

LETTERS

Don't talk

I am very frustrated with the Greek system as a whole. This past week was Disability Awareness Week and we saw every fraternity and sorority coming out and getting involved for just one week out of the entire year. This can be viewed in two different ways. Number one: They really cared about the issue and wanted to get involved. Number two: It was just a publicity campaign that made them feel like they were making a difference on campus and in the community. I would like to take the second view.

As an individual who is physically challenged and who is actively involved in student government and, as the only physically challenged person that I am aware of who went through Rush four consecutive times but was turned down every time, I find their involvement in Disability Awareness Week to be the joke of the year. How can they honestly say that they know anything about the issues if there are no physically challenged members of the Greek system? They cannot — they have no idea what it's like.

For some strange reason the fraternities that turned me down had the false notion that my disability would affect their party atmosphere. They thought my disability would hinder my ability to party. But I love to party! And I have many friends who will attest to that fact! The Greek system's lack of knowledge and sensitivity to people with disabilities is painfully clear.

Remember — if you can't walk the talk, then don't talk!

Matthew E. Hasek
Political Science

No support

When I saw the recent memo regarding the "UO Statement on Family Support," my first thought was, "Is this a bad joke?" I am a student parent who has worked my way through both undergraduate and graduate school at the University over the past six years. Except for the flexibility of a few individual instructors, I have found the University to be anything but supportive.

When I came home this evening and found a copy of this same memo on the front door of my Amazon apartment, the

irony and insult were just too much. Asking Amazon residents — of all people!! — to comment on how "supportive" and "pro-family" this institution is? Come on!!

It is by now common knowledge that the University has made very attempt to eliminate Amazon, thus effectively reducing opportunities for low-income/student parents' access to higher education. It has been only through the persistent organizing and protest of residents and community activists that the demolition originally scheduled for this spring has not yet taken place. As it stands, the future of Amazon remains uncertain.

If this University had any legitimate concern for students with family responsibilities, or any sense of social or economic justice whatsoever, it would recognize that access to affordable housing and child care are *THE primary issues* students with families face. These concerns deserve and need to be taken seriously. The University's attitude toward Amazon and its residents and the fact that this "concern" appears as the *last* item on the committee's list of stated priorities, shows me that they are not.

Theresa Lowrie
International Studies

Yay KWVA

I am a resident of Springfield and I enjoy the campus radio station, KWVA. They do good work. I listen to campus radio every day. It's the best radio station in Eugene, and it's also my favorite.

Tony Gallo
Springfield

Hotline

Have you ever asked yourself what responsibilities your landlord actually has? Or if your landlord can just come in any time? What about how often your landlord can raise your rent? If you have, you're not the only one. OSPIRG's Renters Hotline answers these questions and more every day, from students and others from around the state.

Access to a place to live is an essential need of everyone and people with limited resources are often at the mercy of those who manage rental housing. I

got involved, as an undergraduate, with the OSPIRG Renters Hotline because it was a way to get directly involved in helping students and others from around the state.

Although I focused on helping with tenant-landlord problems, other students at OSPIRG worked on different issues important to us all. These included efforts at campaign reform, increased recycling, relief for hunger and homelessness and education of children about these issues. No other group on campus works on as broad a range of issues with the effectiveness that OSPIRG does. I urge you to vote on April 26 and 27, and I urge you to vote yes for OSPIRG.

Matthew Johnson
Law

For 4

On April 26 and 27, students have an opportunity to make a difference locally and globally by voting yes for recycling Ballot Measure 4. Recycling at the University was the result of grass roots efforts of the students in the Survival Center and OSPIRG to institutionalize environmental issues on campus. In 1990, the administration made a commitment by forming the campus recycling program at the physical plant. The students voiced strong support by providing some funding toward this effort. In three years' time, the campus and student recycling programs have worked together to recover over 30 percent of campus waste. There is so much more needing to be done; starting with a comprehensive inside/outside beverage container collection program, full recycling in living organizations (Greek houses, co-ops, residence halls and family housing) and a community drop site for students who don't have curbside service.

Students need to make another commitment to campus recycling efforts to ensure its future. UCLA just dropped its program and is now incinerating its waste, not recycling it. By voting yes on Measure 4, you will make a difference. A yes vote is a vote for opportunity, empowerment, 24 new student jobs, commitment and change. Together we can make a difference. Thanks for recycling!

Karyn Kaplan
Recycling Coordinator
Campus Recycling

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We call it recycling, Tah-Ha-Chet called it living

His people made everything by hand. From clothes to shelter to food, everything was hand-crafted with pride. It was with this same pride that Native Americans like Chief Tah-Ha-Chet of the Apache took care of their land.

They lived in such a way that everything was part of a greater vision. They lived with the land, not in spite of it. Recycling was not a chore — it was a lifestyle.

But don't try to change the world. First change the way you live, maybe then you can tackle the whole planet.

It's not garbage until you throw it away.

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For more information call: **Campus Recycling 346-1529**

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