

Symbols on directory a simple 'whitewash'

Once again, we see we must hold the applause for those responsible for publishing the 1988-89 University student directory.

No big surprise, but the cover photograph is all-caucasian, as it has been for the past six years (or, as far back as the Emerald library could trace).

And not only are the five people in the main photo all white, but even those that can be seen in the inset photos in the "U" and the "O" are too. Even the guy in the duck mascot suit is white.

Last year, two white yuppies whizzing by on a scooter graced the cover; the 1986-87 directory cover depicts a white couple rafting rapids; the year before that, five white people are shown on University grounds in an autumn setting

Well, you get the "picture."

Somehow over the years, the people who publish the directory have forgotten that there are people of color at the University. And what about people of color who would like to attend the University?

Those who create University publications need to be consciously aware of the image being projected in their photographs. The diversity of the University is something we should be proud of, not something we wish to hide at the back of the bus.

Better luck next year.

Bakker and buddies burn for bogus religious bents

As if by the wrath of God, Jim Bakker, the former leader of the PTL television ministry, and Richard Dortch, one of Bakker's top aides, were indicted this week on federal charges of defrauding approximately 150,000 contributors and diverting more than \$4 million in PTL funds for personal use.

Two of Bakker's buddies, David Taggart, former PTL vice president, and James Taggart, the interior designer of PTL projects, also were indicted for diverting about \$1.1 million for personal use.

And the penalties are not lenient. The maximum penalty for each count of mail fraud, wire fraud, conspiracy and tax evasion is a fine of up to \$250,000 and five years in the slammer. Multiply that by the 24-count indictment and that's \$6 million and 120 years in San Quentin.

So is that better or worse than eternal in purgatory?

They deserve purgatory. According to the indictment, the solicitations in television appeals, mailings and telephone calls reaped \$158 million in revenue for the ministry's planned 2,300-acre Heritage USA theme park in South Carolina, in return for free park lodging once a year for the contributors.

Instead, the money went to lavish bonuses for Bakker and his wife Tammy Faye — from \$740,000 in 1984 to \$1.1 million in 1986 when the television ministry was at its peak. Not surprising figures, considering Tammy and the price of makeup today.

And of course, the entire investigation came on the heels of Bakker's admission of his sexual encounter with church secretary Jessica Hahn. During Hahn's testimony, it was discovered that she had been with Bakker in churches where cash was stacked on tables up to the ceiling, and the counting was done on the standard of one dollar for God, and one dollar for those doing the counting.

While it is unfortunate that millions of innocent people were duped into contributing money to the Bakker's mansion and Tammy's makeup collection, rather than to the church they believed in, at least Bakker and his buddies finally got caught.

God, if not the legal system, has spoken. And it's about time.

I HAVEN'T GOT A BRAIN, SO THE WIZARD GAVE ME A DIPLOMA.

SOUNDS LIKE THE NCAA.



Letters

Propaganda

I am personally offended to see the liturgy of hate preached by pamphlets distributed by the Muslim Student Association at the University.

The enticement of hostility toward any ethnic, religious, or cultural group can only rupture the stranded threads of hope for reconciliation of our violently divided world.

It is harmful and unjust to harass and defame the Jewish people, just as it is harmful and unjust to harass and defame anyone. I am disgusted to see the University support such sentiments through its sponsorship of groups that espouse the propaganda of hate.

The right of freedom of speech should be protected, even when that speech is repugnant or misinformed. Yet the question should be asked when the words are uttered by a publicly funded group: Should the community be obligated to pay to hear the spread of such a malignant voice?

Leslie Glasser
Eugene

Wasted time

As a concerned student, I attended the EMU Board meeting Tuesday, Nov. 29. I was appalled at the treatment of the Chairperson Lisa Nichols by board members Tim Hughes, Scott Shoup and Doug Pyle.

Tim Hughes submitted a letter to the board members accusing Ms. Nichols of negligence in her duties as chairperson.

Ms. Nichols was denied the opportunity to address these outrageous accusations.

Doug Pyle proposed a number of changes in the EMU Governance Document aimed at limiting the chairperson's authority, while increasing the amount of busy work required in an already time-consuming position.

Scott Shoup resorted to emotional, not logical, arguments in accusing Ms. Nichols of taking advantage of his inexperience in student government. He is also a member of the IFC.

The attacks on Lisa Nichols by these individuals are blatantly political. Tim Hughes defined their differences by stating, "I am a card carrying liberal." Ms. Nichols is a moderate.

This factional political fighting is wasting the time of many hard-working students and damaging the effectiveness of student government.

I encourage all concerned students to attend the next EMU Board meeting Thursday, Dec. 8 at 3:30 p.m. in the EMU Board Room. Relevant input by all students is encouraged at the meetings.

Brent Ahrend
Math

Powerblock

Marion Sassen and Chris Dohman (ODE Letters Nov. 10-11) came to America from Europe, in 1978, in search of liberty, justice and humanitarian compassion, now find their idealistic perception of the United States shattered by our electorate's ignorance and overriding concern with self-interest.

Their original estimate of the United States was uninformed and naive. America has always had problems — many of which are directly attributable to religion.

Religion has often violated the intent of America's Founding Fathers for Constitutional separation of church/state by using its organized support to impose seemingly inconsequential concessions — like the addition of a few religious words to some government

statement, document or ritual. This religious influence undermines almost every aspect of American life.

The phrase, "under God" — offensive to secularists — inserted into the Pledge of Allegiance in the 1950s, was used to impugn Michael Dukakis' patriotism during the recent election campaign.

United States churches, accumulating \$54 billion annually, dispense about 25 percent thereof, directly or indirectly control the wealth, industry, and employment opportunities of many communities, rewarding those who "cooperate."

Modern opinion survey techniques coupled with computers make the individual, despite myriad personal opinions, desires, values, concerns, etc. a definable, measurable cipher computable into statistical values of amazing accuracy.

A recent University lecture on economic "chaos" modeling suggested the danger of an entrenched social/economic/political/religious powerblock controlling the "political center" (Take heed Morgan-Nicolai strikers!) so its interests are always protected and benefited while it casts off "scraps" to minority coalition elements. Our democracy is in grave peril.

Bert P. Tryba
Eugene

Two weeks

Help save Richard Carper's life!

Richard Carper, PWA (Person With Aids) has put himself on a hunger strike until such time as George Bush in some form recognizes the virus as a national health problem and makes some commitment to action. Carper has been given two weeks to live in his already weakened condition. Hold the government responsible!

Write: Vice-President George Bush, White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington DC 20500.

Demand some accountability now!

Scott Shoup
GALA

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