

## Applying for staff can only help paper

Certain students on this campus accuse the *Emerald* of running poorly argued editorials and biased news stories. They also claim the paper exercises bad news judgment; it ignores events worthy of coverage. Although the editors don't always agree with these students, they understand that there are many different sides to any issue. One person's right is another's wrong.

However, the point of this editorial isn't to defend the *Emerald*. Either you like the paper or you don't — one editorial won't change that. Instead, we want to encourage students who find fault to apply for staff positions next year. If you think we do a poor job, come in with constructive suggestions for improving the paper. Put them down on an application. Discuss them in an interview. There's nothing to lose and everything to gain — on both sides.

Late fall term, a controversy arose when a reporter was nearly denied access to a forum on African/Asian-American issues. She wrote a column defending her right to attend. The column drew a variety of responses, mostly negative, from the student body. They varied from "if the white media is going to send 'a member,' they should send someone who does know (the definition of respect)," to "I knew that to have the media coverage would be good, but I knew that it wouldn't fully embrace what was being brought up."

A few of the letters referred to us as the "white media," saying that the paper lacked the perspective of minority students. That's true. If you judge the *Emerald* staffers by the color of their skin, there are only two students of color. However, the only way to change that statistic is for African-Americans, Asian-Americans, Native Americans, international students or others to apply. Few ever do.

Obviously, different racial and ethnic groups have different experiences — and thus different outlooks on daily events. A Jewish student may see a completely different story than a non-Jewish student.

Likewise, an Asian-American student may believe a particular event more newsworthy than a white student — case in point being the Asian/Pacific-American Student Union forum last week, which the *Emerald* did not cover because editors didn't think it was as much a news story as it was a public relations story — the scourge of editors everywhere. However, many international students disagreed. And as staff members, they could have at least discussed its importance and perhaps had a hand in the decision-making process.

Of course, non-white students aren't the only people who have problems with the paper. Many people believe we miss the boat in crucial stories or don't offer insightful analyses of campus issues. Again, regardless of the validity of these criticisms, the only way to truly voice your opinion is to get involved.

**We want to encourage students who find fault with the *Emerald* to apply for staff positions next year**



## LETTERS

### Mock equality

I am writing in response to the ad in the May 3 *Emerald* calling for advertisement sales representatives.

The bottom of the ad says the "*Emerald* is an equal opportunity employer."

But further down in the ad we find out that "you must have reliable transportation ... (sorry, mopeds, motorcycles and bicycles are not acceptable)."

How equal is this? Is the *Emerald* telling us that only people whose economic status — or their parents' — allows them to buy a car are good enough to work for our student paper?

I believe this is classist and discriminatory and makes a mockery of the *Emerald's* pseudo-commitment to equal opportunity.

Tell it like it is. Rich people apply, poor people stay away.

Sharon Sutton  
Student

### 'ODE' snub

I'm writing in response to the *Emerald's* blatant snub of the recent panel discussion on Asian-American issues that was sponsored by the Asian/Pacific-American Student Union.

*Emerald* editors were contacted twice concerning their attendance at the discussion, but they failed to respond, showing their lack of interest and care about Asian-American and students-of-color issues.

This panel discussion focused on the exclusion of Asians from the UMASS scholarship because we are supposedly over-represented, the model-minority myth, interracial relationships and children and about the racism that is created by all those things.

I find it ironic that when the *Emerald* does choose to attend a forum, like the one held fall term, it totally misrepresents it. We were hoping this time there would be a reporter in attendance who could give a more accurate and unbiased view of what was actually taking place.

And last, I wanted to let *Emerald* editors know that although they may have not

thought the discussion was important, it was apparently important enough for Professor Sumi Cho, Professor Clarence Spigner, Marshall Saucedo, Professor Terry Takahashi, Diane Wong, Eugene teacher Misa Joo, ASUO President Bobby Lee, students Seri Luangphinit, Mark Tarutani, Sho Shigeoka, and Alex Ichnioe to attend as panel members.

It was also important enough for University President Myles Brand, Professor Quintard Taylor, and staff Psychologist (mediator) Sandy Tsuneyoshi to attend and participate in discussion along with the many other students in attendance. It appears that in this case, the *Emerald* was the minority.

Jan Harada  
APASU

### Do the math

How would you like it if the University raised your fees by 25 percent to fund the theater and music departments? In return, you could see all the plays and concerts "for free." That's ridiculous, right? I mean, if you want to see a play, you go buy a ticket for it. Or if you really like concerts or theater, you get a season pass.

Most importantly, if you're not into it, you save the bucks and head for Rennie's instead. But this exactly what the Athletic Department has been doing for years with the mandatory athletic fee policy. In this light, the "on demand" system popular at progressive Pacific-10 Conference schools makes good sense — those who go to enough games to make it worthwhile buy a pass; those who don't just buy tickets to individual events.

You do the math and then you decide. And how about the price of a pass? Probably lots higher, right? Nope. The May 4 *Emerald* article cites prices for

passes at other Pac-10 schools between \$50 and \$120, depending on the school. Plus, at most schools, you can even split this to buy a pass for only fall events or only spring events. You decide.

But here at the University, you must pay \$66 a year whether you like it or not. Instead of the current mandatory funding policy, students should have the freedom to choose. Times are tight. Let us do the math. Let us decide if we can afford a season pass.

Eck Doerry  
Computer Science

### Racist alliance

The recent South African government's admission of secretly developing nuclear weapons, in cooperation with the state of Israel, might come as a surprise to some Americans, but it is hardly so for those who are familiar with the racist practices of both countries.

In fact, South Africa and Israel have a lot in common. Both states firmly believe that they are superior races and have long suppressed the indigenous majority who have lived for centuries in their representative countries. But thanks to Israeli-controlled (dominated) media in this country, little attention is paid to these unholy alliances and such dangerous developments are rarely reported.

The powerful Israeli lobby continues to siphon billions of dollars of U.S. tax payers' money to finance such atrocities without any serious scrutiny of the Congress. In fact, some congressmen are more willing to support cutbacks in health care, the environment and education than confront the Israeli lobby in Washington, D.C.

Tooraj Fooladi  
Iranian Students Association

## 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

# Oregon Daily Emerald

P.O. BOX 3114, EUGENE, OREGON 97403

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published daily Monday through Friday during the school year and Tuesday and Thursday during the summer by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co. Inc., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon.

The Emerald operates independently of the University with offices at Suite 300 of the Erb Memorial Union and is a member of the Associated Press.

The Emerald is private property. The unlawful removal or use of papers is prosecutable by law.

News Editor	Jake Berg	Freelance Editor	Mandy Baucum
Editorial Editor	Martin Fisher	Editorial Editor	Rivers Janssen
Graphics Editor	Jeff Paslay	Sports Editor	Dave Charbonneau
Entertainment Editor	Frey Horn	Supplements Editor	Calley Anderson
	Night Editor: Martin Fisher		

Associate Editors: Tammy Batey, Student Government/Activities: Daralyn Trappe, Community: Colleen Pohlig, Higher Education/Administration

News Staff: Chester Allen, Matt Bender, Justin Brown, Sarah Clark, Meg Dedolph, Amy Devenport, Jen Ellison, Amanda Fernie, Anthony Forney, Beth Hege, Teresa Huntsinger, Rebecca Merritt, Steve Mims, Katy Moeller, Tiffini Mueller, Trista Noel, Ellen Shaw, Erick Studenicka, Marion Sultor, Randy Thieben, Michele Thompson-Aguilar, Amy Van Tuyt, Todd Williams, Clayton Yee

General Manager: Judy Riedl Production Manager: Michele Ross

Advertising: Tom Leech Sales Manager, Shawn Berven, Office Manager, Jane Irola, Teresa Isabelle, Philip Johnson II, Chris Kanoff, Jeremy Mason, Van V. O'Bryan II, Gillian Oh, Rachael Trull, Angie Windheim

Classified: Becky Merchant, Manager, Barry Logan, Sharon Sauve

Distribution: Brandon Anderson, Nick Manning, Graham Simpson

Business: Kathy Carbone, Supervisor, Judy Connolly

Production: Ingrid White, Production Coordinator, Kristine Granger, Dee McCobb, Stacy Mitchell, Jennifer Roland, Jennifer Smith

Newsroom	346-5511	Display Advertising	346-3712
Business Office	346-5512	Classified Advertising	346-4343