

EDITORIAL

El Salvador incident remains a mystery

While the nation waits for a war in the Persian Gulf, the United States continues to fund the government of El Salvador, involved in its own civil war.

El Salvador has one of the world's worst human rights records, according to Amnesty International. More than 70,000 Salvadorans have been killed in the past 10 years, most of them by the military. Nevertheless, the government receives about \$100 million a year from the United States, most of which goes to fund the military.

The Faribundo Marti National Liberation Front, or FMLN, is the main rebel group. Its cause is similar to others being fought in Central America — to take the power out of the hands of the military and the rich landowners. Most of the nation's population are peasants, who can barely make ends meet.

In 1989 six priests were murdered in El Salvador. Witnesses said the military was responsible. The United States threatened to withhold military funding unless those responsible for the killings were brought to justice. Although there have been arrests, no trial is set.

Last year, Congress authorized the release of \$42.5 million for El Salvador, about one-half the usual amount. The other half may be released if the United States finds fault with FMLN actions.

The Salvadoran government and the FMLN were set to begin talks to end the civil war. Just when prospects looked promising, a U.S. Huey helicopter was shot down last week east of the El Salvador capitol, killing three American servicemen.

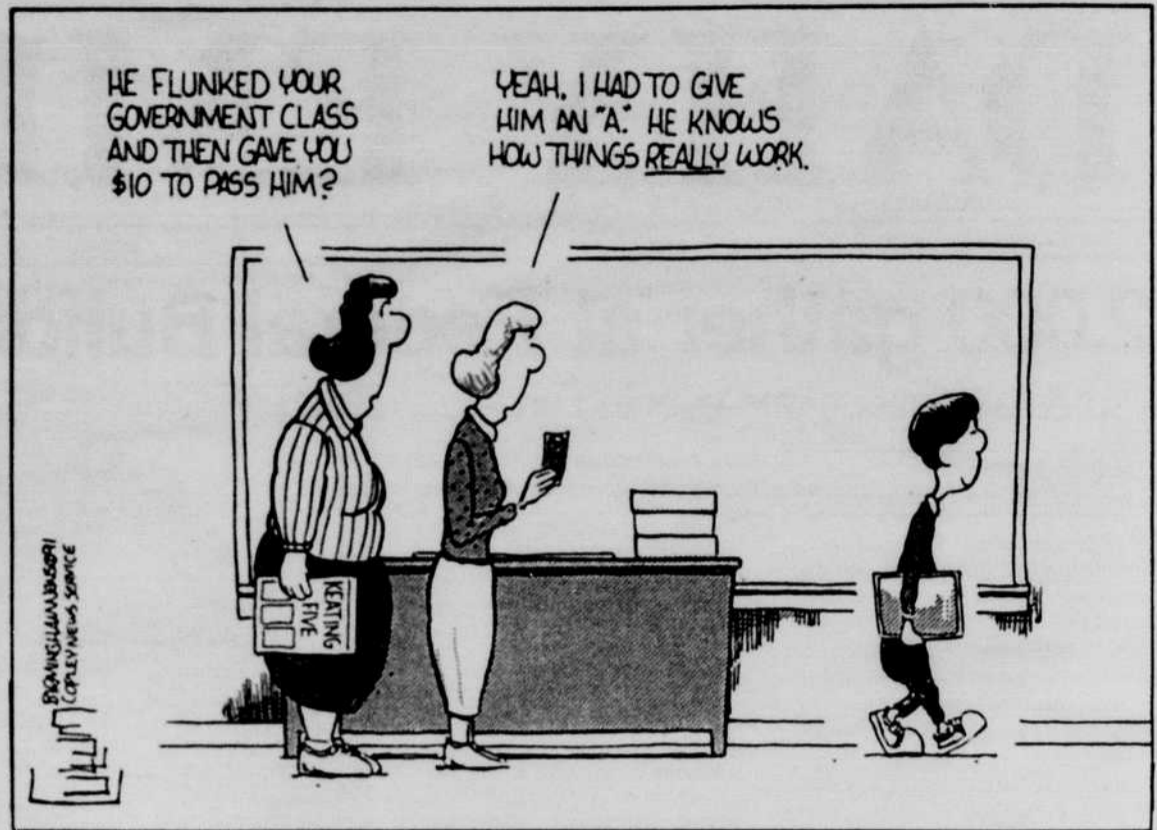
The helicopter was shot down by rebel forces. But was it just a blatant act of terrorism as the State Department believes?

The United States just cut aid to El Salvador in half. Only last week the FMLN announced it would cease offensive actions against the government and participate in peace talks. What would the FMLN gain by shooting down a helicopter, at the risk of the United States releasing the other half of the military aid?

There are questions that need to be answered. Why was the helicopter fired on? Was it engaged in military activity? The Huey was purposely flying low because warplanes were shot down in El Salvador last month. So what was it doing there?

The United States should not release the rest of the aid to El Salvador. A thorough investigation of the helicopter incident must be conducted by neutral parties, including representatives from human rights groups CISPES and CALC, among others.

Something strange is happening in El Salvador. Will we ever know the truth?



Men must change attitude toward rape

A recent study on campus crime indicates that many university-related rapes involve fraternities, athletes and alcohol. Researchers also claim fraternity members and athletes are among the most violent members of campuses.

The study researchers also say students who are victims of crime tend to be heavier users of alcohol and illicit drugs, are more likely to smoke, be a fraternity or sorority member, own a car, have a job and live off campus.

Perpetrators of student crime tend to be even heavier users of drugs, alcohol and cigarettes, be males, athletes or fraternity or sorority members, and have slightly lower grade point averages.

Campus crime, especially date rape, is receiving more attention by the media, college administrations and now researchers. This is a much-needed step in the process of bringing this long-hidden phenomenon into the open.

However, when studying campus rapes

researchers should avoid blaming victims.

In another finding, researchers said that in cases of rape, more drug and alcohol use was reported by both victims and perpetrators, and rapes were more likely to occur at parties.

The director of counseling services at Towson State, Charles Malloy, said, "Date rape should be avoidable if a student is willing to restrain her alcohol consumption around fraternity parties and athletes." (Emphasis added)

Molloy's statement is a perfect example of victim-blaming — making the woman responsible for the man's behavior. It is up to individuals to control their own alcohol consumption and behavior. Women should be able to go to any party and enjoy themselves without fear of compromising their right to say no by "dancing suggestively."

Malloy should have said that men should control their own behavior and respect a woman's right to say "no" at any time, but until that happens women will have to take steps to protect themselves.

LETTERS

Move the band

As an Oregon basketball fan, I would like to express my displeasure about where the band is seated during the basketball games this year.

Last year the band was at the end of the court near the hoop. This seemed to be an ideal place. They were in good seats where they could see the game, and they sounded good. This year, for some reason, they have been moved into what used to be some of the best student seating available. It seems to me that the band is there to entertain the crowd before the game, during halftime and during timeouts.

We, the students, are there to cheer for our team and see the action up close. The entire set of bleachers next to the court used to be taken up by students. This was where the most spirited part of the crowd was located, and students would line up early for the chance to sit there. As far as I can tell,

there is no reason why the band needs to be put in that particular area.

Shouldn't students be entitled to these seats?

Karyn Brown
Student

Bowl me over

American Bowl continued.

The American team comes back after the half. They receive the kick. America then proceeds to dominate the second half.

With deep bombs and a short-range ground attack, the U.S. team destroys the Iraqis feeble defense. The Iraqi team is so overwhelmed by the superior American team that they never even have a chance to get on the offensive.

of George Bush, the American team pours it on. By the end of the game, the Iraqi team lies wounded and battered all over the field while the American team is still as fresh as when they came.

In the stands are the real fans of America, while the fair-weather "fans" sit at home in their easy chairs eating Twinkies and reaping all the benefits of the players' collective bargaining agreement.

There are some people out there who do not like "football," but it is our team out there, and we should root for them regardless.

If you don't want to see us "play," then get out of my country and go root for another team.

Matthew Morin
Journalism

War

It should be actively pondered that war still includes

(but is not limited to) the following behavior from U.S. soldiers to "the enemy," including old people and children:

Disemboweling • mutilation • rape in all forms • rape followed by execution • the peeling off of the skin • the slicing off of the ears • the splitting of the skull • the slitting open of the vagina • dismembering • the hacking off of the penis • the smashing in of the face • evisceration • dismemberment • the cutting off of the head • the slicing into the throat • the burning of the flesh with fire • the burning of the flesh with chemicals • the cooking of the flesh with electricity • the pinching off of the testicles • the crushing of the bones • the pulling out of the eyes from their sockets • the peeling of the scalp from the skull • urination onto the dead bodies • cannibalism • the shooting of a bullet into the body • the shooting of a bullet point blank into the body • the beating to death of a human be-

ing • the slicing off of the tongue • the pulling off of the fingernails and toenails • the hacking off of the breasts • the breaking of the spine • the stomping in of the face with boots • the breaking of the arms, legs • the driving of the hot metal rods into the body • the extinguishing of cigarettes into the eyeball • the slicing off of the lips • the breaking of the teeth with hammers • deliberate starvation • the stealing of human dreams.

This is what is meant by eliminating "the enemy target."

Tim Hughes
Graduate, Philosophy

Where from?

Who authorized all the gaudy yellow plastic tape that now covers our campus?

Jeffrey A. Hawkins
Eugene