

Editorial

Transfer agreements should be finished

Chemeketa Community College is the latest of the state's 15 community colleges to reach an agreement with the University regarding transfer students. This achievement is thanks to a largely successful campaign to reach accords regarding the transfer of credits with the junior colleges by University Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Paul Holbo.

Now, only four campuses remain without formal agreements. One of those, oddly enough, is Lane Community College, but students planning on transferring credits from crosstown over to the University needn't worry.

Holbo says that Lane and the University have a "close working relationship that makes an agreement unnecessary." Classes offered at the community college are clearly labeled by sequence numbers as to whether or not they are eligible for credit transfer. Advisors and counselors from both schools try to maintain contact.

Students who are troubled by the prospect of transferring between the two schools should work closely with their counseling resources to insure that there are no difficulties.

The agreements are to clarify the working relationships between the schools and to make clear to students, counselors and advisors what progress students have made toward a bachelor's degree when they transfer to the University. When these are finally in place with all of the state's schools, they will certainly eliminate a lot of anguish and confusion for incoming students.

Time for states to bring Confederate flags down

The Stars and Bars still fly over four state capitols of the Old South, despite the passage of 123 years since the Civil War and the rightful efforts of black leaders to bring it down.

Last Tuesday, 12 blacks were arrested in Montgomery, Ala., for trying to rip down a Confederate flag atop the capitol dome. One of those arrested was Thomas Reed, state representative and president of Alabama's NAACP chapter.

The protestors were greeted by state police, acting on orders from Gov. Guy Hunt. The Alabama Legislature is about to decide whether the anachronism should remain, and Hunt has promised that no one will remove any flags until then. Hunt believes the flag is an important historical symbol and has no racial overtones, he has said.

Reed contends that the rebel flag and its history is offensive to blacks, and should be removed. There is also a Confederate flag over South Carolina's seat of government, and the design is an important part of the pennants of Georgia and Mississippi.

Hunt and Reed are, to a degree, correct. It is hard for most Yankees to appreciate the seriousness with which Southerners regard their culture and heritage; theirs is a history with commendable achievements and extreme darkness. The decision to embrace or reject such a heritage is a personal one; however, the state has no business displaying a symbol that is understandably hateful to such a large portion of its constituents.



Letters

The real issue

This is a response to the law students' group letter (Sidetracked, ODE, Jan. 28). The real issue is not the occupied Arab lands (the Sinai, the Golan Heights, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip); these conflicts evolved as a result of the creation of Israel in 1948 by the Zionists (European settlers) over a land that used to be known as Palestine. The real issue then is a stolen Palestinian homeland, and here I am, as the group requested, discussing a way out.

Unfortunately, the Zionists are not willing to listen, but here it is:

- 1) Israel should allow all the Palestinians who left the Holy Land out of fear or by force to return to their homes, whether in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip or Israel (the rest of Palestine).
- 2) The Holy Land should not be considered a Jewish homeland only; it is a homeland for all those who live in it, whether they are Jews, Muslims or Christians.
- 3) The idea of gathering all the Jews of the world to live in the Holy Land should be stopped. It should be remembered that the Holy Land is also holy for Muslims and Christians.
- 4) The immigration laws that discriminate against non-Jews

should be abolished.

5) The non-Palestinian Jews (Jewish settlers) who already immigrated from Europe and elsewhere should have the right to live side by side with the Palestinians in the Holy Land for humanitarian reasons, provided they respect the dominant culture and language of the Middle East (the Arabic language and culture). We shall accept them in our culture as we did throughout our history, and they shall be welcome to live with us in the Middle East, provided they abandon Zionism and its nonsensical goal of turning the Holy Land into a huge Jewish ghetto.

Fahad S. AlZarah
International studies

Contra-diction

Whoever spray painted "no Contra aid" all over campus "Contra-dicked" himself. To effectively motivate people to speak up in opposition to the proposed aid, this must become an emotional issue. Seeing stuff like this even alienates people who strongly believe Ronald Reagan's intentions border on criminal.

It would appear that there are jerks on both sides of the fence.

Allan Steinberry
FAA

Save society

January 22 was the 15th anniversary of the Supreme Court ruling that gave women the right to abort their children at any time during pregnancy. The effects of that decision have been felt by us all. While 22 million innocent victims have paid the ultimate price with their lives, society as a whole has paid as well.

With talk of "unwanted children" and how they should be disposed of, we have seen the rise of a new generation of young people. These children have been taught that the shedding of innocent blood should not stand in the way of self-gratification. Avoiding responsibility for one's actions has

gone from being reprehensible to being respectable in little over a decade.

We heard talk of eliminating child abuse by "making every child a wanted child." What we got was a ballooning child-abuse rate, hardly a surprising by-product of a policy of violence toward our young.

Life, once sacred in itself, now gains worth only through the assessment of others. Unwanted equals worthless. We have become faced with the inevitable as each year many handicapped infants are legally allowed to die through the withholding of medical treatment.

The American Medical Association has taken the next step by ruling that food and water are now considered "medical treatments." A chilling message is sent to the handicapped among us. The elderly are surely next.

It is time to change the violent path we have taken. While it is too late for 22 million, our society must be saved.

Jeff Hoyt
Senior, accounting

Forego ads

Craig Harris is probably sick to death of the morality of dance titles. Nevertheless...

"Friends and Lovers" is the latest title I've seen. Certainly neither suggestive nor lude as was the "One Night Stand," the "Friends and Lovers" dance is semi-formal.

Guys and girls will be wearing suits and dresses rather than togas, and dancers will be handed refreshments rather than condoms.

It seems at least some organizers are willing to forego advertising that suggests the average student is a sexually promiscuous love machine and instead promote advertising that refers to a student's sense of good taste.

Sean Rose
Eugene

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