

Hart's resignation reflection of faults

Gary Hart dropped out of the 1988 presidential race last Friday, and this move has stirred a number of issues regarding the right to privacy and the role of the press.

Hart's concern for his family spurred his resignation. He was disturbed by the press' harassment of his family, and it is unfortunate that Hart felt it necessary to withdraw from the race. The publicity comes with the territory, and as a front-runner and veteran campaigner, he should have been able to endure the pressure of the press.

If Hart had been able to withstand the womanizing issue and the fallout from an alleged tryst with a Miami actress, and had continued with his campaign, it would have reflected strong qualities in his character. Conversely, Hart comes across as weak and unsure of himself by resigning under the intense public pressure.

Although other issues probably contributed to his resignation, such as attempts to conceal his true age and real name, Hart brought much of the stress on himself. He has been accused of womanizing since the 1984 campaign, but he has done nothing to stop or successfully hide his indiscretions.

All potential presidential candidates are open to scrutiny. Hart knew this and even challenged the press to follow him. Nonetheless some blame for this messy bowl of porridge must be placed on the media.

The Miami Herald, the first paper to print the story, did not cover the issue tactfully or efficiently. When they got the tip that Hart was having an affair, they had a legitimate story. But they should have been more careful in reporting the facts. Because the Herald was the only one with the tip, they had plenty of time to follow up leads.

Some may say it was the press' persistent coverage that forced Hart to resign, and in a small sense this is true. The Herald's coverage was shoddy and a knee-jerk reaction, but the rest of the media are justified and have been fair in its reporting. Hart cannot put all the blame for his actions on the press.

Whatever his reasons, it is unfortunate Hart dropped out of the race. He had strong supporters and a potentially strong campaign.

Death of star athlete stuns entire community

The tragic death of Jesse Nash has put nearly everyone at the University in shock. It makes us realize how fragile and short life can be.

A promising young basketball player, Nash drowned after his inner tube capsized in the Willamette River on Sunday afternoon. Because he was a student trying to make something of his life, his death affects us all. Nash transferred to the University from Santa Monica Community College and was in the starting lineup by the end of this year.

Although Nash was only here for a year, he knew many people. "There was a really sensitive side to Jesse that I think anybody even remotely connected with him could see," said teammate Rick Osborne in *The Oregonian*.

Nash was one of hundreds cooling off in the river Sunday. Perhaps the most disturbing aspect of his death is that it can happen again.

Nash is one of several students who have died in tragic accidents this year. He, as the others, will be missed by friends and the University community.



"WELL, MY PRESIDENT IS RW. REAGAN, AND RW. REAGAN SAYS..."

Letters

Cover up

Did the Advocate get any phone calls after the last letter? Not one nasty phone call afterwards.

WHY?

The truth effected their consciences. They couldn't walk around being elites when they were getting their stuck-up noses rubbed in the shit of racism and crime.

Greekies, why did you wish to cover-up your nasty affair?

I don't want to blame just the Greeks in this affair though. I feel the University administration probably didn't want this possible racial and certainly violent action to surface and show how racist this pristine university really is.

The Greeks didn't want their prejudice and lack of true commitment be blasted among the press. All we need on this campus is people standing up and screaming about bigotry to drop that enrollment down again.

God forbid people should have to take responsibility for their actions of injustice. Not where the Greeks are king and Payolla is queen.

I challenge the Greekies and

Paul Olum to account for this happening. Bring out the facts and hold the people, Emerald and the Greeks responsible for their actions in front of the students, faculty and the press.

Instead, you'll just hope this goes away and this institution's image of a once radical campus that wished to stamp out injustices like racism and needless violence will continue to fade away.

Until then, this University, the Emerald and the Greekies will still be walking around with crap on their noses not so high up in the air.

Blake Louis Sliter
Political science/English

Actions

Wednesday evening I witnessed an ugly scene. One of three men walking together by Guido's harassed a male passerby who had a punk hairstyle. The three men were wearing striped shirts that said "BroHouse" on the back.

One yelled at the passerby, "What is that? Is that a wig? Are you a HOMOSEXUAL? I HATE that guy!"

I call upon the University community to condemn all homophobic acts. I caution the members of "BroHouse" that the abusive act of one of your group reflects upon all of you.

Per Dahlin
English GTF

Cola angst

I truly hope that you will be able to find space for this letter among all the others that you receive about all those petty problems people are having (such as the Greeks, election results and the existence of one or more gods).

This is a much more pressing matter that I have at hand.

Whenever people have been repressed they have fought

back. Well, now it is time for the new generation to take arms. Yes, we, the Pepsi Majority, have been repressed for much too long.

Last year I lived in the dorms and whenever I went to dine in the cafeteria I literally threw up on sight of the Coca-Cola machines they had.

(Most attributed this misfortune to the food.) If that wasn't bad enough, the vending machines in the basement also housed Coca-Cola.

Mind you, I am not saying remove Coca-Cola from our campus.

Even though Coca-Cola is part of a communist plot to take over America, i.e., "Catch the 'red' wave."

I simply think that the vast majority of this campus' drinking habits are not being fairly represented.

Like many, I still have the Pepsi Spirit, but my right to drink it in seems to have been banned on campus.

Alienation

Perhaps it has not yet occurred to the members of the SPA that their recent setback was in large part due to their arrogant and patronizing attitude, their smug assumption that they are somehow qualified to dictate what is "politically correct" to the rest of the University community.

Such an approach was bound to alienate many students regardless of their political views, maybe even some who would have otherwise supported the SPA agenda.

The truth of all this is quite evident from the contemptuous remarks of Jodie Mooney (ODE, April 29), which were refuted so decisively by our president-elect (ODE, May 5).

Peter K. Runey
Student

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