

## Court was correct: USSA discriminates

Discrimination, as defined by Webster's, means to make distinctions in treatment, or show partiality or prejudice.

Discrimination, as defined by the ASUO Constitution Court, means a hiring practice which excludes white heterosexual males from a specific job.

Similar definitions? Yes. And both are accurate.

When the court took away funding Tuesday from the United States Student Association campus branch, the reasoning was a national charter rule, which says the group's Affirmative Action Officer must be a "traditionally under-represented person."

Note the word must — not prefer, as affirmative action dictates, but must.

In this case, USSA was discriminatory in its hiring practice.

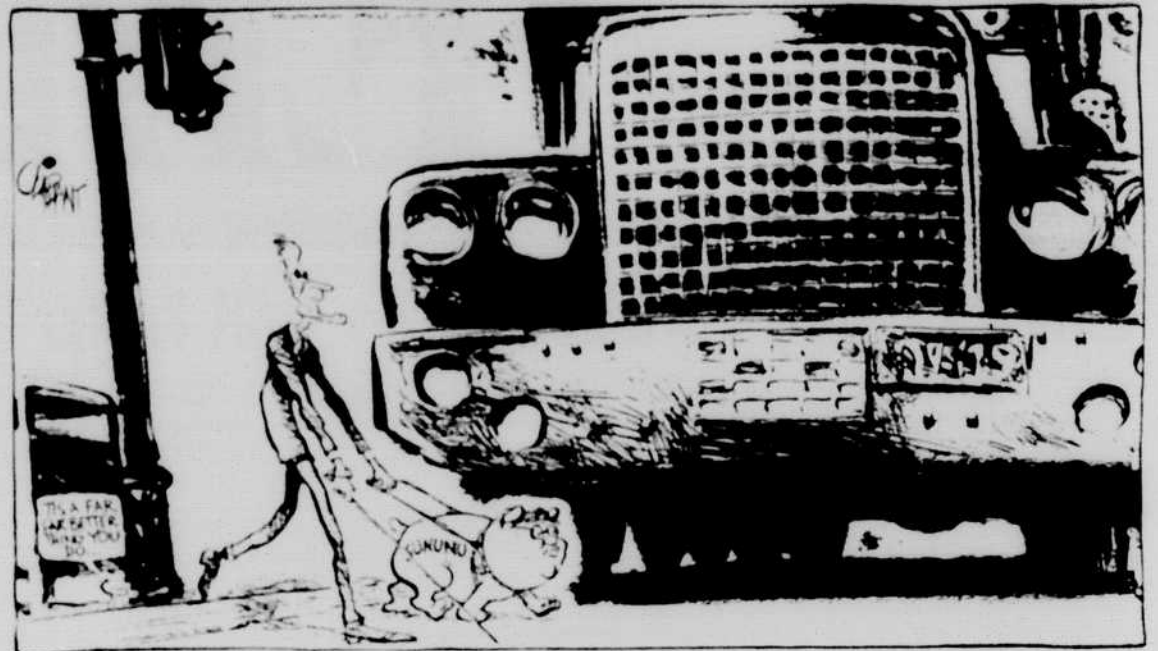
That USSA is a worthy organization is not an issue. The lobbying done by the group on behalf of student interests has been valuable. USSA represents not only the University student body up in Salem, but as a national organization, it also bends ears in Washington, D.C.

But the end does not justify the means, to borrow a cliché. The court ruled USSA was in direct violation of the ASUO Constitution, which states, "Access to activities ... shall not be defined for reasons of sex, race, religion, age, sexual orientation, marital status, handicap, political view, national origin or any other extraneous considerations."

It is hoped this situation will only be a temporary setback to the organization. USSA is a positive force at the University and should do everything within its power to get back on campus and begin receiving incidental fees again.

Unfortunately, the offending statute is in the national USSA Constitution, which means it will be more difficult to change. But it's hoped University representatives will inform the national organization, and positive change will eventually come about.

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MAN'S BEST FRIEND.

## LETTERS

### Coming back

Regarding Russelle Eyre's letter in the Dec. 3 issue of the Emerald. He was right in criticizing the University Bookstore in only having white people in our holiday window display on Kincaid Street. Our intent was to have the window celebrate the cultural diversity that exists on campus which is represented in the native dress of the people.

Although it is not our intent to imply an all-white world through the skin tone of the people, the reality is that I did not communicate effectively to the artist who painted the windows. I regret not doing so. The artist has been called back to do the windows as they should have been done.

Jim Williams  
General Manager  
University Bookstore

snare cinches the animal around the torso. Perhaps in this specific situation, but snares lasso the animal and strangle it to death as it struggles to get free, according to the offices of Defenders of Wildlife, Oregon.

This is not a pretty business. The animals are in pain, terrified, exposed to the elements, and await the person who will come along and shoot them or club them to death.

How about a little compassion in the reporting rather than the cool, aloof stand of the article? It is this same detachment that allows the public to look the other way.

A nice grisly close-up of the jaws of a steel leg hold trap with an animal's mangled leg would be a truer representation of the reality of predator control than the ones used in this article.

Kimberly Kauffman  
Eugene

the nation. No, this we cannot expect. All we want is this: beat Oregon State. Not a lot to ask considering all that we've had to swallow.

On Nov. 23 of this year, the heathen Beavers arrives with the longest losing streak in Division I football. They beat us sure-handily on our sacred Duck nesting grounds. I even saw a duck along the millrace frown (quite an achievement). Never was there more grief in the hearts of Duck fans.

Bill Byrne and Rich Brooks now have one honorable path before them — resignation.

Eric Sowa  
Biochemistry

### Memorial

On Dec. 6, 1989, a man with a semi-automatic rifle killed 14 women and wounded 13 other people in a shooting rampage at the University of Montreal. Witnesses said women were deliberately singled out as targets. At one point the gunman yelled, "You're all a bunch of feminists!" before killing six women at point-blank range. Eventually, the man fatally shot himself. In a suicide note carried by the assailant he faulted women for his series of setbacks. The note said, "Women in general have ruined my life."

Creating A Violence Free Environment (CAVE) is a community coalition concerned with the changing attitudes and values that create and produce violence in our society. We ask that you join us today in remembering the victims of the massacre by dropping off flowers at our memorial display in front of the Federal Building, Seventh Avenue and Pearl Street, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Lynn Rosentrater  
Student  
CAVE member

### Ain't pretty

I am appalled to see two large photographs of Jack Spencer in his role of Federal Trapper for Lane County in the article written by Gerrit Koepping (ODE, Nov. 20).

It is said a picture is worth a thousand words, so I must take issue with the bias these photos promote. The irony is absurd. Spencer is depicted setting a live trap and calling coyote like some benevolent Daniel Boone figure.

The reality of his job can be found in the public records in the Lane County offices.

In the quarterly report of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Jan. 1990, Spencer set 175 steel leg hold traps, 163 M-44 cyanide ejectors, 253 snares, and two live traps. That's 591 lethal devices and two live traps. Why does the photo show a live trap when the preponderance is the cruel and lethal method?

The article also says the

### Too much to ask

The students of the University, the alumni, and the Eugene community put up with a lot this year. We have smiled and turned our heads at the comic routine put on by our athletic department.

Here are a few of the lowlights: enrollment cap abandoned to accommodate tuition-waived athletes; statue in front of the Cassanova Center is proclaimed "ugly" by Bill Byrne, who seeks removal via blow torch; department asks for institutional funds to remove said statue; department boldly asks the state to bail out athletics while the mother of all ballot measures continues to fry other departments.

Now, being the understanding folks we are, we know the Ducks cannot always make it to a bowl in one of the most highly competitive conferences in

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