

**Chicanery**

Ben Linder didn't just "die" in Nicaragua (*ODE*, April 23); he was murdered by Contra rebels who were armed and financed by the United States government.

The difference in meaning between the words die and murder is extremely crucial in a factual sense. The Contras murdered Ben Linder with bullets bought and paid for by unwitting(?) good citizens of the United States. No amount of verbal chicanery can erase this fact.

Is there an editor in the house?

**Robert Schmeer**  
International studies

**In the closet**

After reading the stories about homosexual relationships (*ODE* April 23 and 25) and this so-called "Gay Pride Week," I felt compelled to write this letter.

From speaking with friends and colleagues, we feel our opinion about homosexuality not only reflects our ideas but others on this campus as well.

The main force of our objection is that the homosexuals on this campus feel it necessary to publicize and detail their sexual desires for one another. This seems detrimental to their cause: equality and approval.

If they truly want to fit in, why do they parade around like side-show acts, causing them to be the "freaks" in their own circus? The fact that they are homosexual is not relevant to our argument, and we are not homophobic. However, the fact that they must publish their play-by-play accounts of their relationship is offensive.

I do not recall ever reading about heterosexual relationships in the *Emerald*. In my three years at this University, I do not remember reading about a heterosexual couple sharing "mountain biking, huge glutinous dinners and a lot of

rowdy sex." Are we wrong in assuming this, or does the majority of this campus want to hear about the sexual feelings and escapades of homosexuals?

Please, for our sake, in the future, keep your sexual feelings in the closet where they belong.

**Jay Pentheny**  
American studies

**Prejudices**

The *Oregon Daily Emerald* has printed biased remarks and slander in its editorials and played favorites with front page news stories and headlines. Printing stories relying solely on dubious accusations from certain candidates and displaying them on the front page on election day is biased.

Also, writing editorials based on misinformation with no other purpose but to slander others is as unprofessional as a newspaper gets. The April 20 issue is a prime example of this.

Therefore, the *Emerald* itself must come under scrutiny, for one of its main focuses as of late has been to print stories and editorials that deal with stopping prejudices and biases.

not cultivating more. The *Emerald* receives much of its funding from student fees, which means that all students support this paper. That means all students should be fairly represented.

**Brad Bentley**  
Student

**Rational thought**

Jill Freidberg, co-director of Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, says "Animals and human rights are synonymous; there is no difference," and claims the moral high ground because SETA has "numerous moral and ethical reasons supporting" animal rights, and animal researchers "have only one, humans" (*ODE*, April 25). This raises some extremely interesting and thought-provoking questions.

There were no "animal rights" before there were humans; animals ate each other in complete contentment. Since humans define all rights, what rights will animals have? Will sheep vote? Will hawks have the right to eat mice or not?

How about free public education? In countries where hu-

mans have no rights, will animal political prisoners be tortured? Do yeast have rights? Free speech? Will unemployed animals get food stamps?

Animals certainly do obey the biblical imperative "be fruitful, multiply and cover the earth." They have, and the Humane Society is forced to destroy 5 million unwanted and discarded cats and dogs every year.

SETA wants to eliminate all uses of animals. They can't take on Burger King because

they would be run over by pickup trucks. So they start small. They agitate about seven monkeys in the most defenseless of targets: a university research laboratory.

They spout nonsense like "society causes itself to have diseases because people are not educated." The villain is medical research, not the slaughter of billions of food animals every year. After all, let's be rational.

**Jim Remington**  
Physics

**Letters Policy**

Letters to the editor must be limited to no more than 250 words, legible, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is submitted.

The *Emerald* reserves the right to edit any letter for length or style.

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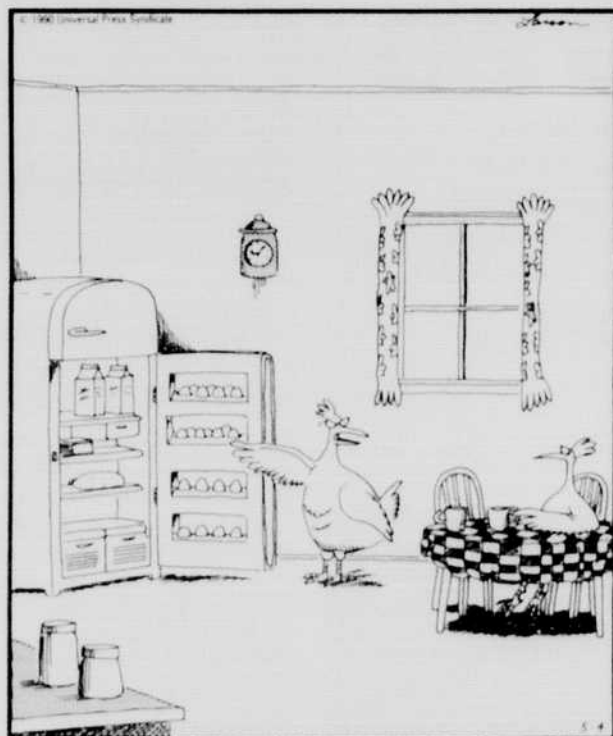
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By GARY LARSON



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