

Tacos, tacos as far as the eye can see

Taco Bell is comin' to town.

Students, faculty and University employees have been promised multi-billion-serving fast food outlets in the EMU for years, but the prospective deals have always fallen through. Now it looks like the home of the 59 cent taco will have a place in the Fishbowl.

The plans call for part of the Fishbowl to be turned into a Taco Bell stand. To satisfy the quirky, Eugene/Pacific Northwest self-image, a self-service yogurt bar and gourmet espresso stand are also included in the project.

It's heartening to see a University administrative group — *gasp* — actually listening to students. In a questionnaire last year, students said they wanted Mexican food. And the EMU Board listened.

If all goes well, Taco Bell will be part of the University campus when classes start in the fall.

And it's about time, too.

While EMU Food Services offers a pretty good variety of lunch items, the selections often aren't practical. If you have the luxury to schedule a lunch break in your daily routine, great. But sometimes when you're pressed for time and need something quick, the selection narrows to high-priced sandwiches in the Fishbowl or a stale bagel.

Fast food is exactly that — something quick to munch on while walking to a lecture class or symposium. If nothing else, a Taco Bell on campus will throw a little more variety into the menu.

But all that aside, bringing a national food conglomerate to the University means one thing: money.

It's expected students will flock to the Taco Bell banner. If that happens, more students will eat in the EMU, meaning the University won't lose money to the numerous restaurants perched on the edge of campus. At a time when the University has to struggle for every doled-out state buck, every little bit helps.

Local vendors may not like it, but there is nothing wrong with a little healthy competition.

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LETTERS

To the rescue

At some point, there is a time when you simply cannot continue to ignore problems that stem from elected officials who have more excuses than answers.

My decision to join the Incidental Fee Committee resulted from my frustration toward the IFC's lack of commitment throughout this whole budget season. Student programs and branches of student government had their backs against the wall wondering whether their funding was going to be secured for the upcoming year. The breakdown of the IFC began to threaten the welfare of student employees, student programs, campus events, ASUO professional staff and contractual agreements with outside services that could result in litigation against the ASUO. To top this off, IFC members could not meet their own quorum to remedy these problems.

After witnessing this throughout the year, I resigned and got voted onto the IFC by the Student Senate to quickly finish the budget process and complete the budget book for all ASUO programs, the Athletic Department and the EMU.

Anne Wagoner, former IFC member, Marna Gehrke, former ASUO finance administrator and I stayed up for nights finishing the budget book, restoring the IFC minutes and creating two day training for the new IFC

members.

Often, some student leaders use rhetoric such as student empowerment as their means to gain personal power, while student programs and services continued to be ignored. I simply could not tolerate irresponsibility any longer.

Bobby Lee
Former ASUO president

Offer expired

Just for the record, I called the linguistics department Tuesday, June 1, and offered free instruction in Arabic if the department was willing to offer such a course this summer. This came after some letters appeared in the *Emerald* complaining about the lack of multicultural courses. In other words, it was my humble contribution to the process of lighting a candle instead of just cursing the darkness. Now, after three weeks without a reply, I thought I'd better add, "Offer expires June 22" to the original text.

Abed Khooli
Physics

Attended WOSC?

This letter is written as an outcry to your community for information. I am seeking any graduates and current/prior stu-

dents that attended Western Oregon State College and who have been experiencing any serious illnesses.

I know of five young women, besides myself, ages 21 through 26, who have all had cancer in the upper body. Whether the cancer was in the brain, throat, sinuses or anywhere, the fact still remains — we all lived in this area during the same years.

I do know that recent water tests have revealed dangerous asbestos quantities in the water system in Monmouth and surrounding areas. Currently, residents have been ordered not to drink or bathe in the water until the problem can be fixed.

If you, or if you know of anyone, even the deceased, who have been experiencing health problems and live or lived in this area, please write to me: Y. Bell, 2761 John St., Juneau, AK 99801. Thank you for your help.

Yvonne Bell
Juneau, Alaska

Grammar condoms

What has happened to the *Emerald*? Back in my day (late 1970s), we weren't afraid to use offensive language in print. Now all I see are prophylactic dashes. Give me a (freaking) break.

Mike Lee
Class of '81, MA '91

Oregon Daily Emerald

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