

## NAACP represents dreams of equality

Over the weekend the NAACP opened the doors of its first Eugene/Springfield office and held an Oregon-Washington NAACP Conference in Springfield.

Both of these events seem to center around the pursuit of dreams.

The NAACP has been active in the Eugene-Springfield area since 1976, but it has never had an office space. Maintaining an office will make its programs more visible and accessible to the community. This office is a long-awaited dream fulfilled. There are only two other NAACP offices in the Pacific Northwest.

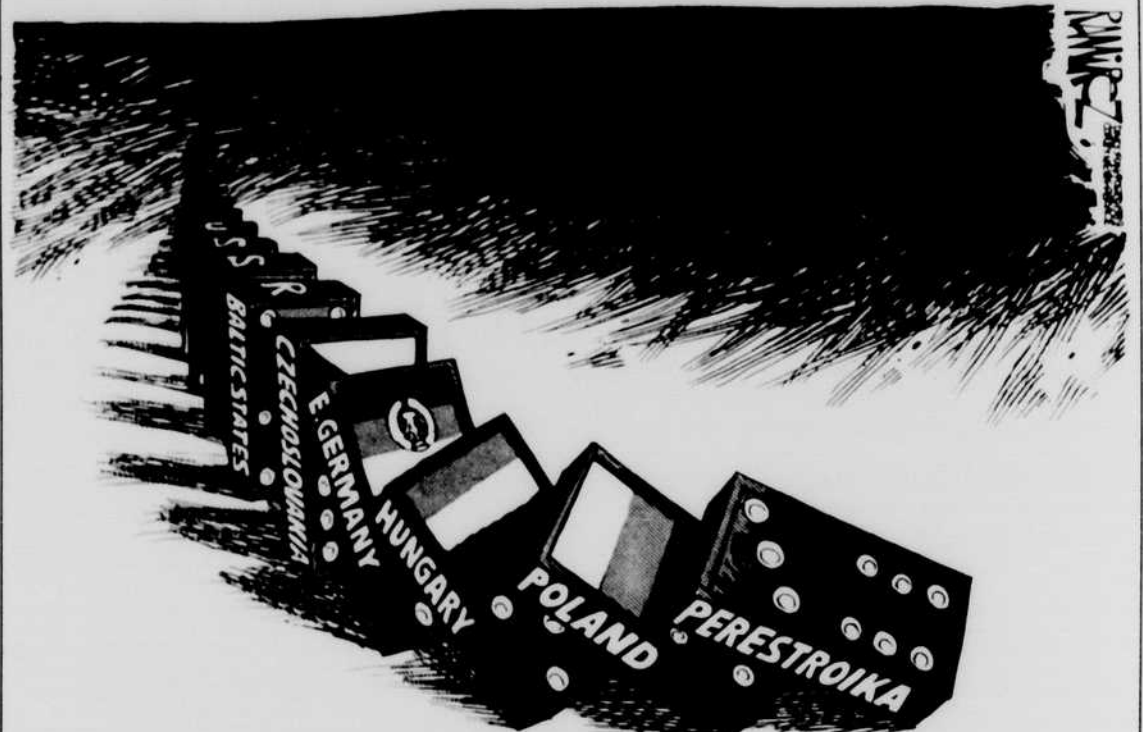
NAACP leaders believe that this is an important time for civil rights organizations. Over the past eight years there have been many setbacks for minority rights including Supreme Court decisions, government appointments, and conservative government trends. Issues such as affirmative action, education and housing take a back seat to government intervention in foreign affairs, military growth and issues such as flag burning.

At Saturday's NAACP banquet, Harrison Dillard, Olympic gold medalist, journalist and member of the Cleveland Board of Education, spoke of both the Bush and Reagan administrations with discontent. Bush has followed in Reagan's footsteps and has shown little interest or desire in working toward a stronger civil rights agenda. Bush claims to be such a strong supporter of democracy, but it appears that he is only concerned about democracy in countries that are of strategic military importance to America. His enthusiasm should be directed toward the people and concerns of his own nation.

This country needs a president with a strong voice that will make clear to the people of America that individuals, no matter who they are, have equal rights and discrimination on any basis will not be tolerated.

Affirmative action is believed by many civil rights activists to be an effective way to combat discrimination problems. In the past few years there has been an increase in hate crimes, neo-naziism and racial discrimination. It is part of the NAACP's dream to see the end of these crimes and as Martin Luther King Jr. said, to have all people accepted not by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

Solving the problem of racial discrimination in America will not happen overnight, nor will it be wiped away by a single solution. It will take the combined efforts of local and national government, community action groups and individual citizens to make a permanent change for the better. This is the dream the NAACP is trying to share.



The New Domino Theory.

## New campus publications offer diversity

Newsprint. It's everywhere this year.

The beginning of this academic year saw the birth of two new campus publications, *The Student Insurgent* and *Oregon Voice*, which hit University newsstands in September and October, respectively.

*The Student Insurgent* describes itself as "a collective journal of the left" and solicits stories and editors from members of both the campus and the Eugene community. Article topics so far have ranged from police harassment of the homeless to information about recent events in Central America.

*Oregon Voice* is described in its introduction as a "building block for students and the campus community to understand and ignite ideas and issues." Each issue will feature, among other things, a column called "Talking With ...", an interview with pivotal people on campus, and "Collage," a column of campus news items. *Oregon Voice* also accepts letters and commentaries.

These new publications, and the others that are sure to follow, are certain to breathe fresh air into what has been a stagnate scene. Until this year it seemed like the Ore-

gon *Commentator* and the *Oregon Daily Emerald* were the only games in town. And sometimes it seemed as if the pages of the *Commentator*, a mostly conservative "journal of opinion," and those of the *Emerald*, with its more liberal editorial stance, were at odds with one another.

This rivalry was not only unfortunate, it was misleading. The *Emerald's* purpose, aside from its one or two daily editorial pages, is not opinion. If the paper has a mission, it is to train students in the arts of writing, photography, advertising sales and graphic layout. Budding journalists writing for the *Emerald* should leave knowing how to tell stories from both points of view.

Now that the *Commentator* has some more appropriate counterparts, hopefully this exchange of ideas will last. The *Insurgent* may have trouble surviving if it does not reach a more stable source of funding. Regardless of whether its staff decides to seek IFC funding, we hope both the *Student Insurgent* and *Oregon Voice* will be around to keep the campus press as lively as it has been so far this year.

## Letters

### Helpful

Does Steve Hellyer, the University Sports Information Director, by refusing to find or give out satellite coordinates, really believe he was going to deter owners of satellites from picking up and watching the Oregon-BYU football game?

Hellyer's reasoning for this is that the game was shown statewide on a delayed basis. Come on, Hellyer, are we to believe that you and either KEZI or KPTV have a contract saying no satellite showings; like no one (meaning big money donors) was in the Stadium Club Saturday morning with the athletic department's blessing?

Anyway, as was the case with the Iowa game, I am sure more people watched the game live on satellite than viewed it at some asinine hour on Saturday night/Sunday morning.

A suggestion to you with access to a satellite dish: Call your local Mormon Temple for coordinates, as I believe they will be more helpful than our

own Sports Information Director.

Dan Perlow  
Law

### Am I alone

Isn't it time for faculty to agree on the amount of work expected daily from students? When I started teaching at the University in 1971, the suggested homework assignment was two hours for every hour in class.

The suggested average credit load of 15 hours was based on expecting 30 hours of homework, which combined gave you 45 hours of work per week; very close to the standard work week in this country.

Now, the unevenness of assignments given by other faculty forces me to make adjustments, and to resent intrusions on the time my students should use for my classes. I am told of people assigning six or more hours of work overnight, without previous notice.

Have they stopped to think of the repercussions such an assignment entails? Students are

forced to lose sleep and to change their normal schedules drastically. They find themselves having to sacrifice study time for other classes, or even to miss them entirely, and other faculty often have to devote class and personal time to clarify what would have been clear otherwise.

Furthermore, the students who suffer most from irregular assignments are those already dealing with difficult responsibilities; such as single mothers, already burdened with supporting families and finding time for a home life that will lead to the well-being of their children. Let's face it, to assign more than your share can be inconsiderate and unfair to a lot of people.

Am I alone in thinking this is not right?

Luis Verano  
Romance Languages

### Undermine

I would like to express my concern about the role of the United States in the upcoming elections in Nicaragua. Some of

your readers might not realize that on Oct. 17, the Senate passed a bill to invest \$9 million in the Nicaraguan elections.

The *New York Times* reported on Oct. 18 that this money is intended "to assist opposition parties in the election next February and to support international observers." The *Oregonian* (Oct. 22) stated "the (Bush) administration is openly backing the campaign of ... Violeta Chamorro against President Daniel Ortega."

It is extremely disappointing to watch the United States place an intruding hand in the internal affairs of yet another Latin American nation. We are accepting a curious double standard in this particular instance. It is illegal for foreign countries to finance our political parties, yet our government is attempting to affect the outcome of Nicaragua's election by throwing around our money.

And if that's not enough, the U.S. government is also playing favorites with one particular part of the opposition (to the Sandinistas). I would like to see our government support the

efforts of the Sandinistas to hold fair and democratic elections.

This can be done by providing aid for international observation groups which can verify the legitimacy of the elections. But if the U.S. government continues to push its weight around to get its way in the Nicaraguan elections, it will undermine the very fairness it is supposedly seeking.

Kara Cumpston  
Spanish

### Not a scapegoat

Alixé Dancer (*ODE*, Oct. 30), who wrote about usage of the word "guy" needs to look it up in the dictionary. Guy (noun): man, fellow; Fellow: 1. Comrade, Associate. 2: Equal, Peer.

"Okay you guys" is a proper usage of the word which does apply to women. Men are tired of being browbeaten, put down, and blamed by women for everything under the sun. Men are not scapegoats.

Gary Darby  
Student