

## People with AIDS forgotten by bill

Congress passed broad-reaching legislation Tuesday prohibiting discrimination against people with disabilities. This bill is considered to be the strongest blow to discrimination since the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

With George Bush in office, this bill might come as quite a surprise, even more so when you consider the Americans with Disabilities Act — first passed by the Senate last year — was one of Bush's keynote issues during the 1988 presidential campaign. His signing the bill is considered to be a formality.

But when you look at the fine print, some "humanistic" luster of the bill wears off.

There is no dispute over how much good the bill will do. The ADA is a vast improvement over the 1973 Rehabilitation Act, which, while giving disabled people some rights, was extremely limited in scope.

The ADA will affect an estimated 43 million Americans who suffer at least one form of disability. Hotels, restaurants and the like will be required to update and improved disabled access. Private companies with more than 15 employees will have to hire workers without discriminating on the basis of either mental or physical disabilities.

Common sense legislation, but important nonetheless.

Perhaps lost in some of headiness over the passage of the bill was an amendment which makes the House version of the ADA different from the Senate's. Known as the Chapman Amendment, it would let employers prevent workers with "contagious diseases" — including AIDS — from taking food-handling jobs.

The Chapman Amendment, which barely passed 199-187, is a blatant example of AIDS-induced hysteria. Several experts have publicly stated their opposition to the amendment, including Secretary of Health and Human Services Dr. Louis Sullivan, on the grounds that it is unnecessary.

Invoking harsh legislation whenever AIDS is brought up is not the way to deal with the disease. No matter how often it is repeated, there are some people who just refuse to believe AIDS cannot be spread through casual contact. These people are the same ones who favor a quarantine for AIDS patients and promote ostracism and irrational fear.

And where is Bush, who has cast himself in the role of the ADA's top advocate? Curiously silent, though aides have said he will pass the bill regardless of the amendment.

Hopefully the members of the joint House-Senate conference committee, where the bill is headed, will come to their senses and strike this ridiculous amendment from what is otherwise a worthwhile piece of legislation.



## Fans proud to be Ducks this year

From a bowl game in December, to events still waiting to unfold, the 1989-1990 school year was full of sports highlights.

The football team came into the 1989 season with high hopes. Ten starters were returning on offense, but most importantly quarterback Bill Musgrave was back from a season-ending shoulder injury the year before.

Coach Rich Brooks' team did not disappoint. They capped the year with a 24-21 win over Tulsa in the Independence Bowl, the first bowl appearance for Oregon since 1963.

While the football team was running through people, Bill Dellinger's cross country squad was running away from people. The men's harriers won the Pacific-10 meet, swept the top five individual spots at the regional meet and finished second behind Iowa State at the NCAA meet.

It was also a successful fall for Gerry Gregory's volleyball team as the Ducks returned to the NCAA tournament after a down year in 1988.

The biggest surprise of the year undoubtedly came on the basketball court from coach Don Monson's team. Led by Terrell Brandon, the Ducks went from an 8-21 team

a year before to 15-14 and an appearance in the National Invitational Tournament.

At the same time, the women's basketball team, the NWIT champs a year before, struggled throughout the season and failed to make post-season play.

Despite losing dual meets to Washington and Nebraska, Dellinger's track team dominated last weekend's Pac-10 meet, winning the team title and coming away with six individual winners. At the same time, women's coach Tom Heinonen had possibly his youngest squad ever, but lost the Pac-10 title by only 13 points to UCLA.

The team expected to do the most, coach Tami Brown's softball team, overcame a mid-season slump and player injuries, finishing with a respectable 35-23 record. Although they were eliminated from the NCAA playoffs, they finished 8th in the nation, a highly commendable effort.

And before putting an end to this season, the men's golf team received another NCAA regional tournament bid and tennis player Kumi Nagamoto closed out her career with the most singles wins in school history.

It's been a great year to be an Oregon sports fan.

## Disposal

Recently the issue of improper disposal of chemical wastes at the proposed site of the Riverfront Research Park has come to public attention. The current University administration seems to be more concerned with denial and cover-up than rectification of the problem. It seems to me they should take a pledge regarding the social and environmental consequences of their actions.

In 1984 I worked for the Physical Plant as a student employee for \$4.85 an hour. I helped shovel out the three boilers which they operate. It wasn't until I was finished that I was informed they disposed of low-level radioactive substances in the boilers. I was also exposed to crumbling asbestos for three to six weeks while cleaning the turbine room before I gained knowledge of this fact. The only pro-

tection supplied were paper face masks and cloth gloves.

In addition, my co-workers and I were told to dispose down some drain holes about 20 pounds of trisodium-phosphate that was being used to clean the turbine room. It was shortly thereafter we found these drain holes led directly to the Millrace. There was a story on the news soon after reporting scum on the canoes and the death of much marine life in the Millrace.

The administration officials I contacted seemed more concerned with the University's public image than rectifying the problems, or even investigating their existence. It is sickening to me that things haven't changed much since then. The administrators look out for one another, refuse to release critical information, and generally don't care about students, employees and the environment.

My question is when will

they make their pledge?

Will Lane  
Chemistry

## Stunned

Tom Ribe (ODE, May 17), I believe you are one of the most stereotypical people I have ever heard. In your letter, you decided to take a blind swing at the greek system.

You wrote, "The greek crowd is never there, never involved." I say you are obviously looking in the wrong places. Our efforts are not world-encompassing, but much more localized.

Both fraternities and sororities have raised thousands of dollars for local charities during your three years at the University. In addition to the hard work the greek organizations do for our community, many of us partake in a myriad of other selfless activities

Personally, I have done volunteer work for a local organization fighting hunger and homelessness. And I am not the only one. Many of my fellow greeks are members of the Student Senate, participate in volunteer activities, and attend meetings concerning world politics, plus dozens of other thankless jobs in an attempt to benefit the community.

Ironically, your letter appeared on University Day. I hope you will not be so blind as to not acknowledge all of the fraternities and sororities out and about the campus doing volunteer labor so that you can enjoy our beautiful University which you and I have the privilege of attending.

I must admit your letter took me by surprise. I am completely stunned that in an area such as Eugene, which seems to strive for open-mindedness, that someone can be so totally

close-minded.

Scott Odle  
Theta Chi pledge

## Hooligans

Night of the Living Daddies poster distributed around campus. Does this band, The Bad Daddies, have any respect at all for the dead or even for George Romero? This group of hirsute hooligans has just gone too far this time.

As penitence for this horrible action, the entire band should be forced to sit through *Dawn of the Dead* 23 times without a toilet break. This town has just about become unbearable to live in with the thoughtless and sheer machismo bravado the Bad Daddies have come to represent.

Gary Malcolm  
Fine Arts