

Gratitude

OSPIRG would like to thank the *Emerald* for their Wednesday coverage of our most current and final event of the term: the Jasper Mountain/SAFE Center nature trail project. However, I would like to clear up some misunderstanding and misinformation describing the services that SAFE provides.

SAFE (Stabilization Assessment and Family Evaluation) is a new program component of SCAR/Jasper Mountain Center. It is important to note that all of the kids who stay at the Jasper Mountain facility are not victims of child abuse. Most importantly, the kids have not "often experienced some sort of abuse."

The children come from a wide-range of backgrounds. Many of the kids are emotionally disturbed and are experiencing challenging situations.

SAFE is the only evaluation facility in Oregon for children ages 5-12. SAFE's goal is to have the children experience the most suitable placement in order to increase the chances for success.

Jill Godick
SAFE Center
Amy Doane and Mike Rounds
OSPIRG

False allegations?

The editor of the *Oregon Daily Emerald* has allowed several accusations about Tooraj Fooladi to be printed. I find it very interesting that not one, but two articles with onerous accusations have been printed.

I have personally checked on allegations regarding Fooladi with campus security, city offi-

cial and the Eugene police department. I have not been able to verify a single one of the accusations.

It is good that the *Emerald* has offered a retraction, but it was so small that it may be too little, too late.

Adam Young
Eugene

Pastors fast

Five members of Pastors for Peace have been fasting for over eight weeks. They are protesting the seizure of hundreds of donated computers for a medical computer network in Cuba.

This seizure of property by the U.S. government at the Mexican border and the subsequent fast has been widely reported in the Canadian and European media but has been ignored in the U.S. media.

Do these people have to fast until death to be deemed worthy of coverage in this country?

I know the real reason for the media blackout and the animosity toward Cuba. It has absolutely nothing to do with democracy, freedom or human rights violations.

General Suharto of Indonesia is responsible for the deaths of a million Indonesians and 200,000 East Timorese. There is no U.S. embargo against Indonesia! That shoots the democracy, freedom and human rights theory straight out of the air!

The real reason is that Cuba is a threat to the international capitalist order and the theory that private greed leads to public good. It is the threat of a good example like their health care system, which does not depend on private insurance companies with their skyscrapers and exor-

bitant CEO salaries and insures everyone and provides good care as evidenced by the low infant mortality rate.

This evidence that people can cooperate instead of compete and produce good results must be destroyed by force — whether by embargo, sabotage or invasion.

I firmly believe that the corporate elite, who are increasingly powerful in this "new world order," will not be satisfied until everything is privatized including the public schools and remaining public institutions in this country. Human beings are even privatized as slavery, including child slavery, is making a major comeback in the Third World and in sweatshops in this country as well.

Starving people into accepting capitalism, which is the present policy toward Cuba, is so evil and satanic that it is astonishing that a nation that claims to believe in morality and human rights can pursue this policy without the populace either breaking up in ridicule or getting angry as hell!

Gary Sudborough
Bellflower, CA

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