

AD wants more than students can afford

ASUO President Julie Davis must be commended for her veto Thursday of the Incidental Fee Committee's 1985-86 Athletic Department allocation. Davis' veto came in response to the IFC's decision to allocate about \$653,000 in incidental fees to the AD for the upcoming year. (This total excludes the IFC's \$120,000 annual ticket subsidy that goes to the AD). Davis, who was last year's IFC chair, is concerned that the AD regards University students as an inexhaustible resource that can be tapped for annual fee increases — this year's allocation is an increase of about \$50,000 above last year's \$602,000 allocation.

Since 1978, the AD under three different athletic directors — John Caine, Rick Bay and Bill Byrne — has consistently requested fee increases that hovered between 10 and 25 percent. The largest request was made in 1979-80 when the AD requested a 75 percent increase for the ensuing year.

Throughout this seven-year period, Athletic Department representatives have argued that if given their request, they would be able to stabilize the department's budget. This, they have said, would allow them to forego a similar allocation increase in the following year. Instead, they have continued year after year to request increased fee support through the use of this same argument.

Students are at a distinct disadvantage in the budget process. Unlike AD administrators who maintain their posts from year to year, student representatives change annually. As the result, the AD has a better understanding of the overall process and better expertise in dealing with the department's massive budget. This was highlighted during the AD's recent IFC budget hearings. Committee members had a difficult time conceptualizing the various line items within the AD's budget. And because of other school-related commitments, IFC members were not as well prepared as Athletic Department representatives when it came time to discuss the budget.

Granted, Byrne's department is struggling for money. It is extremely difficult for the University's sports program to compete with other Pacific 10 programs. Stanford, Cal and the University of Washington all receive generous support from their alumni. In addition, other conference schools get a great deal of money from their state legislatures and through ticket sales. But the University sports program suffers on all three accounts.

The Oregon Legislature does not contribute any funds to the University's sports program. And ticket revenues have proved to be an unstable source of funding for the AD as ticket sales are dependent upon both the weather and the individual teams' win-loss records. Alumni contributions are also an unstable source of money as they vary with the strength of the Oregon economy.

But the department's administration must learn that it cannot depend on students to annually fill a revenue gap. Every University student presently pays \$16 each term to the AD. And most of these 15,000 students rarely attend any University sports events.

Yes, a solid NCAA sports program does add prestige to the University's national reputation. And yes, sports teams do help the University's administration sell our campus to future college students.

But how much more can University students, who are also financially strapped, be expected to subsidize a sports program for an elite few?

Rather than asking students for a greater financial contribution, Byrne should turn to other sources of funding. It is time that the AD realizes that most University students find \$16 per term a high price to pay for something they never use.



CHAMBERLAIN RETURNS FROM GERMANY, 1985

letters

Tradition

Mr. Dan Goulet: My amusement at the feeble ideas and childish writing style in your letter of May 1 was necessarily tempered by my revulsion and anger at the values embodied therein.

Proceeding from the former to the latter:

The fact that one out of 15 students voted, and that they elected SPA candidates, surely does not suggest (even tongue-in-cheek) that apathy is dead at the University, but it does suggest that those who care enough to vote chose to vote for those who care enough to govern equitably.

"Tradition" has nothing to do with maintenance of the status quo; please consult your dictionary.

Patterns of behavior are not necessarily right, simply because they have stood for years.

Nobody in the SPA has publicly suggested that our great, noble and free country is politically or morally inferior to the Soviet Union.

However, it might be instructive to recall the measures that produced our current levels of production. How wealthy would white America be if four-fifths of American soil still belonged to native Americans?

I will not address the Central America vs. South Africa question. I honestly find it impossible to believe that you could actually support the policies of apartheid.

But if you find "brother love, global progress and universal prosperity" (you forgot world peace) to be merely "a sticky puddle of stale bromides," then I hope you get yourself un-stuck and soon.

For a world that cherishes those values can scarcely accommodate your sort.

Paul Dent
Architecture

New laws

We need more equality, not only between men and women, but also between gays and straights. For example, heterosexual women sometimes get pregnant.

They are then granted the freedom of choice whether or not to have an abortion. It is her right to do with her own body as she pleases.

On the other hand, homosexual men sometimes get AIDS. They would then like to have the freedom of choice whether or not to give blood. But our laws prohibit him from doing what he wants with his own body.

We should change the laws so that men and women, gays and straights can work equally at reducing the surplus population.

Earl Gosnell

Didn't know

I was not aware I was being "duped by Marxist elements."

I did not realize the speakers at the anti-apartheid rally, including Ken Kesey and Paul Olum, were "passing on Soviet propaganda."

I thought I was protesting in order to show Reagan (who never pays attention to reason), or perhaps the South African government (that will never change until bloody revolution comes), that I am defiled by the present condonation of racism and apartheid.

Thank you Tonie Nathan for opening my eyes.

Robin Stalcup

That's all

What's this Bonn, Bergen-Belsen, Bitburg brou-ha-ha all about anyway? Did not President Reagan go to Germany to make reconciliation for the

wounds of World War II? How does that work?

Common, ordinary German soldiers bombed, strafed, torpedoes, machine gunned, shot and otherwise killed millions of soldiers and civilians in Albania, Algeria, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, England, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Libya, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Rumania, Russia, Spain, Tunisia, Yugoslavia (give or take a few countries) and their own country.

I think it's okay to forgive them and forget their deeds.

But, what about the S.S. troops who picked on the Jews and other "undesirables?"

Can they be forgiven and their atrocities forgotten?

I understand that an inordinate number of Jewish people were persecuted and killed. But they were not the only victims of German aggression, nor were they the largest group of one race or nationality who died. I believe the Russian people lost more.

Perhaps it is a vocal minority that now calls for special attention because they were selected for special persecution.

I feel that an overture of reconciliation must be all-encompassing, otherwise we would be guilty of singling out a special group for hatred, as did the Nazis.

In the eyes of Jehovah, there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female. We all need forgiveness.

David Goss
Elementary Education

Letters Policy

The Emerald will attempt to print all letters containing fair comment on topics of interest to the University community.

Letters to the editor must be limited to 250 words, typed, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is turned in. The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length or style. Letters to the editor should be turned into the Emerald office, Suite 300 EMU.

oregon daily

emerald

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, Oregon, 97403.

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.

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News and Editorial: 686-5511
Display Advertising and Business: 686-3712
Classified Advertising: 686-4343
Production: 686-4381
Circulation: 686-5511