

# Editorial

## Leaked report shows hypocrisy of minority

The Iran-Contra affair has elicited concern over whether Congress could keep an intelligence secret vital to U.S. national security. Oliver North and his band of interventionists claimed they could not tell Congress about their clandestine dealings with Iranians and Contras because the information would be leaked to the press.

Minority members also criticized other Congressional members for continually leaking sensitive intelligence information to the media; they voiced agreement that Congress could not keep a secret. North used this assessment to justify the withholding of information about the covert operation from Congress.

But now the same people — Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, and Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Ill., and others — who agreed with North that Congress could not keep a secret, apparently have leaked the minority report on the Iran-Contra affair to the media in hopes of minimizing damage from the highly critical majority report.

This is hypocrisy at its finest. The minority report, which is supportive of President Reagan's handling of the affair, was released to the New York Times via a congressional leak a day before both reports were set to be made public.

Leaked was the report to smear the substance of the majority report and to sway the public's understanding and hence opinion of the unconstitutional affair.

This strategy may not have worked, however. The public probably will not — and should not — be fooled by the questionable attempts of some Congressmen to lessen the impact of the Iran-Contra scandal.

## Activist's message should continue to be heard

Michael Stoops, an activist for the homeless, should be heeded despite accusations by a Portland tabloid that he has sexually abused young people.

Willamette Week recently reported that Stoops has used his position at Baloney Joe's, a shelter for the homeless in downtown Portland, to seduce young, teenage boys. According to Willamette Week, Stoops persuaded the boys to have sex with him in trade for certain services at the shelter.

The truth or falsity of the allegations brought against Stoops, however, is irrelevant to the message he is trying to convey: There are homeless people in America and something must be done about it.

Although Stoops' credibility has been damaged by the investigative article, he still remains an effective advocate for the hungry and homeless. Thus Stoops' public message should not be shunned based on an unverified disclosure about his personal life.

If, after a thorough investigation, the allegations against Stoops prove to be true, then he should seek psychological counseling and treatment. And then he should continue his crusade to help the homeless.



## Letters

### Bottle bummer

I find EMU food service is both unaware of state law and lacking in a consistent policy when it comes to returnable beverage containers.

Some clerks at the Fishbowl will allow return of containers for the legally required deposit, others will not. One employee refused to refund the deposit on a few Soho soda bottles I desecrated from the depths of my desk. She said she was told by her supervisor not to accept containers for a deposit refund. At other times I have returned such bottles and received a refund.

This situation is frustrating to me as an advocate of recycling and a supporter of Oregon's landmark bottle bill legislation. Food service management would do well to formulate a consistent policy that is in compliance with state law.

Food for thought: Considering the State Board of Higher Education's unresponsiveness, I would like to suggest the idea of an initiative petition for the 1988 ballot to make some or all of the board positions elected,

rather than appointed.

The board wants things to blow over now that they have made an unpopular decision. Let's show it we aren't going to let that happen.

Michael Perrone  
Computer science/political science

### Substantial

First I would like to congratulate Mr. Solander for his thorough letter in the Emerald Friday Nov. 20. In his work he manages to belittle pro-choice advocates as "murderers" and "exterminators of life" as well as explaining to an obviously ignorant public that, yes indeed, "AIDS... it kills!" His letter is a veritable cornucopia of information.

However, Mr. Solander's point of view does not mesh with the one he so eloquently expresses to the public. Before making such brutal allegations as "murder" and "extermination of life," Mr. Solander should make sure he believes in what he presents and is willing to back up his views with his personal actions. If he is not, then his words are entirely insubstantial.

Indeed, Mr. Solander is entitled to his opinion (even though he is a man, Ms. Humphries, for I too have never faced an unwanted pregnancy yet still believe the issue hits home more for me than Mr. Moore!)

I know that as long as I voice my pro-choice opinion, there will be individuals telling me that I am wrong. I respect their opinions, but have a hard time respecting individuals who are not certain what they believe in. Mr. Solander should make certain that he actually believes in what he states.

That is not the case here, however. And how do I know? I am Mr. Solander's long-time girlfriend and confidant.

Kelly L. Foutts  
Pre-Journalism

### Board failed

Over the last few months, the State Board of Higher Education has failed in its duty to protect and support the Oregon State System of Higher Education. This year we have seen the state board disregard students' rights and desires by promoting the following activities:

- The intervention into the ASPSU executive elections and the arbitrary appointment of the ASPSU executive;

- The firing of the student newspaper's advisor at PSU, the reason given being "the president did not like what was being published";

- The arbitrary and unjustified rebudgeting of certain student groups based upon administrative political bias, without consulting the student government.

Each of these actions is a direct attack upon the students whom the state board are supposed to protect. If we do not stand up for our rights now, we may as well kiss them goodbye.

The University is one of the top 20 public universities in America, not because of huge grants and tax levies, but because the students and faculty care.

The caring has developed into one of the strongest student governments in the nation, a government that has worked long and hard to insure that students' rights will not be trampled.

By removing University President Paul Olum, the state board is attempting to remove the man who has been responsible for making the University such a unique institution.

Instead of getting rid of Dr. Olum, I think it might be time to rid ourselves of a state board that is following that old and stupid motto, "we must destroy you in order to save you," and replace it with a group that can be held accountable for its actions.

Pieter Paulson  
Biochemistry

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