

Parking puzzle

I've listened to a number of reasons why there is opposition to shifting even a portion of the Bean Complex car storage to Autzen Stadium to accommodate commuter needs. Among them are: "This is my home!" "You should just plan your day better" and "My mom knows how to schedule her work day so that she gets a good parking spot early." And finally: "Parking my car at Autzen will put both my person and my car at risk!" Though I resent being instructed on time management by a youth who hasn't raised children while working, these are valid comments.

But having spent a few weeks examining the entire transportation picture as well as being relegated to the south end of the Bean lot on a regular basis, I still feel that imbalance is evident in the Bean lot.

The 300 to 500 resident cars that dominate the north end of the lot are indicative of a recent trend. In the last five years, the number of student permits purchased has steadily increased. During the 1994-95 school year, the ratio was 2,750 for faculty/staff and 3,174 for students.

In 1990-91 faculty/staff bought 2,096, and, in spite of higher enrollment, students only bought 1,784 permits.

Many in the campus community would prefer building an enormous garage, a site is yet to be determined, and would like to forget about using the vast expanse across the river to accommodate faculty, staff and student parking. Yet, for much less than a few million dollars, which is what a parking structure would probably cost, shuttle options and vigorous safety measures could be implemented if the Autzen Stadium space is utilized.

There are some questions to consider: If resident students continue to store their cars in the Bean lot, would it be accept-

able to charge them a higher rate for their reserved spots and locate said spots at the south end of the lot? Should there be limitations to which students are allowed to bring cars to campus? Given that safety concerns are primary deterrents to the utilization of the Autzen Stadium space on a regular basis, shouldn't we be striving to address this issue?

Star Holmberg
American English Institute
Transportation Review
Working Group

Misquoted

I am struck by the irony that in the same edition of the *Emerald* where I was terribly misquoted, a guest commentary from Daniel G. Hunter starts with, "I was interviewed by phone for the *Emerald* and I apologize if my comments misled the reporter." Perhaps Hunter will allow me to borrow his phrase.

On May 30, the *Emerald* ran two stories written by Regina Brown regarding Promise Keepers and the concerns of many members of the community about this group's impending presence in August. As Brown prepared her pieces, she contacted me to obtain my reaction to the University's decision to lease Autzen Stadium to this male Christian organization. Unfortunately, she misinterpreted my comments and reported them incorrectly.

In her article, she said, "Stephanie Carnahan, a lesbian who works for Student Life Educational and Support Services, helped the University administration develop a lease with Promise Keepers." Aside from the relatively minor error with regard to my title (Coordination of Educational and Support Services), she grossly misrepresented my comments saying that I helped develop the lease with Promise Keepers. I assure you that not only was I not a part of this process, but I was unaware that such a lease existed until I learned of the event from a local

television station. What I did say to Brown is that as a member of the "administration," I find myself in a precarious position with regard to the conflict surrounding the lease. I certainly understand the need to protect everyone's right to free speech; at the same time, an individual's right to a safe and non-hostile living, learning and working environment is equally important.

While making this clarification may seem trivial to some, I want to make it clear to the entire campus community that I had no hand in this process. As Brown later states in her article, "Dan Williams, vice president for administration ... is responsible for leasing Autzen Stadium."

As to the question of the anti-gay/lesbian/bisexual and anti-woman views of the Promise Keepers and their presence on our campus, I am extremely pleased and encouraged by the amount of positive dialogue happening on our campus as well as within the larger community of Eugene. This is a great opportunity for people from many different constituencies to come together to address issues of importance to all of us. Let's keep the lines of communication flowing and work together as a campus community to find mutually respectful solutions to this difficult issue.

Stephanie Carnahan
Office of Student Life

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