

Letters

Nuclear shelter?

The Reagan administration proposes another trip to fantasy land. And again at heavy taxpayer expense.

Suggested is an expensive shelter for state and local officials in the event of a nuclear attack. Others would rely on "self-help." (R.G. 5-10) Cost: \$1,500,000,000 for starters (600 shelters); eventually 3,400 shelters, cost unspecified.

Is there no limit to mounting expenditures for an unwanted, unnecessary and suicidal war that President Reagan has said must never be fought? The Congress should turn this proposal aside and allocate our money for programs of hope, including stepped up efforts to build international amity.

Since the President and Federal officials already have THEIR shelters, citizens need to activate their "self-help" program suggested by the Administration.

We should consider whether administration officials have earned their right to survive. A nuclear holocaust is all but assured by Reagan's policies. The first right of survival should be reserved (if that is possible) to those rational national leaders who see war itself as the ultimate enemy and are dedicated to non-violent conflict resolution.

"Self-help" calls first and foremost for turning the rascals out: in Oregon, this includes Packwood, Smith and Smith, in that order.

We should also consider denying administration officials access to their shelters, letting them suffer with the rest of us the consequences of their war-fomenting programs that most citizens have opposed. Those who are inviting nuclear winter should be the first to suffer its consequences.

Harold E.L. Barton
B.S. '43

Auto fetish?

I have a few questions that I believe warrant addressing by opponents of the Saferide service.

First, perhaps I'm being unbearably naive, but I fail to recognize the lesbian connection with Saferide that Lucas and other suggest. Is it common knowledge that the organizers are homosexual, or rather is it common knowledge that only lesbians have need to fear being accosted, harassed or raped?

Real women, heterosexual women, delight in the prospect of abuse, and in fact are all patiently awaiting their opportunity to get forcefully laid by real men. Is that what I'm to believe?

Second, perhaps I'm being overly sensitive, but the metaphor suggested by eight men attempting entry to the Saferide van at the University Inn last Thursday night is revolting. My question is, was this symbolism unintentional?

What were the perpetrators expressing by raping an automobile? This should provide one with cause to wonder.

Robert Jenkins
Senior, Music

Christian hate

Brandon Shepard wonders why people hate born-again Christians. I doubt that most do. Intolerance, not Christianity, is the issue. I find Christian intolerance no more nor no less distasteful than other varieties.

Brandon wonders why people dislike Jerry Falwell. I dislike Falwell because I see him as a bigot and a hypocrite, not because he is a Christian. He professes love, yet damns lifestyles which offend him while condoning the savage repression of real victims in South Africa. If that's morality, I'll take whatever's second best.

Brandon wonders why a "message of love" receives "hatred, blood and death in return." What love? If extremists see hate coming their way, perhaps it's because they're looking in a mirror.

Dale Huckleby
Independent scholar

Quiet courtesy

In my two years at this university I have become amazed at how rude some students are. Therefore, I have put together a few guidelines that any reasonable person should know but many obviously do not.

Classroom conduct: Do not talk during lectures except to the lecturer. Do not crack your gum. Do not come in late or leave early unless absolutely necessary. Do not start packing up to leave until the lecturer has indicated that class is over. (By the way, "Are there any questions" is NOT a synonym for "class is over").

Library conduct: Be quite in study areas (can you say quiet?). Do not eat or chew gum. Crunching is noise, and noise is obnoxious.

I realize this may be difficult for some of you, but try. Some of us are serious about our education.

Pamela Bereman
Pre-Business

Public safety

It is important for taxpayers to understand why they need to support the county's tax base measure on May 20th.

One of the recipients of the levy proceeds is the Department of Public Safety. At stake is virtually all of the communications/records personnel in the courthouse. These are the people who answer and dispatch emergency and non-emergency calls, who provide for public record requests and handle a

myriad of other matters; all of which are extremely important to the public's safety. Additionally seven police officers including the Traffic DUI Team will be eliminated. They have removed hundreds of drunk drivers from highways of this county — an incalculable savings of lives, injuries and property.

It is important to maintain what we now have.

David N. Burks
Lane County Sheriff

For tolerance

We at the Commentator have a fairly good sense of humor, but I can honestly say that I was not amused by Lisa Wilson's letter "Well qualified" (ODE 5-14-86).

First, what is wrong with ROTC, the president of the United States of America and Christianity? Second, with your "Iranian-Nigger-Commie-Queer-Jews" reference you insulted half of the present staff and everyone who has ever worked for the Commentator. Third, unlike your stereotype of us, we are NOT all males, we did NOT all grow up wealthy and believe it or not, I personally am a Greek (AETT University of Missouri) and am proud of it.

The reason the Commentator is on this campus is to teach people like you something you obviously know nothing about — tolerance. Congratulations, by insulting everyone who has contributed to this journal you have shown your incredible ignorance and stupidity.

Thomas W. Mann
Executive Editor
Oregon Commentator

Forced funding

I'm confused. The Incidental Fee Committee has unanimously granted The Record a seven-percent budget increase — this after students (including myself) voted down the publication at a recent election.

I talked briefly to IFC Chairman James Randall, who told me that the increase was justified because it was less than the amount students denied at the election. Randall said that students did not get a chance to vote on the smaller increase, but that there was support for it in spite of the election results. He said the IFC makes decisions like that quite often.

Oh?
The Emerald reported that Dave Herman, editor of The

Record, justified the increase request on the grounds that students should not be "forced" to have only one publication on campus. I would suggest that something else is being forced on students.

Mike Lee
Graduate, philosophy

For Burrows

Day care for children is becoming more of a concern for working parents. This includes parents attending the U of O.

Mary McCauley Burrows, our state representative for the University area, is also concerned about the care of children. She supported HR 2159, the bill which authorizes the Children's Services Division to establish child abuse and neglect services by contracting with community programs. This bill includes a "Children's Trust Fund" which accepts private and public contributions to finance child abuse prevention programs. Mary also pushed for HB 2483 which mandated a thorough criminal records check on all persons seeking employment in a day care facility. This law will help monitor the facilities for better day care for children.

Let's elect Mary McCauley Burrows to Congress so she can continue working on these issues, but on the national level. Vote for Mary McCauley Burrows on May 20th.

Kelly J. Cumiskey
Journalism/Political Science

Paper illusions

On Wednesday Lisa Wilson, a Health Education major, defined what we at the Commentator must be after for staff in 1986-87.

According to the dim lights that guide Ms. Wilson on her merry path of logic, an OC staffer must be tall, blond, tanned, blue eyed, chauvinist male, married to an unkept sorority queen, Christian, in desperate need of kicking the "butt" of "Iranian-Nigger-Commie-Queer-Jews." And, oh yes, he must also be a devoted viewer of Reagan VCRed speeches.

Sorry to burst your comedy of illusion, Lisa, but you should chew on a few little facts before you launch another nasty little spew:

1) 40 percent of the writers on this paper and the Executive Editor and the Senior Editor are Jewish. During the OC's first year the paper was launched with grant money from an institution which is noted for its large number of Jewish conservative intellectuals. To be short, we Jewish conservatives on this campus do not enjoy your pint-sized slurs.

2) Having taken a thorough survey of the entire staff of the paper, it turns out that no one's height exceeds six feet, only one is blond, and there is only one staffer who proudly enjoys the label Christian. The balance consists of one Anglo-existentialist, several who subscribe to the Mosaic laws and the balance who ponder their faith ever so infrequently, if at all.

3) We are glad to hear that your head "fits snugly" into your helmet. You will need to protect what little you seem to possess. We hope you will not need help in knowing which extremity a head helmet is used for.

Douglas F. Green
Senior Editor
Oregon Commentator

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HAVING HEALTH INSURANCE PROBLEMS?

Last year, the ASUO successfully assumed the administration of student health insurance. ASUO then awarded the contract to the Lone Star Insurance, which had never handled student insurance before. Since ASUO's action last year, many U of O students now report the following:

- Claims paid months late, forcing students to pay their own medical bills until Lone Star decided, if ever, to pay them as contracted.
- Claims paid in amounts less than 80% of the full medical charges, forcing students to pay the unpaid balance themselves.
- Little or no help from the ASUO Insurance Coordinator, who, instead of acting as liaison between students and Lone Star, instead tell us to call the insurance company ourselves to argue with them about their unfair practices.

If, you feel ripped off by Lone Star and are fed up with ASUO's mismanagement of the situation, you aren't alone. To vindicate our rights as insurance consumers, call the ASUO Office of Student Advocacy at 686-3722 for information and assistance. Together we can make ASUO and Lone Star accountable to student consumers!

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