

Editorial

The Record fails to publish consistently

The name of the ASUO's publication, Off the Record, was changed to The Record before publication of the academic year's first issue. But we suggest a more appropriate name: The Missing Record.

The Incidental Fee Committee approved a \$5,000 budget for 1985-86 publication of the paper. IFC Chairman James Randall said The Record's contract stipulates that at least eight editions be published during the year.

But the school year is half over and the campus has seen only two editions of the paper, both published last term.

In early November, before the first edition appeared, The Record Editor Dave Herman explained to the Emerald that The Record had not been published because he was busy acting as the ASUO's publicity coordinator, because he had not hired a staff and because he spent the first few weeks of the term spiffing up the paper's production shop. He said he planned to begin publishing The Record once every two weeks following the first edition.

ASUO President Lynn Pickney emphasized that ASUO was more concerned about quality than quantity.

But even though Herman is no longer required to fill the role of publicity coordinator, and though The Record has a staff and what should be a thoroughly primed production shop, publication still is being stalled. Being concerned with quality is commendable, but not if it means the paper will not be published at all.

By failing to publish, The Record staff is not fulfilling part of its role — to provide ASUO groups with a forum of their own.

In addition, some ASUO members have complained that the Emerald has failed to provide adequate coverage of ASUO events and activities. Yet they turn a blind eye to the absence of their own publication. Coverage of ASUO activities would only stand to improve if publication of The Record were renewed.

The Record could not replace day-to-day coverage possible in the Emerald, and the Emerald will continue to cover ASUO activities regardless of The Record's status. But if published consistently, The Record could provide students with an alternative source of news and information. Increased awareness might also encourage students to participate in ASUO events.

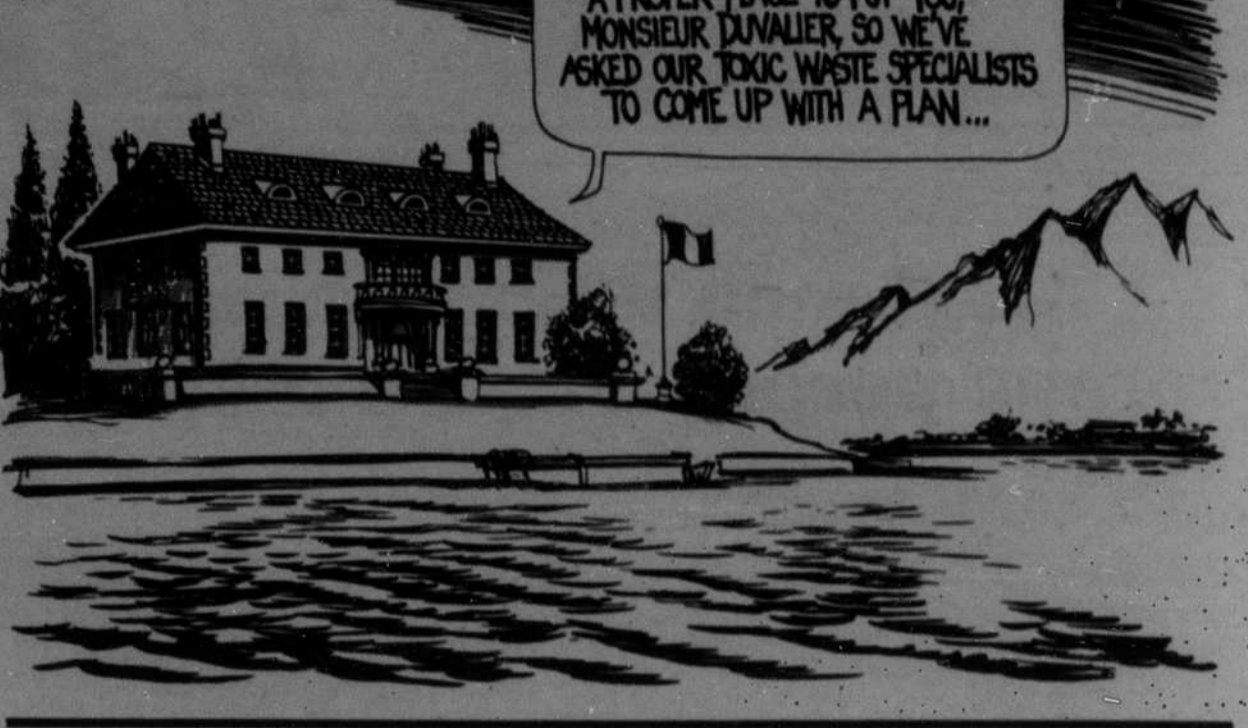
If published, The Record would also help fulfill the accountability obligation of elected representatives. Students elect representatives to act in their behalf, and in return, representatives are obligated to account for their actions.

Without The Record, the student body must base evaluations of student representatives' performances on outside sources. If published on a regular basis, the students could monitor representatives' activities throughout their terms of office.

Herman's capability to serve as editor must be questioned. A lack of organization and motivation on his part appear to constitute at least part of the weight dragging The Record down. For example, why didn't he hire a staff before November? Why didn't he organize the production shop during summer vacation? What is he doing now?

And the squabble last term between the ASUO and the Commentator over whether or not the Commentator was in compliance with its contract reflects poorly on the situation. The ASUO would do well to model The Record after the Commentator. At least the Commentator publishes consistently.

ONE DAYLIFE DUCK HUNTING JOURNAL
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Letters

Point is missed

I found the Emerald's editorial of Feb. 11, which claimed that the CIA and ROTC are having their rights abridged by opposing groups, to be very disturbing.

Professor McConnaughey's efforts to eliminate ROTC are said to "weaken the foundations of democracy," by limiting ROTC free speech rights.

The point the Emerald misses is this: ROTC and the CIA are not exercising democratic freedoms; they are exercising the American capitalist's version of freedom — the right of any person or group to do or say anything that that person or group might wish.

Truly democratic freedoms arise out of the agreement of all participants to respect the rights of our fellow human beings above all else, and as a precondition for other freedoms. Clearly, when the CIA pays a "Contract" to shoot a child or decapitate a man, it violates the most basic prerequisite for democracy: the guarantee that physical harm or death will never be used to attain a goal.

Until the CIA and ROTC observe fundamental human rights, they ought not be allowed the privileges that accompany real democratic respect for opposing people and groups.

Michael Dawson
Junior, Sociology

Honor Creator

The defenders of the fertilized egg have neglected to point out that even before conception, all the elements of human life exist. How irrational to think life is not continuous from parent to child. Egg and sperm are as alive, as essentially uniquely human, as when, one second later, they meet. It is wrong to think there is a point at which no life is present.

If, as a moral society, we defend the rights of the helpless, it is time for those who honor the Creator to respect all human life.

Let us propose to Congress and the Holy See a Sacred Sperm Decree. Any man who wastes his God-given seed will be a killer. Any woman who thinks she has no rights over what's inside the skin of man can be proven wrong and shown: the value of reporting violations.

No adult will have the right to decide when to reproduce because the bad ones may decide to block the will of God for selfish reasons. We must realize we can control all deviates who do not accept that the highest calling of every man is to make babies, whether he wants a child or not.

Barbara Hazen Shaw
Graduate student, Journalism

"everybody's got an opinion and an asshole"). This is good and/or bad in that some people value progressive over regressive statements, while others value quite the reverse.

For our present concern, let's avoid such value assessment altogether, and concentrate rather on definitions. These are "true" indicators, and it's often argued to begin with them. But since we can't define without stressing either The Eschatological or The Teloeological (both heavily value-prone), and since we've about used up all the possible ways to adjunct (or de-junct) hypothetical starting points, maybe it's best to stop.

Tim Jaques
Sociology

Let's prove it

After watching my first basketball game in Gill Coliseum recently, I realized that not only do the Ducks have a better basketball team, but we also have a better rally squad, mascot and better fans.

The only problem is, where were the Duck fans? I went to Corvallis on Saturday to visit friends with no real intent on getting into the game. But just by chance, I walked over to Gill at 2:30 p.m., and they still had tickets on sale for the game that started at 5:00 p.m.

I realize I was lucky, and next time I'm going to get my tickets in advance. I just hope next year when I go, I see a section of green and gold at Corvallis to back the Ducks. I know we have better fans, but let's prove it to the Beavers.

Congratulations, Ducks, on a game well played.

Kent Hancock
Journalism

True indicators

Let's talk about flow. The first thing to consider is that most readers can easily identify with numerically progressive specifics (i.e. the first thing, the second thing, etc.).

However, if a writer's topic is atypical, many readers will, after assuming this is uncalled for, rely on reactionary truisms for psychological relief (e.g.

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.

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