

Miller message a sum of community's needs

What was a close mayoral race in the May primary election should prove equally close Nov. 8. Two Eugene City Council members are pitted against each other for the office, and Jeff Miller seems to us to be a step ahead of Emily Schue in terms of leadership potential.

Miller, who bills himself as a "fiscal conservative" and "moderate-to-liberal on social issues," has the support of police and firefighters' unions, local business, former mayors and the Emerald.

An item on Miller's agenda worthy of particular merit is the implementation of recommendations made by the Crime Action Task Force including the use of existing social service agencies to handle the administrative aspects of criminal justice instead of relying exclusively on the city's police force.

Speaking specifically about drug-related crimes, Miller has suggested that professional drug counselors intervene after an arrest has been made, thus freeing police officers to return to their patrols and allowing specialized counselors to get to the heart of the problem.

This would benefit the police, but it would be equally good for the individual receiving care, since he or she would be directed to an institution of care and rehabilitation rather than the sometimes dehumanizing criminal justice apparatus. The appropriate agency could also deal with the matter with more efficiency than the city, and Miller thinks they can be contracted for about \$150,000 annually.

Economically speaking, Miller says "No" to new taxes. He claims none are needed for the city's general operating fund in Eugene, which has the highest tax rate of any city in Oregon. We agree.

And Miller, an insurance planner and small businessman himself, realizes the importance of helping existing businesses grow and expand and treating them with the same respect given to those businesses that are looking to relocate to the area. Schue would make outside recruitment of businesses a low priority, yet she supports the Riverfront Research Park. That project is being developed by an out-of-state concern — The Carley Corp. — and will require heavy solicitation of outside businesses to occupy its proposed 71 acres.

Miller also recognizes the importance of the University within the community — the University being Eugene's largest employer and a major source of consumer revenue. He believes the University and the city need each other, and it's time for them to tackle problems (such as housing and parking) together. Again, we agree.

Miller appears to be a man of action — he has specific goals, and the plans to carry them out. His sensitivity to the public's aversion to new taxes is not only refreshing, it is realistic.

Miller also respects and recognizes diversity (an admirable trait in Eugene) and he doesn't demand people share all his views. Nor will his decisions be guided by them. As he has proved with his recent stance on the nuclear-free zone ordinance, Miller is willing to let the public decide particularly divisive issues. So, while we recognize that Schue certainly has the experience and qualifications to be mayor, we give Miller our vote. Schue has done an excellent job as a city councilor, and we feel she will continue to serve very well in that capacity. Her contributions to the city should not be minimized or undervalued, for they have been significant.

But for the mayor's seat, it's Miller's time.

We erred on Dix's stand, but not his endorsement

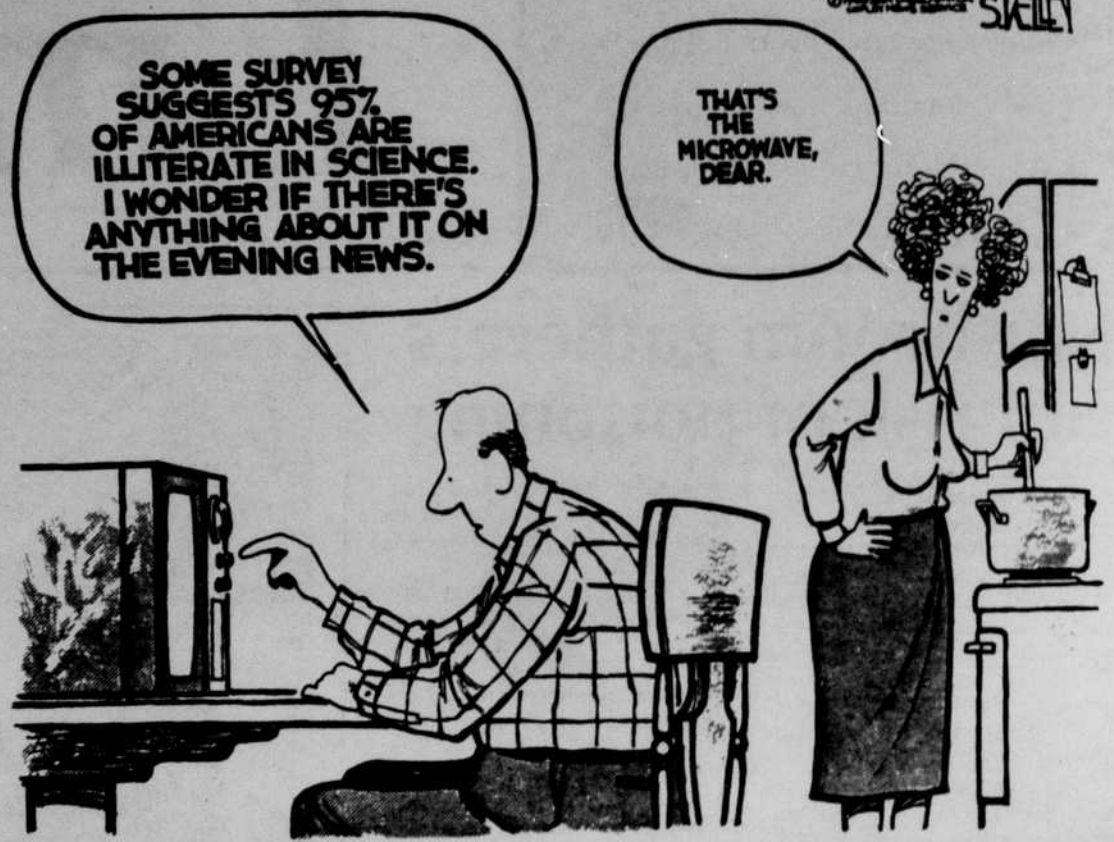
In the Emerald's Oct. 31 editorial endorsement of Rep. David Dix for re-election to the state's 41st District, an error was reported regarding Dix's proposal for faculty pay increases during the 1990-91 biennium.

The editorial stated Dix supports the "two plus two" plan that was adopted by the House Ways and Means committee last spring and would grant a 2 percent increase each of the next two years.

Dix said he supported the 2 percent rate as a stopgap until the legislature convenes in January, but is pushing for an additional increase of at least \$40 million.

When computed against the 1988-89 base faculty salary budget of \$298.9 million, the total package favored by Dix represents an increase of 8.4 percent over two years, including the \$16.1 million generated by the 2 percent plan.

The Emerald would like to reaffirm its support of Dix in the 41st District, and apologize for any confusion that may have resulted from the error.



Letters

Human rights

A couple of weeks ago a group of human rights advocates set out on a march to the Eugene Federal Building in protest of the treatment of the Salvadoran people by their military-controlled government. These demonstrators represent a number of people who share a deep sense of grief over the conditions placed upon the helpless poor by the powerful rich.

For some, it is beyond understanding how such injustice could be allowed to continue within the human community. But the simple answer is that most of us choose to ignore that which we cannot see. Most of us have not seen the thousands of men, women and children that have been and continue to be tortured and slaughtered by those who are greedy for power. Just as we do not see the baby being torn to pieces and sucked out of the refuge of his or her mother's womb in an abortion.

Anyone who believes that it is wrong for the stronger to disregard the life of the weaker, I challenge you to consider the most vulnerable of all human lives, the unborn child.

Carol Hoague
Student

Enforcement

Today, while riding my bicycle down to the racks under the EMU, I was cornered by a brown-shirted man sporting the bright badge of campus security, and promptly asked to present my I.D.

I swallowed the natural urge to refuse and demand an explanation why, and remained courteous while I was subsequently written out a ten-dollar citation for riding my bicycle on the sidewalk.

While I freely admit that I have noticed the bright yellow "Dismount — Walk" signs painted on sidewalks on campus, I was not the least bit aware of the (new?) policy of writing citations to violators, without fair warning, and I suspect neither is 99 percent of the University community. While the citation was being filled out, people on bicycles rode past me in both directions, as oblivious as I had been but a moment before.

Carried out in this manner, this is nothing but a policy of selective enforcement, which in addition to being unjust, is a poorly effective way of rectifying the current situation. Considering the incredible number of bicyclists this term, the Office of Public Safety should have had the foresight to at least solicit a newspaper article explaining the policy before attempting to randomly enforce it. As a student, 10 dollars is an exorbitant sum that I simply cannot afford to pay; I immediately rode over to the campus security office and filled out a petition in protest. I encourage others who find themselves in this situation to do the same.

James McCreary
Sophomore, fine arts

Christians

In response to Harvey Warren's letter of Oct. 21, I take

great delight in dividing truth and lies. In the first sentence he uses the term "Christian Fascists." Reading Webster's, we find that, in a spiritual sense, Christians are Fascist!! We follow one leader (God) above our selfish desires, we do all things for his kingdom, and we are exclusively going to inherit it. (This is not racism, because EVERYONE IS INVITED!!) I don't think that was how Harvey meant it, for he then said "... holier than thou sick attitudes." The Bible teaches "he who exalts himself shall be humbled." So much for holier than thou attitudes. Think about it.

Since Christ was expected to come because of things recorded in OT literature, and he himself said "before Abraham was, I AM," (after which many rocks were hurled) we have at least two testimonies, which will be very tough to dispute at this point, that Christianity is the oldest "religion."

Anyone who has read Christ's teaching knows better than to call a bigot "Christian." If anyone reads the writings of Hitler, they will find that his concept of "god" was extremely new age. Real Christians defended the Jews whom he persecuted in his hatred for Yahweh. I write to encourage each person to stop letting liars who call themselves after the name of Christ blind them to the reality of what the real Yeshua did, and why he did it. In Matthew 7:21-28 Jesus tells of those people.

Robert Weigel
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