

## Foundation's club choice a poor one

Often what is proposed in theory does not work in the real world. To be more specific, what is said to be true sometimes isn't.

Case in point: the Waverly Country Club in Portland. Until September 1990, the exclusive club had a policy of not accepting women as full members. As of last fall, there were still no black club members. After intense public criticism, the club changed its policy.

There's the theory.

Currently, there are no women members and the club's general manager won't comment on whether there are any African-American members.

There's the reality.

The Waverly Club has earned its reputation for being exclusionary, if not discriminatory. The fact that, on paper, the club's policy has been changed doesn't mean anything when minorities and women are still not on the membership roles.

Such clubs are sprinkled throughout the country, though not as liberally as they once were. So what does the Waverly Country Club have to do with the University? The University Foundation, a fund-raising group not formally connected with the University, is holding its annual luncheon there on May 9.

The fact that a group connected with the University, even though not formally, is holding a shindig at an exclusive and exclusionary club leaves a bad taste. The University community has always prided itself (sometimes falsely) on its equality stance. It's sad to see the University Foundation trivializing that mentality.

That the University Foundation chose the Waverly Country Club does not seem so much like discrimination as inattention. The foundation certainly didn't pick the club for its exclusionary mind set, but the fact remains that holding the luncheon there is an example of a choice made without regard to its impact on minority students.

After all, if the University Foundation chooses to patronize such a club, what kind of message is that sending? At the very least, it suggests insensitivity.

The University Foundation, in the future, would do well to steer clear of the Waverly Country Club and its ilk. If the foundation's members are truly committed to helping out the University, the interests of the students — minority and otherwise — should certainly be taken into account.

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## LETTERS

### Sacrifice

College Republican Vice President Don King's proposal to reduce student fees by 10 percent needs clarification. From the student fees this year, 41 percent was paid to support the EMU, 23 percent was paid to athletics, and only 30 percent of the fees were used to support the 80 student groups on campus.

Athletics won't be cut. At PSU, President Judith Ramaley just vetoed their IFC's budget because the elected student committee tried to limit the athletics budget by 5 percent. In November, the State Board of Higher Education likewise showed a reluctance to cut athletic funding.

The controversy surrounding student jobs and services that the EMU provides and how those would be sacrificed should their operations budget be cut has been documented.

The "flexible" portion of this budget is what funds the student programs. Groups that provide services for students like Disabled Student Services, child care, the Oregon Daily Emerald, Marching Band, Women's Center, Panhellenic, Legal Services, Recreation and Intramurals may be forced to absorb this supposed 10 percent cut. Because these student groups are only 30 percent of the IFC budget, they may have to take a 33 percent cut in their funding.

Think about what kind of environment this would be without these services, and without students having a right to support the kind of programs they want. Let's fight Measure 5 and the state's unwillingness to fund higher education at an affordable level. Let's not assume the responsibility of funding it ourselves by destroying our student groups.

Deborah Hallick  
OSPIRG chapter chair

### Dodge it

I would like to give my full support for the candidacy of Sara Dodge for the EMU Board of Directors, and encourage

anyone who uses and enjoys the EMU to do so as well.

The EMU depends on the leadership and strategic skills of the student representatives on the board of directors for future direction and development.

This year's board has dug into a lot of issues that will carry over into the next year, and depend on the leadership of the future board, such as restructuring the management, reexamining the efficiency of the child care programs on campus, retaining student jobs at the EMU, seeking alternative revenue sources, battling the effects of Measure 5 on the campus climate, and establishing a constructive relationship with the new EMU director who will take over in June. It is imperative that we have strong student representatives to retain the student voice in these decisions.

In my two years on the board, I have seen few students as effective as Sara Dodge. The fact that many of these issues made it to the forefront is due to the dedication and leadership that she has provided as an EMU board member this year. She fights for what is best for all students.

Please help me in supporting the proven leadership that can make the EMU the best that it can be, and vote for Sara Dodge for the EMU Board of Directors.

Scott H. Dunlap  
Student

### Jerry can

Can voters on the West Coast be satisfied with a presidential primary system rigged to favor conservative Southern states and political party bosses in big Eastern states?

John Silvertooth-Stewart  
Chair  
Oregon for Brown  
Steering Committee

## LETTERS POLICY

The Oregon Daily Emerald will attempt to print all letters containing comments on topics of interest to the University community.

Letters to the editor must be limited to no more than 250 words, legible, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is submitted.

The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length or style.

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