



## LETTERS

### Weak speak

In response to Steven J. Weideman's letter (*ODE*, May 17) regarding the greek system as a steadfast "... vanguard of tradition and patriotic American values ... a target of the blame-America-first lobby": I would strongly offer that he speaks for himself only, and not the entire greek system.

The greek system has truly diverse people within it, contrary to what some people believe. Not everyone considers anti-war protesters "avowed enemies."

Surprise, surprise. Some of us even participated in anti-war protests.

One is led to wonder how such idiotic assumptions can be made based on such a large community. The greek system does not speak with one voice, just as the whole student body doesn't vote with one ballot.

Next time Weideman should replace his "we" with "I," and not speak for all of us unless he knows each and every single one of our political beliefs. Truly, it is this kind of outright, uninformed, outrageously over-generalized stupidity which gives a whole community a bad name.

I urge that the next time Weideman speaks publicly on account of a group, he must realize that his voice is only one — weak with misunderstanding at that. He should speak for himself.

Angela Dean  
Fine Arts

### Liberal labeled

Bless me fellow liberals, for I have sinned.

From what I gather after reading several letters describing liberals, I realize that I have none of the necessary trappings. Steven J. Weideman (*ODE*, May 17) posits that liberals are nose-ring wearing, tied-dyed barbarians.

Chris Ribeiro (*ODE*, May 8) notes the characteristic "unwashed faces" of those with left-wing affiliations. I've searched my room and found no Grateful Dead albums, no Birkenstocks, no drug paraphernalia, and horror of horrors — soap.

Forgive me for I have erroneously fostered the notion that I can align myself with liberal causes and wore my wing-tip

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shoes. My wardrobe betrays my obvious conservatism.

Think of the frightening possibilities if we liberals were allowed to dress and wash like normal folks. Why, one could live next door, unknown to you. Liberals could take over entire city blocks.

We must emphasize the differences or suffer grave consequences. I recommend that liberals alike be issued identification cards to be presented when purchasing soap, sandals, ties, and tofu. In this way we might be able to reduce the possibility of mistaken identity.

After all, we wouldn't want to persecute the wrong individuals, would we?

Steve Close  
English literature  
**Get a clue**

In response to Steven J. Weideman's Letter (*ODE*, May 17), I offer a definition from Webster.

Fascism: A system of government ... of the extreme right, typically through the merging of state and business leadership, together with a belligerent nationalism.

The effects of fascist, retentive attitude like Weideman's could destroy the very system he claims to be a supporter of through his close-mindedness. Correct me if I'm mistaken, but wasn't the United States brought into existence because of unrest? Seeking to better the government system is perhaps the most patriotic form of expression known.

I take insult at the insinuation that because I participated in the anti-Gulf war protest that I am anti-American. Is seeking to protect the lives of all our soldiers unpatriotic? I don't think so.

In theory, the greek system is not that bad of an idea, but in practice is deserving of nothing save contempt. The stereotyping attitude present in Weideman's letter is one of the reasons.

To suggest that because I am pierced I automatically hold certain views is absurd. Does Weideman think that circumcision defines one as Jewish? Of course not. Get a clue.

Joel Smith  
Student

### Pestfest

Folkfest, what a splendid

idea. A place where the University community can come and taste exotic food from faraway places and listen to wonderful alternative music.

Yeah, right. How about "Pestfest"? What a horrible idea. A three-day period in which all of the dorms surrounding what used to be the beautiful EMU lawn (now the EMU mud pit) get to deal with a 24-hour lock-up and seemingly constant "music" penetrating the dorm room walls. After listening to that racket for a day and a half I was ready to kill every mud-covered person urging the "bands" on and on and on.

Personally, I had a pretty busy week prior to Pestfest. I was looking forward to a few moments of quiet. Not the whole weekend, but just for a little while. Too much to ask? I guess so.

Would we put a rock concert in the middle of an apartment complex? No, I don't think so, especially not a three-day one. So why put Pestfest in the middle of the dorms, why not somewhere more suitable, like Hell?

After all, that's what my room felt like for those three days.

Eric Carlson  
Student

### Dance delight

It's been awhile since I enjoyed watching modern dance as much as I did at the University Student Dance Concert last weekend. I went on Saturday night to watch what I expected to be some mediocre entertainment-on-a-budget. Instead I found myself totally dazzled with the talent, creativity, and originality that was displayed.

The concert featured seven dances created entirely by the students. Each one was a gem; well-conceived, well-implemented, entertaining, provocative and thoroughly enjoyable. While I had a couple of stand-out favorites, any of these dances could be performed professionally and would delight audiences everywhere.

In short, this was a real treat. Thanks to all you dancers and choreographers (and instructors?) who put on such a wonderful show.

Eben Fodor  
Graduate student

# Oregon DAILY EMERALD

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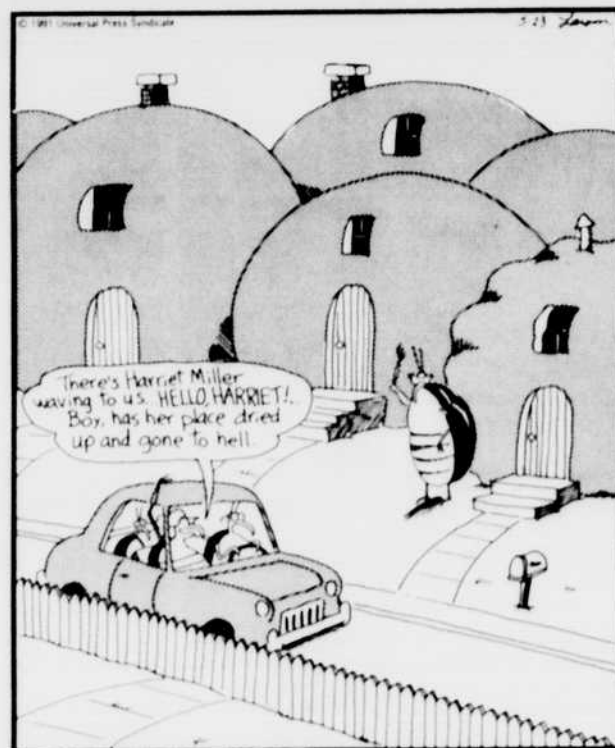
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