

Students lose more than seats at The Pit

The students' loss is, well, the students' loss.

A tentative agreement reached on Monday between Athletic Director Rich Brooks and ASUO President Eric Bowen will cost students 98 seats at McArthur Court. The new arrangement is not as bad as it could've been — the athletic department originally wanted to take more than twice as many seats — but it is still far from ideal.

However, student seats are not the only things that have been lost during this whole episode, which began when two rows of student fans were booted from their seats at halftime during the Ducks' Feb. 26 game against Arizona.

First, there is the loss of goodwill between students and the athletic department. The *Emerald* received more than half a dozen vociferous letters in the wake of the event, all condemning either the athletic department, Brooks, or both. It is unlikely that these students would be satisfied with any arrangement which costs them nearly 100 seats.

It is also possible that the basketball team will lose some of its only recently acquired student support. After several years of struggling, the Ducks are beginning an improvement trend, and attendance at The Pit has been improving accordingly. The athletic department should be happy that the students are there, rooting on the team.

Even though students pay less than non-students for their seats, they still help the bottom line. Student support helps the team win, and winning sells more non-student tickets.

Unfortunately — at least from the perspective of reserved ticket holders — student support involves (heaven forbid) standing up once in a while.

If the loss of student seats keeps some students away from the game, then ultimately everyone suffers. The net loss of 98 seats may not have a serious effect on attendance (after all, there are plenty of places to sit for all who would attend) but it certainly won't help.

The whole affair was poorly handled. If students' standing up was a problem at the beginning of the season, as the athletic department has said, it should have been dealt with then, or put off until the end of the year. At the very least, it should have been taken care of before the Arizona game, not in the middle of it.

And the compensation that the students will receive in return for their 98 seats will leave something to be desired. Suggestions which have been made include t-shirts or other souvenirs, which would be given to students who come to the remaining two home games. This is seen as a way to pay back loyal Duck fans, rather than the entire student body. But nothing has been settled, and students should make sure the athletic department follows through with its plans to pay for the 98 seats they've taken.

For now, however, the matter appears to be settled. All that remains is for Duck fans to cheer on the team, and for the athletic department to avoid antagonizing those fans during the final two games of the season. Good luck.

ATTENTION STUDENTS, THE ONLY TESTS THAT WILL BE ACCEPTED ARE THOSE DONE WITH THE PENS THAT I HOLD IN MY HAND. ALTHOUGH THEY COST ME 25¢ A PIECE, I AM WILLING TO SELL THEM TO YOU AT THE LOW, LOW PRICE OF ONLY \$19.95. ANY OF YOU WHO HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THIS, CAN DISCUSS IT DURING MY OFFICE HOURS AT THE RATE OF \$3.99 FOR THE FIRST MINUTE, AND \$2.99 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL MINUTE...



THE "REWARDS" OF TEACHING

LETTERS

Class packets

Regarding the J101 packet: The class that I attended last term with about 200 students was never told that the packet was optional. In fact, we were told a part of our grade depended on assignments that could only be found in the class packet.

On top of that, either the GTF or Mr. Clark would then randomly select students to check if their assignments were complete. If you weren't checked, you received full credit for the assignments. If you were selected and the assignments weren't complete, too bad. You had two days to complete them or your grade suffered. How fair of a practice was that? J101 is a helpful class, but it needs some serious help of its own.

Colleen Hilburger
Pre-Journalism

Live in harmony

If everyone could live in harmony with his fellow man, life would be very pleasant for everyone. Unfortunately, many do not. Instead, people abuse their power over their fellow men.

Today more than 40 years have passed since the beginning of the occupation, domination and oppression of the Israelis over the Palestinian homeland. This is the problem Palestinian people face. Everyday they are treated as second-class citizens.

Once again the face of the real aggressor has been shown. A bloodthirsty settler has massacred defenseless worshipers. What is unbelievable is that these people were terrorized while they were fasting and praying.

After that, innocent youth and children came on to the scene to protest and were gunned down by the Israeli army.

Why would Palestinians continue to live in this oppressed condition, especially when the threat of Israel's aggression is so real and constant?

For Palestinian people, the only option is to accept the burden of struggle and eventually taste the joy of victory. They are inspired by the liberating teaching of Islam, "Those who are slain in the way of God — He will never let their deeds be lost." Qran, Muhammad:4

Here is the heritage, the history and culture. Palestinian roots are deep in this land. The land

contains the bones of their ancestors and will contain the bones of their grandchildren. No one can change history with manipulation, coercion lies and force.

Many invaders came - the Tatars, the Romans, the French, the British. However, Palestinians were there then, and they will remain.

Ali Keyhanford
Eugene

Change labels

Emerald editors, I am extremely surprised and disappointed with your opinion regarding the library's decision to change the JAP labels to JPN (*ODE*, March 1). Just because it should have been done long ago doesn't mean it's a waste of time and money now. We were quite willing to allow ample time to correct the problem - just the library's acknowledgement of its oversight is an accomplishment.

When I, a Caucasian American, see the word "Jap," label or not, I am greatly bothered (as I am by all racist jokes or comments). Who would allow such an offensive word to exist in any context knowing its connotations?

And how can the elimination of a derogatory term, however inadvertently applied, be called "a useless change?" If you advocate incorporating Japanese culture into the United States, how can you ignore the fact that eliminating this label is part of the very process you advocate?

Open your eyes and hearts; get real! Just because the offense doesn't involve you personally is no reason to deem it unworthy of change. I thought the *Emerald* would stand above such clumsy racist attitudes, especially in an editorial column.

Your excuse that the content of the material is more important than the label indicates a cruel insensitivity. And your statement that we should "look beyond the label" is the same type of rationalization that makes racist jokes "acceptable" in our society (Gee... it wasn't directed to anyone in particular).

So...how many *Emerald* editors does it take to screw in a light bulb? None. They all look beyond the fact that it needs changing.

Brian Bogart
Japanese

Thanks MEChA

Thanks a million, MEChA! Last year I came to visit the University and found the existence of MEChA. That's why I am here. The MEChistas were encouraging, supportive and role models to the Latino high school students. Latinos are the No. 1 dropout, so we need leaders like MEChistas to help our youth stay in school.

Excuse us for causing such a sinful act, like asking for an extra couple of cents. The IFC doesn't see it as helping but bullying it around. For once, open your eyes IFC and smell el cafe! We are tired of being bullied around by you when our efforts are to serve our gente.

Susan Sanchez
MEChA Member

Human race

The quotes in the *Oregon Daily Emerald* Thursday, March 3, from me are: "I know of no racism shown to me. But I wouldn't have eyes to see it because I don't go looking for it. Racism is a complicated issue. But no, to answer your question, I don't think the ASUO is racist, that I know of.... Regardless of the climate at the ASUO, I wouldn't quite because my first duty is to the students."

I didn't mean to stir any controversy over my own straight-from-the-heart, unplanned, unrehearsed statement to the *Emerald*. My statement in no way suggests that racism doesn't exist in the world, in the United States or in the University.

I would appreciate feedback from any staff member who experiences racism. Together, we can all try to fight it in our staff meetings.

I don't believe in fighting racism with pre-judging. I don't believe in fighting racism or any divisive "ism" with stupidity or ignorance. I believe there is only one race, the human race.

This is the beauty I see.

In the words of Eden Ajrian-Omari: "I implore every single person that something is put in place in communities so that others don't have to spend their time with these issues."

This is a good call to action. We can begin by doing unto others as we would like them to do unto us!

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