

HEP needs more respect in future

If you have driven down Agate Street, you may have noticed the small wooden shacks across the street from legendary Hayward Field.

These are not storage sheds or maintenance shacks — some of them house the University's High School Equivalency Program.

The 23-year-old program prepares migrant or seasonal farm workers for their GED exams. It is time for the administration to find some ways to bring the program out of the barrios of East campus and into the mainstream.

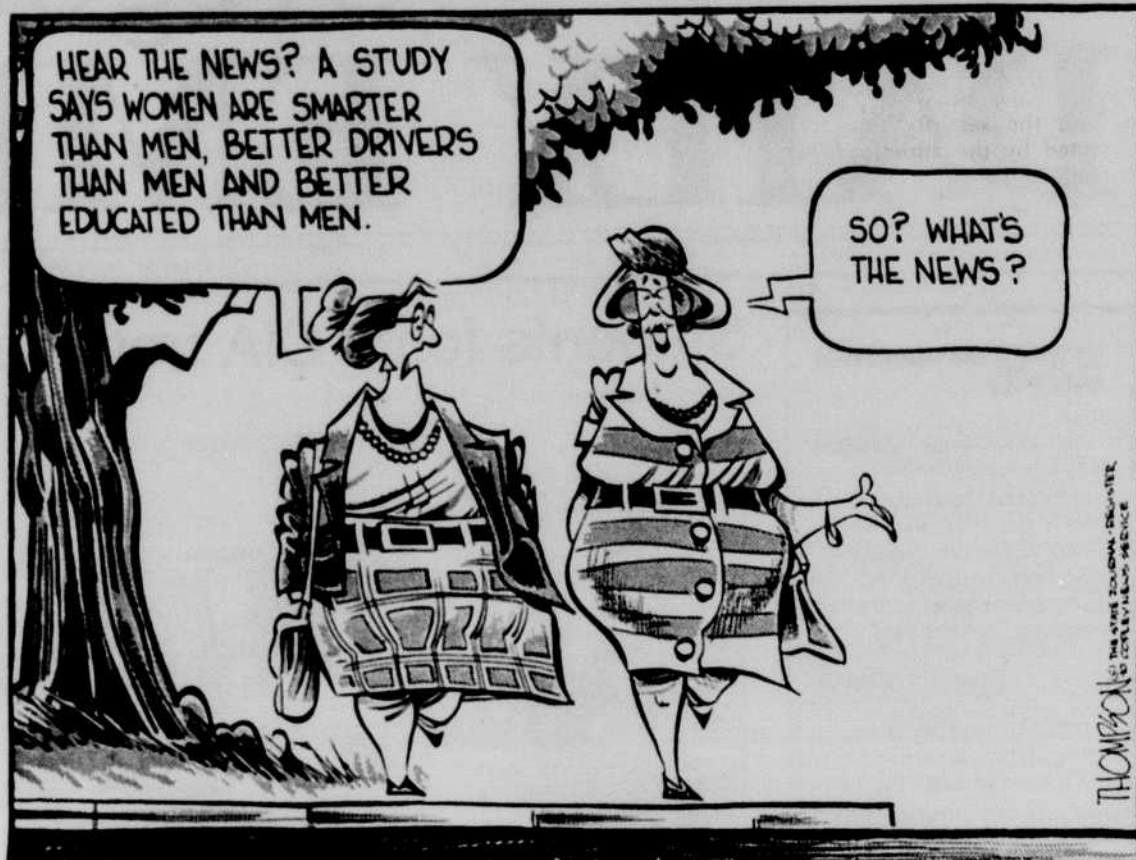
HEP, which has a graduation rate of 85 percent, has a \$425,000 budget per year from the federal government. The program pays the University for both dormitory use and student services. However, members of the program must take classes in the shantytown atmosphere provided for them on Agate Street. Their access to mainstream University classes is limited, keeping HEP students on "the other side of the campus."

If a goal of the University is to provide equal opportunity education to the people of Oregon, HEP needs to receive more respect. Making HEP students feel that they are less important than the rest of the University community in some way is not a positive way to foster in them a desire for education.

Although half of HEP's graduates go on to college, program Director Steve Marks-Fife said the majority of them choose to go to school at Oregon State University. This could be due to better recruiting methods on the part of OSU, but more likely it is because HEP members may feel they are not, or never will be, completely accepted by the University community.

It was nice of University President Myles Brand and other administrators to visit the program — the first time administrators have visited HEP in quite a while. But a once-a-year visit with a few pats on the back is not good enough.

Brand and the gang from Johnson Hall should come up with some serious ideas for bringing one of the University's most successful programs in line with the rest of the University. The hard-working students in the HEP program deserve to be treated like the rest of the students at the University.



Garage plans parked, now build housing

The parking garage plans for the Alder Street tennis courts have been put on indefinite hold. That's good news. The University needs affordable student housing much more than it needs additional parking space.

We say no parking structures, period. It only encourages people to drive their cars. That encourages the consumption of oil. Which, in turn, encourages the United States to send 500,000 troops to the Middle East.

There are many other alternatives to cars. Every fee-paying student has a bus free bus pass for three months. It might take an additional 10 or 15 minutes to get to school, but the savings on gas and car care would compensate.

Bicycles are already used by many students. Sure, the rain can be a problem, but if

one cares to read about U.S. history, we have faced greater obstacles than getting wet.

Car pools, park-and-rides and shuttle systems could be set up to accommodate people for all times of the day. Too many single-occupant vehicles are driven to campus today.

The University took neighborhood residents' concerns into consideration before moving ahead with parking garage plans. Although it's a \$150,000 too late, at least the University is willing to look into alternatives.

Forget any new parking structures near campus. The University needs inexpensive housing near campus.

If students are close enough to walk, they won't have to drive.

LETTERS

Flag team flop

Pat Hansen's letter (ODE, Nov. 7) would like us to "sit back, appreciate, and above all, enjoy watching perhaps the premier marching band in the nation."

While the marching band is OK (Stanford's is certainly more creative, humorous and exciting), the flag team is an embarrassment.

My friends and I cringe when they take the field. As a team they seem to lack even the most fundamental coordination skills, their outfits are pathetic and the movements appear to have been choreographed by a dead fourth grader.

We watch because we have to, we laugh because we must and we cry because someone outside our fine state might see them.

Let's save some money and use the flag team to guard the goalposts or something.

Kawika Holbrook
Student

Proud

I'm sure many of us can now better appreciate the compassion of our greek fraternity system, as partially embodied by Fred Roellig (ODE, Nov. 8).

Some people might ask,

"Gracious me, what organization would possibly want to harbor individuals who deliver veiled threats, practice mindless violence (and then try to deny it), exhibit intriguingly primal social skills and generally act like puerile, obnoxious human beings?"

I pity the naive and ignorant. And what was Amy Hope thinking, trying to fight back legally? Silly girl. The whole incident was her fault in the first place.

We all know that only the Greeks have to pay tuition and student fees. They are the ones responsible for funding the athletic programs and keeping up general maintenance at Autzen Stadium.

Therefore, why on Earth should we object when they decide to appropriate a small part of the stadium for their personal use?

So, congratulations to the fraternity members involved, kudos to the ever-vigilant security people, and thank you so much for making me proud to be a part of the system.

Mary E. Locke Klein
Student

Vicious tripe

The letter to the editor (ODE, Nov. 8) on the "thrashing on

the security crew by the student body" is one of the most asinine commentaries I ever hope to read in the *Emerald*.

Its writer, who is obviously getting little from his education, is apparently under the impression that it is OK to do stupid and dangerous things, up to and including injuring other people, in order to "get rowdy and have a good time."

This is an increasingly common, and thoroughly contemptible, perception these days. The writer of that letter should be thoroughly ashamed of having written such vicious tripe — as should the *Emerald*, for printing it.

Michael E. Stamm
English Dept.

Reality brief

We can't legislate choice. People always have a choice. A person could choose to kill me, and if they were clever enough, never get caught.

At the present time there are laws which tell people "don't kill Bob." This reminds them of what the society has deemed as right. It doesn't remove their choice.

On election night I was asked by a woman next to a "no on 8 and 10" sign if I had voted yet. I soberly said "yes, but if my

mother had exercised her choice another time, I wouldn't even be here to answer you."

For a moment she just stood there. Her whole cause had just been knocked out from under her by a brief encounter with reality. She then turned to someone on the other side of the street corner and began asking them the same question.

I have no desire to "force people to think my way." All I can do is share what is true, in hopes that someone will know the joy I know.

God loves me. He was sufficient for Noah in a world where there was "only evil all of the time," so I sure don't need a majority believing what I do to be content in this world.

It might have been cool having an older brother growing up, though. If the law had been there, I probably would have. My mom regrets the choice she made, but she has one son who loves her.

Bob Weigel
Lab Tech

Disco library

Hey, why go to Guido's? Why not just go to the main library on a weeknight to socialize? Everyone else does. We might as well put up a strobe light and bring in a disc jockey. I figure since it is impossible to study at the library, why not party?

If I were to rate the noise level of the library on a richter scale of one to ten, it would receive a seven.

The other night in the library, I kept hearing this obnoxious voice constantly rambling on and on. I looked up and to my astonishment it was one of the ladies that works at the library. I thought to myself, what a great role model for the way students should behave in the library.

Enough with the sarcasm. All I'm trying to say is that the library should be a place to study, not socialize.

Brett Johnson
Eugene

LETTERS POLICY

The *Oregon Daily Emerald* will attempt to print all letters containing comments on topics of interest to the University community. Comments must be factually accurate and refrain from personal attacks on the character of others.