

Letters

Condemned

I wish to respond to Daryn Peters (ODE, May 9), who wanted his own "pride day" to celebrate his "sexual acts." I think you should have your day Dar' ... may I call you that? I'm not one of those "hostile" homosexuals after all; I'm one of the passive ones.

If you want your day, you'll have to earn it. Put on your shoes Dar'. Don't tell your folks you're dating a girl; at minimum, there'll be a big fight. Don't put your girlfriend's picture up ... people will find out you're a heterosexual. She may feel hurt, but you could get kicked out of your apartment. Don't kiss her at the door or in public; a bigoted homosexual might cause trouble.

You could chance holding hands, but don't blame me if some breeder bashers are out there. When you get beat up, don't report it; it remains on your permanent record that you're heterosexual. You'll lose future jobs.

You're going to get hurt Dar' ... it doesn't matter that heterosexuality came naturally to you; they not only don't like you, they want to outlaw you. Now add in the old friends you'll lose; the police who won't protect you; the jobs that you'll lose. You concern me Daryn — you're young — you should be tolerant and open-minded. Your words sound like a tired tape of those who thought before you. Use your mind Daryn! Develop original thoughts. At minimum, know what you condemn, lest you look foolish again.

C. Lee Graham
Eugene

Quality

In response to Professor Lindsey's research on the quality of education at the University: (ODE, May 15)

Only the administration and the bureaucrats judge the quality of an institution by the "number of published works" it produces. Students are primarily concerned with the quality of classroom instruction. Professor Lindsey's research criterion is invalid. He, however, is a wonderful instructor.

Daphne James
Human services

Stop bigotry

I was shocked and saddened by a New York Times article I

read that said Nazis are getting away with more harassment of minorities, and that most of the violent incidents involving skinheads have been "random attacks on blacks, Asians, homosexuals or Hispanic people" (Feb. 6, 1989). I am a Christian and have become quite upset about the amount of hatred toward minorities growing in our country.

Imagine, therefore, how upset I was to receive a copy of the Oregon Commentator. The time has come for decent Americans to confront racism and bigotry, and for our universities to voice opposition to bigoted publications such as the Commentator, whose editor in a Feb. 1989 publication said that bigotry is all right as long as the minority chose to be the way he or she is!

Many groups try to justify bigotry and racism on a basis of creed or religion, but Christ taught all hatred is clearly wrong! Editor Paul Coughlin of the Commentator says discrimination against gays is fine because it's a moral issue. I find it morally repugnant that such views exist at universities in our country.

Discrimination on religious grounds is wrong. Anti-semitism, homophobia and hatred of other minorities is common in Soviet Russia but does not belong in American society, where the Ku Klux Klan claims it has the "religious freedom" to burn crosses in violation of fire ordinances. By and large, I believe God-fearing Americans can stop bigotry in our country if we try.

Dan Lucas
Republican Precinct
Committeeman
Boulder, Colorado

Big chip

Boy, is it my imagination, or does Scott Shoup (ODE, May 18) have a tremendous chip on his shoulder?

Why doesn't he take the support the Emerald does give gays and lesbians and use that as a stepping stone for bigger and better support. Suggest ways to cover the issues in a more fair and positive light. Give them ideas of things to do to show their support instead of accusing them of lying.

Didn't your parents teach you that to get what you want, you have to ask politely instead of crying and stomping your feet in protest? But then again, what do I know? I'm only an egotistical heterosexual.

Rob Rosborough
Biology

Buttons

A recent letter by a fellow who's an atheist (and apparently damned proud of it) warned: "Let us beware" of "Christian zealots" who "consciously fashion invalid words into emotional buttons" in objecting to abortion on demand (Bert Tryba, ODE, May 15). He had a problem with words like "pre-born," "mothers" and "killing" when used to describe abortion.

But in contrast to this atheist desire to deny reality, I seek to utilize the reality of those words, hoping that they are, in fact, still "emotional buttons" to many people.

As far as being "invalid words": If she is not a "mother," then what is she? If the distinct human life she carries within her is not "pre-born," then in just what condition is it? If it is not "killing," then just what is it?

Clearly, if you choose to snuff out an innocent fellow human being, the charitable word for that is "killing." However, a more precise word would be "murder." Undoubtedly, our atheist friend doesn't like the reality of those words either.

Finally, I find it interesting but curious that it is the atheists, who in their zealous defense of unrestricted abortion on demand, constantly call forth the subject of religion. Although a Christian, and content to be, I have found it unnecessary to mention that fact (particularly to an atheist) in logically defending the fundamental human rights of the pre-born.

Jon Wollander
Eugene

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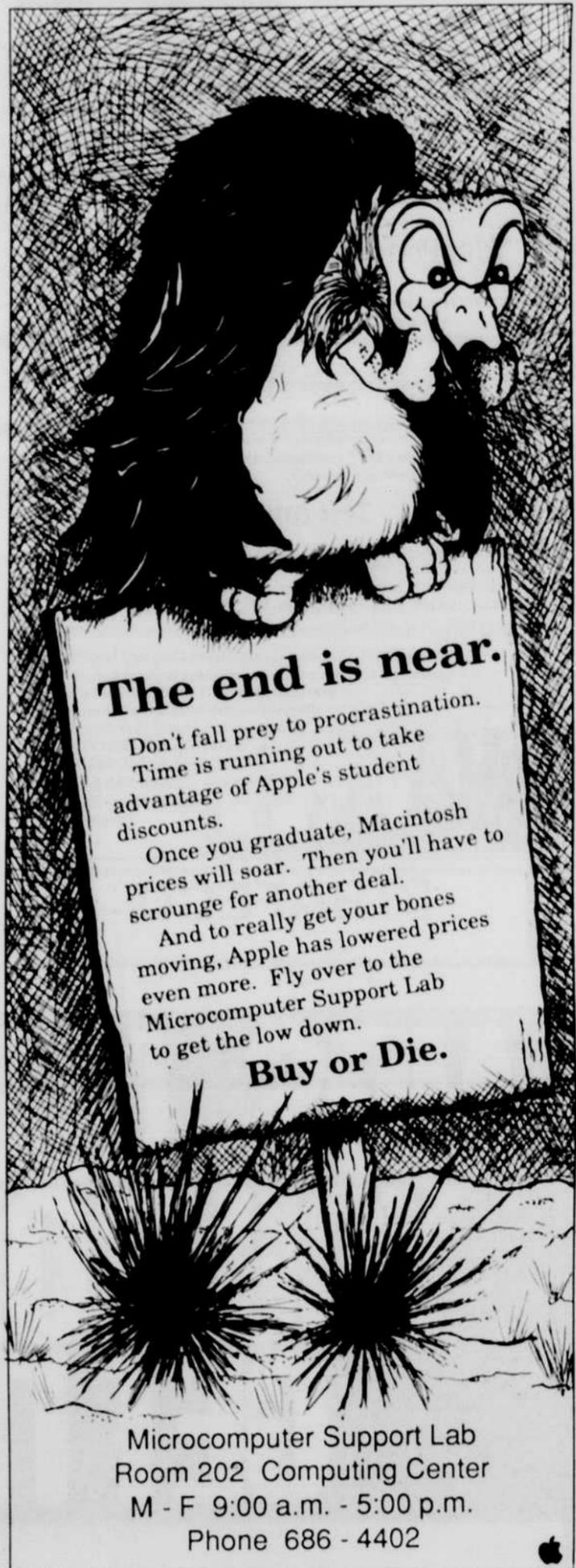
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