

editorial

Weaver's legislation is a solid measure

Rep. Jim Weaver, D-Ore., is sponsoring federal legislation that would give the state of Oregon the same right as Washington state in deciding whether to bury industrial radioactive-waste at Washington's Hanford Nuclear Reservation. Weaver contends that because of the dump's location - six miles from the main stem of the Columbia River - an accidental seepage of nuclear waste into the river would significantly affect the health of both Oregon and Washington residents as well as the environment and economy of both states.

In accordance with federal law, states that are under consideration for housing nuclear waste dumps, are assigned "affected state status." This gives the affected state the right to veto a decision by the President to locate a dump in that state. It also enables the state to apply for federal grants to study the environmental, social and economic impacts of a proposed dump. Because the Hanford site is located in Washington, Oregon is not eligible for such status. As the result, Oregon has no voice in determining whether the Hanford dump is to be opened.

Critics of the proposed dump charge that a leakage of radioactive waste could be carried into the Columbia, through the flow of ground water. Ed Coate, deputy regional administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency's Seattle office, says, the Hanford site has the potential for "substantial ground water flows." If this were to happen, the effects on both Oregon and Washington would be catastrophic. The area's fishing industry would be destroyed. The region's farmers would have to look elsewhere for water to irrigate their farms. Communities that draw their water supply from the Columbia would also have to turn to alternative sources. And recreational users of the river would be denied its use.

Oregonians should have the right to voice their opinions on the siting of any radioactive waste dump at Hanford. If the Columbia were to suffer the effects of radioactive pollution, it would become a "dead river." Scientists estimate it takes at least 10,000 years before nuclear waste materials substantially lose their radioactivity. As stewards of the environment we have a responsibility to protect the Columbia River Gorge. Weaver's proposed legislation - HR 1843 - merits support.

New education appointee lives in the 17th Century

Secretary of Education William Bennett further angered his critics Tuesday through his insensitive appointment of Eileen Marie Gardner as special assistant for educational philosophy and practice. Gardner wrote in the May 1984 edition of the Heritage Foundation that "the handicapped constituency displays a strange lack of concern for the effects of their (education-related) regulations upon the welfare of the general population." She has also written in reference to the condition of handicapped individuals, "Nothing comes to an individual that he has not at some point in his development, summoned."

Bennett's appointment of Gardner to the advisory post is one more example of the Reagan administration's callousness toward the plight of the handicapped. Throughout their tenure Reagan appointees have worked to decrease funding for programs intended to aid handicapped Americans. They have also attempted to eliminate federal regulations designed to protect the handicapped. Gardner's appointment and Calvinist philosophy should be no surprise to anyone who has observed Reagan appointees.



letters

For Lawrence

At this time, I would like to heartily endorse Donna Lawrence in her bid for the political/science/history geography position on the Student University Affairs Board.

After volunteering with Donna during the voter registration drive last fall, I know that she is a hard, conscientious worker who knows how to get things done.

Her qualifications are both vast and outstanding in scope. Having served the political/science/history/language position, I'm certain that Donna Lawrence is the best candidate running for this seat, therefore I strongly urge all of my constituents to vote for her.

James Kirkland
SUAB vice chair

Disappointed

As a MBA student and a member of the Association of MBA Executives, I was disappointed to read Dennis Renton's letter to the editor on April 11.

I am sorry you are unaware of this organization, but I can assure you it is a registered student group.

I would like to say that I agree with and support the AMBA Executives endorsement of Kevin Lewis and Ryne Jackson for ASUO President and Vice President.

G.S. Chu
MBA student
Member, AMBA Executives

Qualified

Lewis and Jackson are the most experienced and most qualified candidates for ASUO President and Vice President.

Kevin is the ASUO Budget Director. He is on the EMU Board of Directors, Vice-Chairperson of the Bowling Alley Sub-Committee and a member of the Telecommunications Task Force, working toward computer aided services on campus.

Ryne is on the Incidental Fee Committee and on ASPAC (the students' advisory council to President Olum).

She has professional experience as an account executive, where she served as copywriter, promotional designer, mediator, and advertising consultant for 200 clients, and as a production manager, which involved the hiring and direction of personnel.

She is also a member of the Women's Law Forum.

No other candidate can match either set of credentials.

Although she is qualified for the presidency, Ryne feels that the students deserve a full-time president. She realizes that as a law student, she could not meet her graduate school commitments and fulfill her own high standards for the office of president; even with her reduced school load next year. However, Ryne is comfortable with the vice-presidency, and she is confident that Kevin Lewis will be the president she would have liked to be.

Kevin needs only six hours per-term to graduate and has the time and energy to put his plans into action. Kevin Lewis will be the full-time president this University needs.

Darris Rowell
Vice-chair, IFC

A response

In response to Scott Elliott's letter supporting homosexuality, I feel obliged to respond.

Elliott implied that homosexuality is "okay" and is condoned in the Bible. Yet it is both man's ignorance of the Bible and of the justice of God that homosexuality and other sins are overlooked in today's society.

There are at least two points that dispute Elliott's argument.

"...and in the same way also, the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another. Men committing indecent acts and receiving...the due penalty of their sin." Rom. 1:27

And "...do not be deceived. Neither fornicators...nor effeminate, nor homosexuals...shall inherit the kingdom of God." I Cor. 6:9-10.

God is a compassionate God and this is not to be taken lightly. God is also a God of justice, not a God that he should lie (Heb. 6:18) or compromise his principles.

As much as He loves us, a holy God cannot live with those who disobey His ordinances, just as righteousness cannot live with sin.

He gave us the Bible that we might know His ways and by His mercy and grace, taste of His goodness and salvation and turn away from sin.

"He who transgresseth against God and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God." II John 1:9

Everyone of us will face this holy, righteous God alone on the day of judgment and all who hear the truth will be held accountable.

Peitra Leo
Advertising/Marketing

Dedication

I commend Mark Thorpe - the current SUAB representative for Psychology, Anthropology and Sociology - for seeking reelection.

Mark's dedication to SUAB is evident by his record of participation in various activities this past year, such as promoting student evaluations, working with the Oregon Student Lobby, and exercising his vote in the University Senate and Assembly.

In addition to his efforts, Mark has maintained good working relations with other members of the board, and has developed his talents as a mediator on many issues that members have been divided on.

Vote with confidence, psychology, anthropology and sociology majors. Mark Thorpe is voting for you.

Sara Tenney
SUAB Chair

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oregon daily emerald

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