boards and at the Career Planning and Placement Service.

Lawrence Smith
Director
CPPS

Who are you?

I wish to address Jeffrey Bissonnette's letter (ODE, March 14) concerning my article in the ASUO publication "Off the Record." He states I "grossly misrepresented the philosophical standpoint that's held by OSPIRG." Before I respond to him, I must ask: Who the heck are you? I don't recall interviewing you. If I did, you did a terrific job of impersonating the person I did interview, Carol Benedick. If my story caused such a ruckus, where is she instead of some "designated hitter?"

In my story, Benedick said OSPIRG is anti-Reagan in the area of environment. Not foreign policy or Medicare, but

only environment, it says. Her words, not mine. You also say I contrasted OSPIRG with a "self-admitted partisan student organization." If you read the entire article, I wrote about four, not two organizations. In journalism, a story must be fairly balanced. I believe I gave each group equal space. The reason I followed OSPIRG with a description of the College Republicans was for a paragraph transition. Most readers would detect that. I sure hope you didn't mind me mentioning the College Republicans — just like OSPIRG, they have a right to be heard.

Furthermore, I didn't intentionally imply anything about OSPIRG's political stance or any conclusions from Benedick's words. If I did, you win. Like any decent journalist, I wrote what was said.

I don't deny what I wrote, Mr. Bissonnette. I just think your excited finger should be pointed at the person who said those words, and not at me.

Randy Choy
Journalism

Ban gay blood

Imagine this: You get into your car to go to work or school, then unexpectedly, an oncoming car veers into your lane. You swerve off the road and luckily avoid a head-on collision. But unfortunately, as you hit a tree, you get a cut on your head from the steering wheel. It's not that bad, but you need to go to the hospital and the doctor feels you need a small amount of blood. But guess what? The blood donor was gay, had been exposed to AIDs and now you, a normal, moral heterosexual have AIDs and a life expectancy of less than two years.

This could happen to anyone. But there is a way to protect yourself, your children, and the rest of society. Write your congressman today and demand that a law be passed that homosexuals be barred from giving blood. We need to make it a federal crime or else we take the chance of hundreds, maybe thousands, of people dying from blood transfusions.

Over 3 million people needed blood last year. It's not fair to society to allow AIDs to contaminate the blood supply when such a simple prevention is available. How many must die of AIDs or from conditions that require blood operations (some people will put off medical care for fear of getting AIDs) before our representatives act for the public's interests?

Lori Parkman
Eugene

Give warnings

We are not perfect drivers. Each of us at one time has made a mistake while driving. Thus, we have a police force to correct us when we make a traffic error.

Most police organizations give warnings to people who make unintentional traffic violations. But not in Eugene. It is the Eugene police department's policy to issue no traffic citation warnings. However, the opposite is true in Springfield; they do give traffic warnings. So if your blinker goes out in Springfield, you'll get a warning and they'll tell you to fix it. In Eugene, you'll be fined!

What is the purpose of the

law in Eugene, to correct the driver or make money? If the police chief were to change this policy, the city may lose money, however, they will gain dignity for a more fair legal system.

Dean Sidwell
PPPM

Quite absurd

The idea that most women see abortion, a relatively traumatic and expensive option, as a convenient means of contraception strikes me as patently absurd, yet this seems to be the position of most anti-abortionists (whom I refuse to refer to as "pro-life").

While I agree that it is the responsibility of a couple (and not just the woman) to use some form of birth control prior to intercourse if conception is not desired, this assumes a voluntary, healthy situation. What of rape or incest? Why should a woman be compelled to suffer for nine months, at least, or a lifetime at worst, from the results of an assault by some sick person? What if, the woman's life can only be saved through abortion, must she die in a futile attempt to give birth? Shouldn't she at least have a choice in the matter of her own life and death?

These last two issues are rarely addressed by anti-abortionists who prefer to blow the first out of proportion.

True, abortion is a right which may be abused by some but for that matter, so is free speech (pornography) or the right to bear arms (Goetz). The fact that a right can be abused does not justify its curtailment. It is the task of educators, beginning with parents and continuing through college, to teach people the responsible use of their rights. The alternative is no rights at all.

Hiawatha
Graduate, Music

Chinese Restaurant

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UO STUDENTS

Because the Oregon Daily Emerald became an optional student fee last spring, we are now offering refunds to students who have paid unwillingly for their termly subscription to this newspaper. Students who do receive this refund are stating their intent not to read the Emerald throughout spring term. Through Friday April 5, we will be refunding \$1.78 to students in room 300 of the EMU.

But remember: The small cost of an Emerald subscription — 3.23¢ per issue per day — buys 3 months of news about your education, your administration and your weekend entertainment.

NOTICE

In accordance with regulations promulgated under the Family Rights and Privacy Act (Public Law 93-380 as amended, ORS 351.065, and Section 580-13-030 (2) of the Oregon State Board of Higher Education Administrative Rules), the University of Oregon has designated the following information about its students to be Directory Information: "(The) student's full name, the fact that the student is or has been enrolled, local and permanent address(es) and telephone number(s), participation in officially recognized activities, dates of attendance, class level and academic major, number of credit hours (not grades), and degrees, honors, and certificates awarded." UOO OAR 571-20-010 (1) (g).

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A student may request in writing, to keep confidential the information designated as "Directory Information". This option can be made by completing and filling a statement entitled "Request to Restrict Directory Information Form" with the Office of the Registrar, 220 Oregon Hall by no later than April 5, 1985. This filling will remain in effect for the remainder of the academic year, but will not affect directory information already released or published.