

letters

Become aware

The ASUO elections are upon us. We urge everyone to become aware of the real issues and look beyond the rhetoric of some candidates who simply want to pad their resumes.

We are candidates running on the Students for a Progressive Agenda (SPA) ticket.

We are a coalition of student activists, foreign students, students of various ethnic and cultural origins and "non-traditional" students who have firsthand experience fighting social, economic, and political injustice, which directly affects students as it does all people in society.

A few facts: Student money is invested in businesses that support the repressive, racist system of apartheid in South Africa. In 1983, SPA reopened a 1978 suit to divest education funds from South Africa. We are committed to continuing this suit.

In the USA, there are poor and hungry people. Yet, huge quantities of agricultural "surplus" are systematically destroyed because of "dis-economies" of their sale or distribution.

SPA negotiated with authorities and began on-campus distribution of surplus butter and cheese to needy students. We have continued this food distribution several years already. The list goes on.

SPA are already in action. We are committed as a team to pursuing equality.

Several groups have endorsed either some or all of SPA's candidates. Among them are the Native American Student Union, Asian American Student Union, MEChA, Student Bar Association, Inter-Fraternity/Pan-Hellenic Council, Student Opposing Registration and the Draft, Amazon Community Tenants, Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation, and Catalyst Films.

Signed by SPA candidates

Ka-Yin Siew
Anibal Delgado
Cindi Kim
Armando Morales
Anne Wyatt
Cheryl Pellegrini
James Randall

Has the talent

Being of the liberal persuasion, I am very leery to support someone at the other end of the political spectrum.

But concerning the election for SUAB position 4, an exception must be made.

Ron Munion's ability to handle the responsibilities of this office are so overwhelming that this exception is more than warranted.

Ron's outstanding work within the political science department, the goals he has set for this office, and his innate political talent, make him the most versatile candidate for this position.

I urge all students to vote for Ron Munion for SUAB position 4.

Kenneth Goans
Political Science

Impressed

I urge all students to vote for Ryne Jackson for ASUO Vice President.

We have worked together this year as officers of Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity, and I am very impressed with Ryne's hard work, dedication, responsibility, commitment, reliability, intelligence, capability, energy and enthusiasm.

She will do an excellent job for all members of the student body.

Gloria Gardiner
Law Student

The earth

Each spring, our earth is new again — as nature generously grants us another reprieve. But what is coursing through Mother Earth's veins — her streams, rivers, and oceans so like our own capillaries, veins, and arteries? That coursing circulation carries essential nutrients to all Earth's parts and beings, much as our bloodstream nourishes all our cells. In either case, the quantity is finite but is infinitely recycled. And in either case,

purity is of paramount importance to the well being of all. Shooting poisons into our veins would sooner or later bring us down. So it is with Mother Earth.

If you celebrate the advent of spring by buying weed killers (including the "weed 'n feeds"), bug sprays, and synthetic fertilizers, consider this: 1) Every emptied container makes more toxic waste that may destroy our groundwater for thousands of years. 2) Run-off and leaching from these pollutants is reaching our waterways, contaminating fish, wildlife, domestic animals, our bodies, and even breastmilk.

Is it really worth it? Gardens flourished before the chemical age. Wild flowers in your lawn can be enjoyed, not killed. Let children play safely with the dandelions.

Many of us have a spiritual basis to our environmental endeavors. I do. I believe that God is the essence and body of the Universe rather than its architect; that virtue is to love and defend all God's splendors; that evil is to destroy them; and that ignorance is not to know the difference.

Barbara Kelly
Eugene

Bad argument

Scott Elliott's "Dark Ages" letter (ODE, April 10) is a fair example of the phony "biblical" arguments some people use to defend homosexuality.

These people, including renegade clergymen, call for complete acceptance of homosexuality in the name of "Christian love," and they use the handy verse "judge not lest ye be judged" as a shield to ward off objections to their bastard theology.

Elliott, for example, says that Jesus "never spoke a word against homosexuality." True. Jesus never spoke a word against bestiality either. (Perhaps he approved of it?)

If Elliott wants a good argument from silence, here's one:

No where in the Bible is homosexuality spoken of approvingly.

On the contrary, whenever homosexual behavior is dealt with it is condemned. In the Old Testament it was a serious crime (Lev. 20:13). In the New Testament it is called "vile affections" and "unnatural lust" (Rom. 1:26-27 KJV), and it is listed as one of nine sins guaranteed to keep a person out of heaven (1 Cor. 6:9).

Elliott also notes that Jesus said "Love thy neighbor..." True again. However, loving

thy neighbor does not mean justifying his sin.

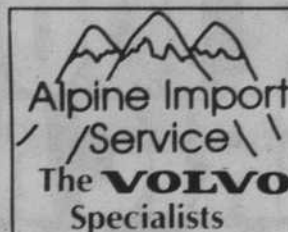
The Bible warns us about "ungodly persons who pervert the grace of God into licentiousness" — that is who turn the love of God into a license to sin (Jude 1:4).

God's love does not excuse sin; it leads men to repentance (Rom. 2:4). If we obey God's command to repent (Acts 17:30) he will cleanse us from all sins — including homosexuality (1 Cor. 6:11).

Tom Visoky
Journalism

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