

editorial

The University must seek out minorities

A report recently released by the State System of Higher Education concluded that the University must alter its minority recruitment programs in order to ensure the continued growth of the University's minority-student population. Since 1982, the University's black enrollment has increased by six students, while its Hispanic enrollment has increased by 134. But blacks comprise 1.8 percent of the state's population and only 1.2 percent of the state system's enrollment level, while Hispanics account for 3.3 percent of the state's population but only 1.2 percent of the state system. Both the University and the state system must strive to improve these numbers.

A university education should expose students to a wide range of philosophies, lifestyles and modes of thought. And a university experience must present students with a diverse student population.

Unfortunately, the majority of students at the University and in the state system as a whole are enrolled in a system overwhelmingly composed of white men and women who have grown up in economically successful families. As a result, students have little exposure to minority students who could introduce alternative lifestyles or philosophies.

We agree with James Payne of the state system and Wayne Nishimura, head of minority recruitment for the University, who say that the state and the University must undertake a comprehensive program designed to increase minority enrollment.

The two recommend that state schools send representatives to personally contact minority students and encourage them to attend state schools of higher education. Additionally, they believe the state must examine the reasons for the state's level of low minority enrollment. And they say the state Legislature must provide adequate funding so the state system can implement a new recruitment program.

A university is only as strong as its students. We all suffer when the University is composed of a homogeneous population.

Baseball's designated hitter is healthy for the 'ole' game

Baseball commissioner Peter Ueberroth is considering elimination of the American League's designated-hitter rule. The 10-year-old rule allows managers to substitute a "hitter" for any person in the batting order. The hitter is allowed to bat for that person during the entire game. Managers have generally substituted a DH for traditionally weak-hitting pitchers, but they could use the DH in place of any batter in the lineup.

Opponents of the DH argue that it violates tradition in a tradition-laden game. They say it eliminates much of the strategy that managers must implement when pitchers bat in "clutch situations." But DH supporters say it increases the game's excitement, giving solid hitters the opportunity to bat and create more offense. We agree with the proponents of the DH.

The DH has increased baseball's attractiveness. Designated hitters such as Dave Kingman, Andre Thornton, Don Baylor and Gorman Thomas are given the opportunity to hit home runs, whereas in the National League, which doesn't have the DH, they would most likely be on the bench. Undoubtedly, the rule has increased the drama of the game, while giving former greats an opportunity to prolong their careers while being an asset to their teams.



letters

A poem

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen
we're open for business
Ah, it's good to see old friends
Looking for a long-haired objet d'art
to send home to the guys in bow ties?
How about this month's model?
We call her our Tahiti Sweetie
Not bad, eh, Mr. Christian?
I'll wrap her up. It's a take.

And for our friends in lavender,
What'll it be?
What's that you say?
A matriarch on every corner?
Anything to oblige a lady, uh,
excuse me, woman

What'll it be, sir?
Yes, you in the black
with the cross and chain
Don't worry, sir, complete
confidentiality for all our
clients
guaranteed

Special today, sir, a whore
and madonna for the price of
one
Absolutely, sir, completely
functional. All parts guaranteed
for thirty years

Here's your package, ma'am,
He's tall, dark, and his credit
cards are good in 27 countries
including Zimbabwe
Thank you, we think he's our
best
model yet

No, I'm sorry, sir, the

Transcendental
line isn't ready yet
These things take time, you
understand
We'll call you when they come
in

Well, that's it for today, folks
Come back tomorrow
We'll have more in stock
We aim to please and
service is our business

Good night

Michele Foran
Eugene

Not me

Keats was right, "Beauty is
truth, and truth is beauty."
Truth is reality, and real women
are beautiful. Unique women
whose bodies reflect their unique
experiences are beautiful.
Aged faces, knowing eyes and
bellies that have nurtured
children are beautiful. Fantasy
characters who "haven't really
developed characteristics that
restrict the casting of an image"
are not beautiful — they are
tragic.

There is no beauty in a piece
of clay that is "tailored to our
(Playboy's) idea of an impression
or image." This tailoring
suppresses the soul while glorifying
the clay; it encourages
men and women to pursue the
unattainable "higher plateau"
and ignore real beauty: truth.

No, Mr. Chan: Until your art
comes off garage and bathroom
walls and men learn to respect it
rather than splatter it with
semen, I'll not be your patron.

Shawn Wirtz
Eugene

Valid protest

"Beauty is in the eye of the
beholder" might be an old
cliche, but it's one with a particularly
relevant application to
David Chan.

His "art work" is not commissioned
to grace the solemn
halls of a museum or to be admired
by connoisseurs. Rather
it will be purchased to incite

lust and be slavered over by
coarse, incult men.

Ms. Juniper's protest is valid,
as is her contention that this
kind of publication promotes
the concept of a woman as an
object to be used and ultimately
abused.

Unfortunately, I am equally
disgusted by Ms. Juniper's use
of vulgar slang in regard to
women's bodies. We do not
have "mams," Ms. Juniper, we
have breasts. Please do not
degrade yourself, and the rest of
womanhood, by the use of
abusive, undignified
vocabulary, which was probably
initiated by men.

Playboy, its even more contemptible
cohorts and their readers are
already doing that.

Nora Van Meter
Secondary Education

Super dog

Hi, my name is Star. You may
think that is a funny name but
really it isn't — I'm a dog.

You know, I've heard that
some people don't want dogs to
come to campus. Why? Mom
takes me every day when she
goes to class. She also ties me
up. Sometimes I wish I could
run around like other dogs do,
but at least I don't get lost, and
Mom always knows where to
find me.

Mom ties me to shady trees
and gives me a stick to chew on.
I only chew on sticks or
sometimes when I play with my
friends, but I never bite. What
would Mom think?

I guess the reason people
don't want dogs on campus is
because they get rabies and bite.
Well, I've had all the shots I
need. The scariest I can be is
when I bark at things but —
don't tell anyone — it's only
because I'm afraid.

Yesterday I barked at a huge
white thing that dove at me and
made scary noises but Mom said
it was just a kite. I thought it
was a dog-eating bird.

Anyhow, I love to come to
campus because I can run and
play frisbee and ball and
because there are so many
sticks. I hope Mom keeps taking
me.

Shawn Blanchard
and Star
Eugene

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