

■ LETTERS

OSPIRG bloated

What could \$135,300 buy today? What could we as a student body do with \$135,300? Students would probably want to put this money toward good use: increasing child care subsidies, increasing availability of financial aid to those who need it, improving public safety, the list goes on and on...

This amount is exactly the part of our incidental fees we blindly throw at OSPIRG, self-proclaimed defenders of the environment and voice of the student populous here and at three other schools in Oregon. Yet what do we see here locally? Student Senator Sarah Keech says precious little, and I have to agree. It seems our \$135,300 disappears into a bloated state agency that does little for the public interest and a lot for OSPIRG henchman Joel Ario.

In a later letter, Brian Imus said this money gets us the largest student meeting ever, displays in the EMU, and the numerous leaflets and announcements that are religiously placed on tables around campus. These must be expensive pamphlets! Is it all that difficult to see we aren't getting our

money's worth here?

Finally, OSPIRG should listen to its own sermon on environmental responsibility. If they did, they would wake up and realize they are the ones that are wasting reams of paper, ink and energy on signs, pamphlets and other propaganda that are not truly in the student public interest.

Aaron Ray
Planning, Public Policy and Management

Sacramentalized

Just a couple points of clarification regarding the article on the "Catholic Bible Study" program. While it does begin at noon in the EMU Century Room F, it is only offered on Tuesday. And my comment should have read "... Catholic kids are sacramentalized but sometimes not evangelized," as opposed to "internalized but not evangelized." Again, thanks to Jamie Pope for the article.

Jordan Vajda, O.P.
Newman Center

Get a life

You said, "Get a job." I said "Get a life." I apologize. Maybe I

was thinking about all the people I meet who don't pick the path they are on. Maybe I was thinking about how hard the University tries to present a multiculturally diverse atmosphere to anyone wanting an education. Maybe I was just surprised. In the three years I have occasionally walked around campus picking up bottles and cans trying to make ends meet and the literally thousands of people I have passed, I have never had a student say anything even remotely rude to me. Maybe it's time I say thank you.

Thanks to the people who have tossed me a can and said, "Here's a nickel." Thank you to the people who throw any beverage container in the recycling bin. Thanks to the people who have said, "It's 4:20, let's have a discussion." Thanks to the people who only had a sunny smile on a cloudy day. Thanks to the people who put in so much effort. College isn't easy. You may be here and now, but you are also the future. Thanks. Those experiences are worth more than any number of bottles and cans I could ever pick up.

I had a job paying the big bucks at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. Some mornings, more than a billion dollars worth of

yen, D-mark, francs and other foreign currency contracts would pass through my hands before 7:20 a.m. when the markets would open. High pay. High stress. I thought I would take a couple of weeks off to make sure it's what I wanted to do with my life. That was 1989.

You said, "Get a job." I said "Get a life." Again I apologize. Please open your eyes to this beautiful and diverse Earth we live on.

And by the way, I have a job. I

work with Gary Kutcher and the Forest Conservation Council. We try to walk that frayed tightrope between saving the environment and providing jobs. It doesn't pay much, however, the rewards are greater than I ever had being "financially secure" with money as my goal. But I guess everyone figures something like that out somewhere down the line, don't they.

Thank you, and go Ducks!
Martin Anthony Johnston
Eugene

Rural Oregon Confronts the Right

Marcy Westerling, founder, the Rural Organizing Project

Tuesday, Feb. 7

2-4 p.m. Cedar Room F, EMU
7-8:30 p.m. First Congregational Church, E. 23rd & Harris, Eugene

Since it formed in 1992 to oppose Ballot Measure 9, the Rural Organizing Project has helped groups in 52 of Oregon's smaller communities to fight intolerance, bigotry, and a theocratic takeover of public schools.

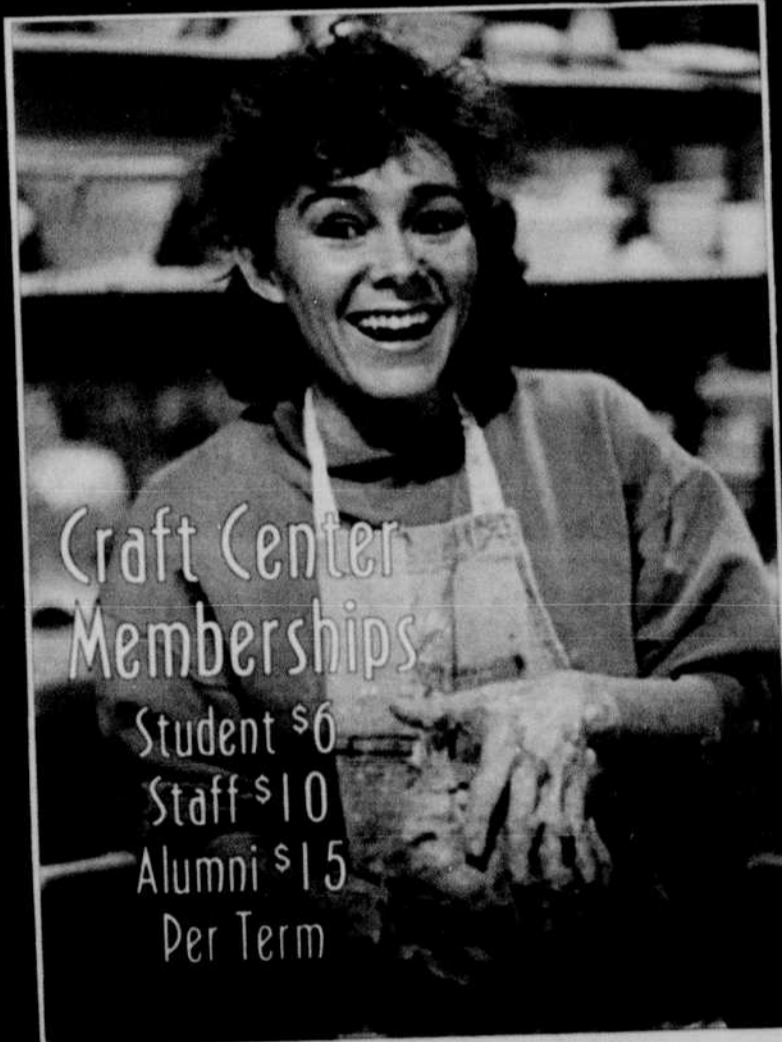
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February 8, 11AM-2PM

Winter Equipment Swap!

Wednesday, Feb. 8
7:30 p.m.
EMU Ballroom

Buy or sell outdoor gear. Come early for the best deals and table space.

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346-4365

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tickets on sale

Jim Carroll	\$4.00 UO st. \$6.00 GP	Valentine Dance	\$10.00
Everclear	\$5.50	UO Queer Film Festival Pass	\$9.00 UO st. \$15.00 GP
The Meditations	\$10.50	Trixxer	\$10.50
Steel Pulse	\$12.00 UO st. \$15.00 GP	Holly Near	\$10.00 UO st. \$14.00 GP

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