

# Editorial

## Donate to help the homeless and hungry

Christmas is a special time for all; yet some, because of unfortunate circumstances, do not get a change to experience what is so special about it.

While most of us go home to extravagant dinners, others go hungry.

Christmas is the manifestation of a spirit, a spirit that traditionally has included giving generously to one another. And no one deserves more to be one of the receivers of generosity than those who truly are in need.

In Oregon, there is a significant amount of hungry, homeless individuals without family to fall back on during these joyous times of celebration. If you have not done anything to help out someone who is less fortunate than yourself sometime during the year, perhaps now would be an appropriate time to take a minute and donate some of your time or money to help the poor. Toys too could be donated, both new or used, to brighten up the life of a child.

Here is a partial list of organizations in the Eugene area that are helping others this Christmas and would gladly accept contributions to help the less privileged:

•Children's Services Division, a state agency, provides families in crisis situations with food, clothing and toys. Donations may be given by calling 686-7620.

•The Eugene Mission will help brighten up Christmas for homeless who stay at the mission Christmas day. Useful gift items as well as food and money are needed and can be donated at the mission, 1542 W. First Ave. Call 344-3251 for information.

•Tree of Joy gives gifts to needy children, elderly and disabled area residents. For information, call 686-9622.

•Food for Lane County will help coordinate the distribution of food baskets to more than 5,000 area residents. Bring donations to 255 Madison St. or drop them off at the collection barrels in Fred Meyer stores and some University-area businesses. For more information, call 343-2822.

•The Salvation Army needs donations of food items and toys for Christmas baskets. Drop off your donations at 1590 Willamette St. or call 344-7890.

## Attend meeting to protest state board search process

The Oregon State Board of Higher Education will meet Friday, Dec. 18, to discuss and revise the university presidential search process. The process is being changed from one dominated by the campus community to one controlled by the state board and the chancellor's office.

The revision of the presidential search process represents another move by the state board to consolidate its control of higher education in Oregon. And as the board consolidates its control, the students and faculty of Oregon's universities proportionately lose their control in the decision-making process.

Against this politically motivated state board the students must continue to speak out and demand accountability. Those who initially protested against the retirement of President Paul Olum should continue their opposition and attend the state board's deviously timed meeting this Friday at Portland State University in the Michael J. Smith Memorial Center, Room 338.



# Letters

## Satire

Rebecca Harris's misconception of what constitutes "satire" certainly proves her contention that "it's a crazy mixed-up world..."

True satire requires both a thorough understanding of that which is being satirized and a degree of sensitivity for one's target audience. I seriously doubt "Guardians of American Morality" have either. As a musician I know from personal experience that the local "R & B crowd" contains a high percentage of macho assholes, some of whom have abused their spouses. The indiscriminate public display of a blatantly degrading poster with no attempt at explanation was a cheap advertising gimmick, nothing more. To elevate it to the status of "satire" is to swallow the bait like a rube.

Exploitation of sex for advertising is more insidious than unabashed pornography because its impact is mostly subconscious. This can lead to tacit acceptance of attitudes that one might vehemently deny on a verbal level. This poster incident is a case in point. Possibly some or all of the band really believes there was nothing wrong with the poster, outside of it being a little risqué. Their

tacit acceptance of sexism is so strong that they went a little too far in expressing it for community tastes — and were amazed at the backlash.

A sad side note: Musicians generally are treated so poorly in this community that ANY publicity is potentially advantageous. This controversy has probably assured GAM of a larger audience than the poster, or the band, would ordinarily have drawn.

Hiawatha  
Graduate, music

## Loading

Prudent people recognize nations, no less than individuals, must cooperate to resolve differences. Essential thereto is a thorough and legitimate understanding of the opposing view.

The Washington Post story, "Soviet media fills week with American themes" (R-G, Dec. 6) describes favorable articles prepared for distribution by Tass, the official Soviet news agency, for Gorbachev's visit, including one, "USSR-USA: Cooperation of Libraries," which elicits deep chagrin and concern. An example shows how such exchange is used to "balance" atheist/theist holdings prejudiciously.

Familiarity with the literature available at the University Library under the subject heading "atheism" shows that collection seriously is compromised in a manner that suggests conscious efforts to prevent ready access to valid atheist arguments. Suppression also is evident at LCC, Eugene and Springfield Municipal Libraries, and in a Eugene High School surveyed.

This estimate is bolstered by seeing rare, valuable books in the library's possession, expensive to acquire — an edition of Sepher Toldoth Jeshua, and a book by H. Blavatsky, not in the collection — offered for lot bid despite assurances by the Special Collections curator that each title had been individually considered and judged inappropriate for the University.

Of about 115 titles in the catalogue under "atheism," 55 are in Russian — 54 legitimate arguments, one a theist argument published in Paris. About 15 titles each in French and German equally are divided by theist/atheist presentations. Some 30 titles in English are overwhelmingly theist presentations of atheism, generally authored by clergymen, that do not present valid atheist views and are written in a style meant to confound, mislead and dissuade the reader with clever, dishonest argumentation. Although the library uses the qualifier, few of the religiously biased publications are identified "Atheism - Controversial," which would aid students to access valid presentations. One question the wisdom of allowing such unidentified theist arguments under atheism when the library provides numerous theist listings.

Bert Tryba  
Eugene

## Good move

Good job, Dan Martin, for dumping the ASUO Record for a quarterly publication, the ASUO Review.

The Record was a useless, leftist propaganda sheet used by the former ideologues occupying Suite 4. No real attempt was made to give alternative points of view. The most important thing it lacked was basic information about the ASUO and its programs as well as coverage of local concerns that are affecting the campus.

Based on the figures given in the Dec. 2 ODE article, more students will be reached at less cost. This is a better value for the student body.

However, I would like to know what happens to the other \$1,635 in allocated funds for this publication if it cost approximately \$3,465 to run the ASUO review in the Emerald and the course guide a combined total of six times a year?

Patrick Glenn  
Business, management

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