

LETTERS

Titles

I am writing this letter in order to correct a few misimpressions concerning the ODE front-page headline ("Students protest Brand's veto of recruiter ban") for Friday, Nov. 8. I was depicted in the article's accompanying pictures as having spoken as Chair of the Residents' Housing Governance Committee for housing students in general. Herein lies a problem.

Regardless of my personal attitude at the rally, I was careful to separate my words as Frank Miles the student from those words of Frank Miles the chair of RHGC. This was not satisfactorily expressed by the article and picture.

Instead, the impression received is that I was speaking for RHGC and housing students. Frank Miles as Chair of RHGC was hoping to engender response from housing students — whether supportive of Brand, supportive of the EMU board or neutral — not to insinuate RHGC's support for the rally's message.

I wanted simply to make this fact known to concerned housing students. Now as to some elements within the ODE staff who believe my position titles should follow my name regardless of context, here are some suggestions for other titles: Senior English/History; University Student; Citizen of Earth.

Frank T. S. Miles
Student

Hefty spending

The Nov. 10 issue of *The Oregonian* has detailed how the free-spending University athletic department paid travel costs for a squad of athletic administrators and their spouses or friends to attend last year's Freedom Bowl game.

Along with hefty bonuses paid to coaches and administrators, the spending meant the athletic department netted less than \$5,000 on bowl revenues of more than \$1.1 million.

But perhaps there's a silver lining here. Dan Williams, vice president for administration, justified paying expenses for friends as well as spouses: "It was an effort not to discriminate on the basis of marital status," he said.

Can we assume this newfound sensitivity will now lead the University to remove its ban on childless unmarried couples in University family housing?

Daniel Pope
History

Make a deal

An open letter to Myles Brand: I was hoping you could do me a favor, sir, and give me a Bachelor of Arts degree at your earliest possible convenience. Education at this university only teaches me to think more schoolishly, in terms coherent to the norm, and I feel I am as successful at that now as I will ever be. My education here, as such, is complete, and I thank you for it.

With the reduced library hours, the elimination of the education school and the restructuring of other majors, it is clear to me that neither you nor the administration have a stake in the students' education and that personally it would do you no harm to grant me a degree and send me happily on my

way.

In fact, the only way you or this school would be hurt is by the loss of tuition money. I need roughly four more terms of credits to graduate; I'd be willing to continue to pay tuition for these terms and we could call it even. To show you what a swell person I am, I'll even make the check out to the athletic department to make it easy for you.

Sure, students, professors, even administrators might not approve, but so what? We've all recently been made aware of the fact that only your opinions and decisions matter anyways.

So what do you say, can we make a deal?

E.A. Sweeney
Student

Training

For shame Chris Bouneff! In your column (ODE Nov. 14), you claim that student government doesn't do much of anything, but consider the following: Jo Sonja Watson has learned to cover up actions that might make her look dishonest or call her judgment into question.

She has learned to claim that her personal life has nothing to do with her public life. She has learned the arrogance of admitting her guilt without apologizing. And best of all, Jennifer Bills and Watson have learned to conspire to deceive those they want to represent.

So Bouneff, don't you think the pathetic little drama of student government has proved a useful training ground for future politicians?

J. Daniel Barnes
International Studies

OPS call

Last Sunday I witnessed a disturbing occurrence which angered me and deserves comment.

A male, in the presence of his girlfriend, pressed a safety call box and laughed.

At the University, there are more than 25 safety call boxes for the protection of the community. The call boxes are a direct line to needed help at the Office of Public Safety.

Barry Martin
Earth First!

When the button is pressed, an employee of public safety responds. Each call is answered and any unanswered call instigates investigation by an officer.

If people abuse the call boxes, the genuine calls for help may be regarded as pranks. It's like the fable, "The Boy Who Cried Wolf."

Please show respect and do not press the call boxes if you are not in need. Not only is it a nuisance, it is subject to fines by the Office of Public Safety. The service is there for the safety of our community and should be respected.

Sarah Schirmer
Student

Ho ho ho

This is in response to the vicious attacks on our Anglo-European history. It pains me deeply, especially at this time of year, that people should question the one personality who has influenced our American heritage.

I often wonder about the patriotism of an individual who would question the integrity of such a renowned Euro-American figure.

The great man had tough decisions to make. So what if he made a few navigational mistakes — big deal! Who among us can say that given the same circumstances, we would have made the good decision?

I have been taught throughout my life and firmly believe that Santa Claus does exist. Many a cold and frosty Xmas eve I have gazed into the snowy night and have been rewarded by a glimpse of his noble sleigh.

Having majored in wildlife biology, I can verify that reindeer are not necessarily confined to the ground.

As proud consuming Americans, let's not quibble over minor historical details. Ignore those Doubting Thomases and stand firm in what you have been taught to believe.

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