

LETTERS

Oaf control

I have been planning for some time to write a letter about the security crew contracted by the athletic department, and the recent letters to the *Emerald* (ODE, Nov. 8) have convinced me that it's high time!

Those rude, thoughtless folks were contracted, as I understand it, in response to rowdiness at last year's football games. The most unfortunate result of the whole mess is that these blue-coated oafs were used to "control" the crowds at last spring's track meets. They replaced a crew of older folks who were friendly and efficient.

It's important to note that fans at track meets are not rowdy. In fact, a cheerful, friendly, family atmosphere prevails at every meet.

This past spring the new security crew managed to ruin almost everyone's fun at the meets. They approached each meet like gestapo. They were surly and rude. They carried some rules to silly extremes — like not allowing an athlete to go sit with his parents, even though the stands were almost empty.

They clearly weren't track fans, and their actions showed that they had no appreciation of proper behavior at track meets. For example, they often stood in front of the stands, blocking people's view. Their behavior at each meet was inept and heavy-handed. I strongly recommend that they not be used at any more track meets.

Jim Long
Chemistry

Avoiding reality

Editor's note: because of two misprints in S. Ross' letter which ran yesterday, we have rerun her letter in its entirety.

The University's response to rape on campus has been to provide increased lighting and several escort services for women, both on and off campus.

I do not suggest we abandon such efforts nor do I question their effectiveness but they should be recognized for what they are: rape avoidance strategies.

What message is the Brand administration sending when its best efforts to ensure the safety of women on campus consist of warning them avoid it?

What are we being taught, if when confronted with a threat to our safety, well-being and personal freedom we are told, even encouraged, to cope with

the situation rather than change it?

This administration's minimal response to rape serves, by example, to create citizens who view the social realities of their time as unchangeable givens, beyond their abilities as individuals or communities to change.

What if the administration chose to implement not a rape avoidance policy directed at women, but a rape prevention policy directed to the community as a whole?

The process of creating a community response to this issue would provide every student on this campus with an education in social responsibility and personal empowerment that would contribute to the community at large long after our diplomas are framed and hung on the wall.

So how about it? What have we got to lose?

S. Ross
Student

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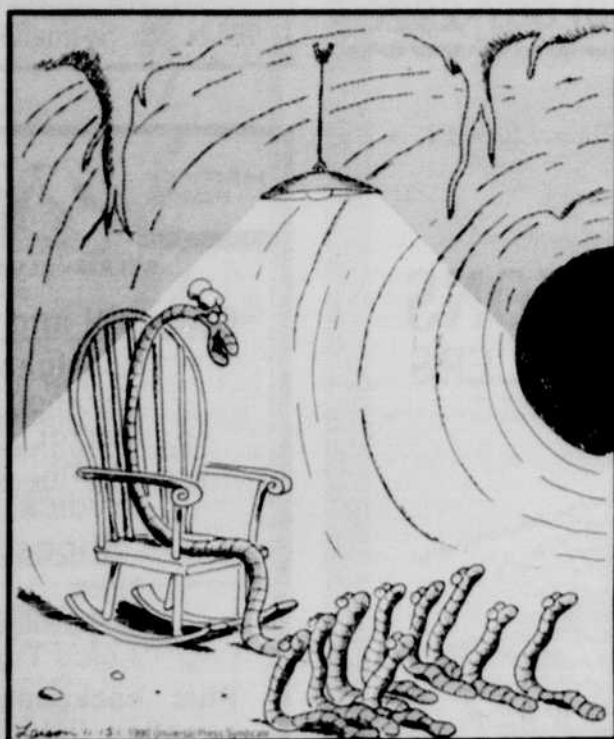
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By GARY LARSON



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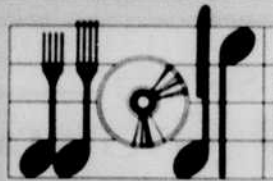
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