

Editorial

Forgotten hostages face long captivity

Much has been made of the Soviet arrest of Nicholas Daniloff in the press and by the Reagan Administration, but the recent kidnapping of Joseph Cicippio in Beirut should serve as a reminder that Daniloff is not the only hostage facing long detention in a foreign country. Eight Americans — the "forgotten hostages" — are still held captive in Lebanon.

While it is true that Daniloff's captivity may stand in the way of an East-West summit and a possible arms agreement, it is also true that Daniloff is receiving the full attention of the press and the Reagan administration. Daniloff is also being held by a civilized nation. The captives in Beirut have been captured by desperate terrorist groups with unreasonable demands; the hostages in Beirut have little hope of release in the near future.

However, nothing is gained by making a moral comparison between the two. Hopefully, the Reagan administration is doing all it can to secure the release of all American hostages.

What measures the administration is taking in Beirut, if any, are necessarily covert; the volatile nature of the hostages' captors dictates that the proceedings be kept private. The administration's policy of not negotiating with terrorists is also correct; terrorist groups must learn they have nothing to gain from their terrorist activities.

In highly volatile Lebanon, torn apart by religious sects seeking control of the country, any negotiations made in the current atmosphere of violence are counterproductive. As a case in point, many speculate that France's recent rash of terrorist bombings is due to the previous French policy of negotiating with terrorists. The French have promised sterner measures to combat terrorism, but the terrorists have promised the bombings will continue.

It is this air of confrontation and violence that most endangers the hostages currently in Beirut, and increases the chances of others being abducted.

Thus, perhaps the best that civilized nations can do is sit on their hands and wait. Some hostages, such as the recently released Rev. Lawrence Jenco, will be lucky enough to escape the web of terrorism. Some, such as William Buckley, now reported dead by his captors, will never escape. Unfortunately, the policy of waiting and taking what quiet measures one can is little comfort to the families of the hostages.

Daniloff will be released eventually — both Reagan and Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev value a summit too much to allow the Daniloff issue to impede their progress. However, the hostages in Lebanon will probably have to wait until the tone of violence subsides in Lebanon before they are released.

Impact educates students, provides drug awareness

Helping is the basis of the Impact Training program sponsored by the University, and this emphasis is what gives the program its strength.

Students are well able to make the right decision about drugs and the "empathetic" approach taken by the Impact program acknowledges this. This approach is to describe the health and psychological impact of drugs, giving participants good reasons for not using drugs. This is a much superior approach than simple moralizing.

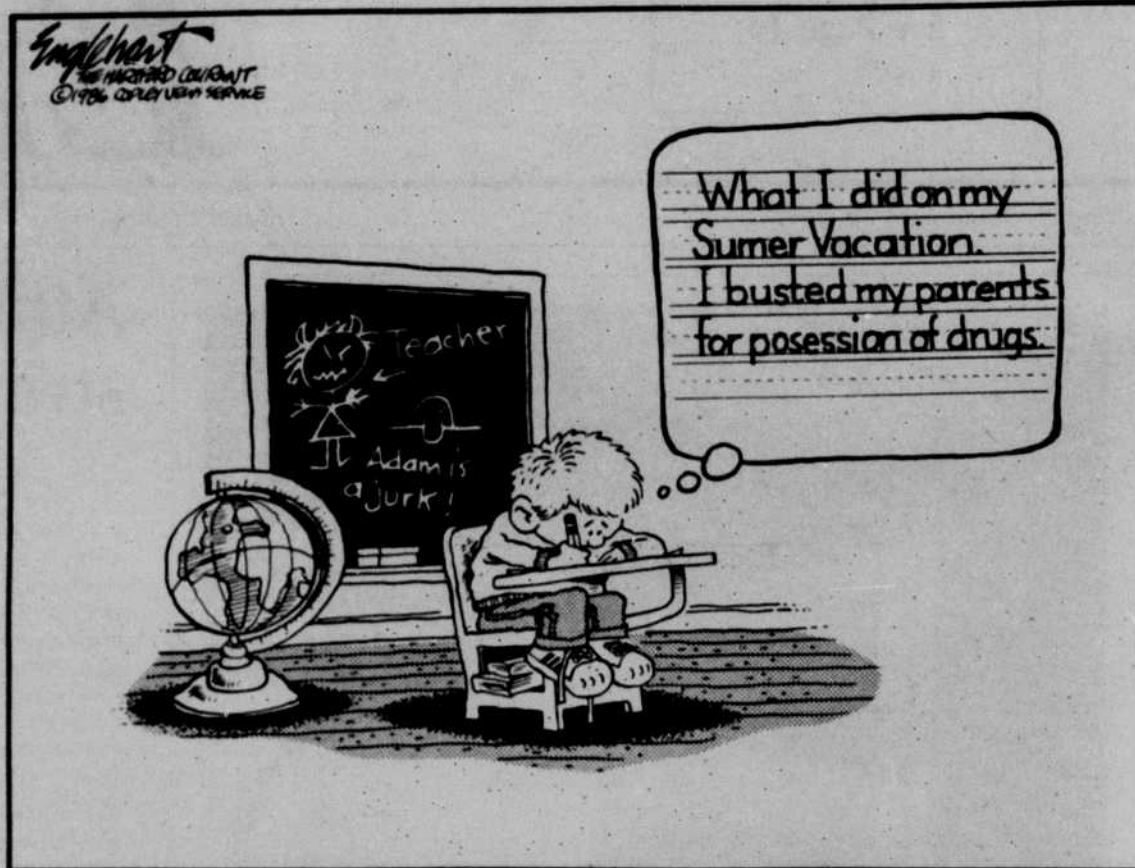
The Impact program also fell far short of the other trap of drug education, moral neutrality. Studies indicate that education programs that simply describe the effects of various drugs can arouse students' curiosities, and actually lead to increased drug use.

Another strength of the program is that it is directed as much toward student leaders as it is toward the students themselves. This is also extremely valuable, because an important aspect of leadership, at least in college, is leadership in making good health decisions. Students rely on role models with healthy attitudes about drug and alcohol use to make good decisions about their own health.

Thus it is commendable that the Greek system supported the Impact program as much as it did. Fraternities and sororities sent house officers to attend the Impact seminars, and the houses picked up the cost. Likewise, resident assistants from the dorms attended seminars, preparing to help students in the dorms in the upcoming year.

Now the question is, will there be another series of Impact seminars for more students to attend? Shirley Wilson, dean of students, says the University is evaluating the results of the first Impact program to see if it would be worthwhile to have another.

In our opinion, that means yes.



Letters

Not surprised

Recently letters from lumber company executives and their cronies have appeared in local newspapers that have been critical of 4th District Democratic Congressional candidate Peter DeFazio.

While I am not surprised to see these people attack DeFazio, I do wish that they would separate their opinions from the facts. Ed Cone, owner of Cone Lumber Co., called Peter to task for promising a set-aside program that would aid small local timber companies and save jobs. He criticized DeFazio's proposals without any suggestion of alternative solutions.

In another recent letter Don Fisher recounts horror stories designed to make us think Peter DeFazio does not understand the timber industry. Fisher, no doubt, got his ideas in during a boring day at his office in the Bohemia Lumber Company headquarters. Perhaps he was resting up after another round of discussions with his employees on a minimum wage he thinks they should get by on, or after a particularly taxing day at the country club. He certainly did not develop his principles in public service.

Peter DeFazio has proven his ability to balance the many points of view to which his

open style expose him. Peter's long apprenticeship, diligent effort, and genuine concern have won him the respect and support of the broad cross-section of our community.

Mr. Cone and Mr. Fisher would do well to acknowledge their special interests when writing to the public. Mine are clear. As an Oregon wage earner, my vote will go to Peter DeFazio in November.

Deborah Farrington
Springfield

No Tickets

I would like to express my displeasure in the City of Eugene.

I attended my granddaughter's graduation from the U of O, which was held on campus in the quad in front of the

library. The ceremony was held at 10 a.m. on a Saturday morning, so cars were parked on the street nearest the quad.

When the ceremony was over and we came back to our car, my daughter-in-law had a parking ticket on her car, as did the rest of the cars that had parked there too. The ticket was for \$5.

Is the City of Eugene so greedy for funds that their traffic police have to give parents and friends of the graduates parking tickets on a Saturday morning during graduation ceremonies? If they are, then I think they should write to their state representatives and get a subsidy for the city, so it wouldn't have to try to collect parking fines during college graduation ceremonies.

Violet Beeh
Portland

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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