

Editorial

Meese's malfeasance embarrasses nation

U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese stands as a vivid contradiction with his involvement in a variety of illegal activities and his role as the nation's highest-ranking law enforcement official.

Meese has been investigated for trying to cover up the Iran-Contra affair; the Justice Department's investigation into the scandal was grossly incompetent at best.

He also has been investigated for his role in the Wedtech affair, during which he allegedly violated the Ethics in Government Act.

In fact, during 1987 the attorney general testified before grand juries 11 times, according to Harper's index.

In addition, Meese currently is under investigation by special prosecutor James McKay for his role in the controversial Iraqi pipeline project. McKay is looking into possible violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, which forbids U.S. citizens from bribing foreign officials and requires the attorney general to take legal action to prevent a violation of the law if one appears imminent.

A recently declassified memo written to Meese shows that Israel's Labor Party was to receive a up to \$700 million in proceeds if it did not bomb Iraq's pipeline project. The project was promoted by a long-term associate of Meese, San Francisco lawyer Robert Wallach, who wrote the memo.

Whether Meese's role in the Iraqi pipeline project involved any criminal activity remains to be seen, but in the context of Meese's recurring malfeasance, he is an embarrassment to this nation and should step down from the office of attorney general at once.

Arrest of Packwood unnecessary but deserved

Capitol police officers arrested and then dragged Oregon's Sen. Bob Packwood onto the Senate floor after he refused to answer a quorum call early last Wednesday.

Packwood, who had locked himself in his office, refused to go willingly onto the Senate floor to debate the Democrats' proposed limits on campaign spending and contributions from political action committees.

Arresting senators for not answering quorum calls is a rarely employed practice, but apparently Sen. Brock Adams, D-Wash., who signed the warrant for Packwood's arrest, believed it was necessary to force the Republicans into a filibuster in order to subdue opposition to the proposed spending limits.

The Democrats' strong-arm tactics, however, turned out to be for nothing. The spending plan was later shelved, at least temporarily.

The proposed campaign spending limits bill has been a hotly debated issue in the Senate recently, with the Republicans claiming that it would hurt their election chances and the Democrats claiming it just plain cost too much to run a campaign for the Senate.

As things stand now, most Republicans have a financial advantage in waging an election campaign over the traditionally less affluent Democrats.

It's unfortunate — and comical — that the controversial debate over campaign finances resulted in the arrest of an Oregon senator, but then again the Republicans should have been on the Senate floor in the first place.



Letters

Pitch in

With better weather approaching, I'd like to remind you of a certain problem in the University area. As many know, 13th Avenue between Alder and Kincaid streets is one of Eugene's busiest streets. Unfortunately, it is also one of the most littered.

The city of Eugene is trying to keep up with the problem by making additional street cleaning runs. The University Small Business Association also contributes by providing trash receptacles and sidewalk cleaning. The solution is quite simple: instead of leaving trash on the sidewalks and street, please use the trash receptacles.

The University area is not only a vital business area, but also a unique visitor destination. Help us keep this special street attractive and clean so that we can all benefit from its ambiance.

Debra Ehman
Ward 3 City Councilor

Letting go

It was gratifying to see a

relatively sensitive male perspective in Stephen Orosz's ASUO Review article (Feb. 17 paid advertisement) that dealt with assaults on women. He writes, "This reign of terror is a disturbing success story for a small (my emphasis) element of society who have essentially managed to exert their brand of power over a much larger segment of society."

Women are not the only ones angry about this state of affairs; it affects all of us.

As I see it, rape is unfortunately only a small part of the male attempt to dominate women, or more accurately, of the spectrum of domination of one individual by another. And the wish to dominate is but an aspect of the violence that lives within (almost) every one of us.

Rape is not about men vs. women, though it is a painful manifestation on that level. Attempts to deal with it as a male/female issue are of some use, but ultimately, I think we each have to deal with the violence inside ourselves. We need to assist each other in facing and feeling and letting go of this violence.

To what extent do you truly love yourself?

David Clark
Eugene

Not in top 10

In response to Tony Mitchell's letter (ODE, Feb. 11), I would like to say "Bravo!" It's

about time somebody brought this issue of KWAX into the open.

It is my understanding that a college radio station is run for and by the students. College radio is a medium to express student values and opinions, and a valuable tool for career training. Why then is our station a strictly classical one? What about rock, jazz, blues, reggae, funk, etc.?

A college radio station should be as diverse as its student body so as to have something to offer everybody.

Before I came to the University, I worked for radio station KFJC in Los Altos Hills, Calif. It was a great experience for me to work at KFJC. Imagine my shock and dismay to find out that a hard-core/punk disc jockey like myself would be doomed to play classical music if I were to participate in college radio here.

At KFJC we had no format. You played the music you wanted to on your shift. We were popular, had good ratings, and were even competitive with larger commercial stations. KFJC helped bolster the music scene in the Bay Area, and helped a lot of new bands get a start.

If you don't believe that a college station should play alternative music, check the chart in Rolling Stone. I guarantee Bach and Beethoven did not make the top 10 this week.

Jeff Kantor
Business

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