

Sexism charge not fair to the University

Cutting \$5 million dollars out of the University's budget was bound to cause problems. Because of cuts in programs and disciplines that have a majority of women, some students are accusing the University of sexism.

The University is quite discrimination-conscious these days. Every day brings cries of discrimination from one group or another, and rightly so.

Outcries of discrimination from women, ethnic minorities, gays and lesbians, and others are needed reminders that we do not live in a perfect society. Sometimes discrimination is overt and even vicious. Other times it's the result of rushing to meet deadlines and not really thinking things over.

This is the case at the University. It's true that many of the soon-to-be cut or reduced University programs do have a majority of women students.

The University has proposed eliminating the elementary school program, which may have as many as five times more women enrolled than men. In the overall education program, there are twice as many women as men.

At a rally in front of Johnson Hall on Thursday, Holly Stegner, co-director of Women in Transition, cited statistics showing other women-dominated programs as frontrunners on the chopping block.

She said the pattern continues in doomed programs such as the College of Human Development and Performance, with a 2-1 woman-to-man ratio, and as much as 4- or 5-1 in individual disciplines such as human services and health education.

The concerns are real. But the University didn't have enough time to stop and consider the women-to-men ratios when it decided on budget cuts.

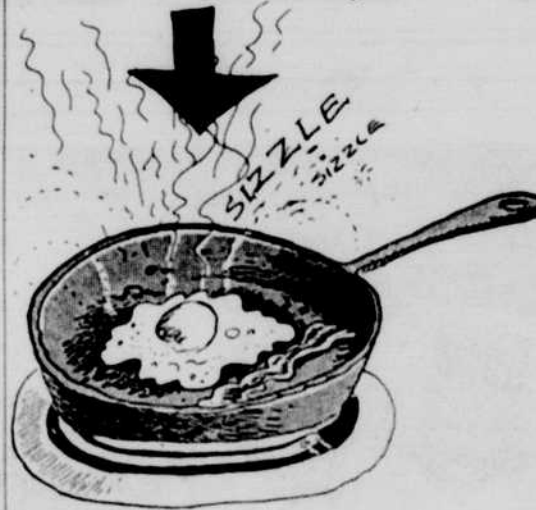
After all, administrators had about a month to contemplate \$5 million in cuts. The University had an enormous and very ugly task of cutting programs that affect students and human beings.

The University would need at least a year to talk to every department, consult all student groups and all classified staff and faculty just to hear everyone's justification for their job, their department and their program.

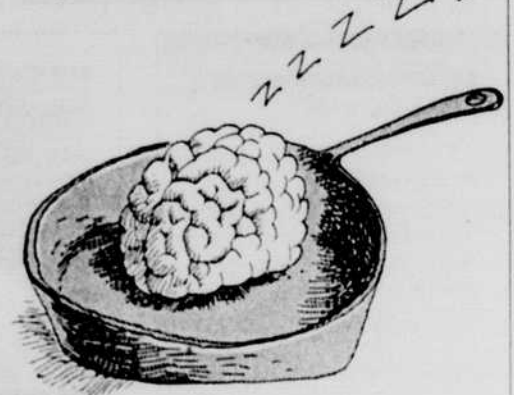
However, the women-to-men ratio matter is a legitimate concern, and we should be asking questions about the process. The University should have given thought to gender equality in its decision-making process. But at least it has been brought to the University's attention.

Measure 5 has passed and we have to live with it. Students should voice concerns not only about their own specific programs cuts, but about education as a whole. The University may need to make further cuts in the future, and every injustice, however unintentional, should be brought up because the process can always be better.

This is your brain on drugs



This is GEORGE BUSH'S brain on domestic issues



Springfield News-Sun, Copy News Service

LETTERS

Sleepy time

Adrian Wallace wrote (we're optimistic enough to say "drew") what we thought was a delightfully humorous "mock" comic — Not.

So what's your point? OK, so you are in a position that allows you to place editorial cartoons in the *Emerald*. Some are whimsical, yet some are well, not quite the political, satirical kick in the fanny that such a wondrous, self-acclaimed, age-old cartoonist should be proud of.

It just seems to us that someone comes in with a comic strip (which is "a variety strip of humor, adventure, and satire" — a direct quote from Mike Russell) and someone's toes are being stepped on. Who's toes? Could it be Adrian Wallace?

We think Mike Russell has talent. We know other people think so, too, or his strip wouldn't be in the *Emerald*.

Although Wallace claims to have taken numerous art classes, it is obvious that he has yet to take a course on social graces. If Wallace is going to act like a cranky, spoiled grade-schooler, then maybe it's time the *Emerald* put him down for a nice, long nap.

Jason Wonacott
Kristen Koenig
Students

I'm sure if you submit a few samples of your work to the *Northwest Comic News*, the *Oregon Voice*, the *Oregon Commentator*, the *Student Insurgent*, or any of the other local papers, you would have a great chance to have your own strip.

Let me give you one word of advice, though: Try to maintain a little bit more professionalism than your piece in the *Emerald* showed. Remember, it's nice to be important, but it's a lot more important to be nice.

Dan Bregar
Eugene

Real heroes

If Germans in the 1930s stood up to Hitler and stopped him from waging war on innocent civilians, they would be remembered today as heroes and martyrs.

If Iraqi civilians filled the streets in protest of Saddam Hussein's war with the United States and forced him out of the country, Americans would cheer and call these people "peacekeepers."

Why is it then, that those of us in this country who are working to stop the bloodshed are called unpatriotic and labeled as traitors?

Let's support the civilians as well as the troops and let everyone live in peace.

Seth Frankel
TCF/Peace Studies

has he not even encouraged sanctions on South Africa? Why have we not invaded South American countries with these motives in mind? Or is that what he wants us to believe we were doing in Panama as well?

Whatever Bush's reasons for our being in the Middle East — for cheap oil or attempting to turn the economy around by promoting patriotism — there is no way I can support such blatant aggression and violence by the U.S., especially when we have no business even being there.

I wonder how our self-acclaimed "environmental president" feels about (indirectly) causing millions of gallons of oil to be dumped into the sea and making it rain oil in Iran.

People say we must stand behind Bush because he's our president. Well, he may be our president, but does that mean I have to trust him?

Gary M. Rosenstein
Student

May it burn

In Warren Olandria's letter (*ODE*, Feb. 4) he states that, "Protests do nothing to bring the troops home sooner, but only further agonize relatives and friends of people serving in the gulf theater."

My brother is one of the "actors" in this war. Anything that could help bring him home, be it protests or impeachment of a manipulative, lying president, is worth my support.

Maybe I could support the war effort if Bush wasn't a hypocrite (our government has committed the same atrocities Hussein has). It is possible, however, to support the troops and not Bush. But if our flag is the symbol of America today, may it burn.

And may everyone opposed to this war be vocal. May everyone support peace and the cessation of American, Iraqi, and Kuwaiti deaths. I support the troops and peace in the Middle East.

Lynn E. Lucas
Journalism

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Hudson

Adrian Wallace's thrashing of "Hudson Van Curen" and its creator, Michael Russell, leaves me with only one thing to say: Mellow out.

It's great to see that you have a lot of confidence in your abilities as a cartoonist. However, a lot of people (myself included) find Hudson both well-drawn and entertaining. You're not earning any points with anyone by being so darned mean; insulting someone else's talent in your strip makes people look at your work with a far less favorable eye.

As to your feelings that you deserve a strip in the *Emerald*, well, there are plenty of publications around Eugene that don't have a local cartoonist.

Hypocritical

George Bush is good. Not in any moral or ethical sense, but in his ability to dupe the American public into believing that we are justified in going to war.

The hypocrisy in Bush's statements and actions sickens me. But what really astounds me is that his pro-war equals pro-America propaganda is working. He has a good portion of this country believing that we are not involved for economic reasons or to save face, but that he is legitimately concerned with atrocities of brutal aggressors around the world. If he is so concerned, why