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OPINION

editorials, letters, and perspective

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CHRIS HUTCHINSON/Emerald

Ducking the Rolling Stones

OUR OPINION:
When the Athletic Department rejected the popular band, it also rejected students

Autzen Stadium is the largest arena between San Francisco and Seattle. So when the Rolling Stones, one of the most popular rock bands in the world, scouted locations for its new tour, Eugene seemed like the perfect location. Representatives from the band spoke to the University in December about just such a possibility, a Sept. 30 concert to be exact.

Unfortunately, the Athletic Department had other plans.

It turned out the football team had serious "full" practice scheduled for the concert date, a Tuesday, as well as the day after. Nobody, but nobody, messes with full practice for the Ducks football team, the most profitable (by a wide margin) athletic team in the school.

Full practice entails full pads and contact for the team. Sundays are "light" practice days as well as Thursday and Friday. And Saturday ... well, that's game day, and it pretty much speaks for itself.

The AD was worried the concert, a huge montage of lights, sound and extravagance, would interfere with this all-important process. How could the pseudo-deified football team be put out, in any way, in the beginning of the season? The answer was, it couldn't. Not even with the natural grass practice field across the street. Not even with the estimated \$150,000 in revenue from the potential concert. It was too much of a gamble.

er equipment would be pulled down in time for Wednesday practice. To the AD, it was a no-brainer.

This decision to deny the city of Eugene a top-flight concert in place of a guaranteed top-flight practice for the football team reveals two truths. 1) The University cares more about its athletes than it does the rest of the student body and 2) the AD, with such a large venue at its disposal, is unwilling to contribute anything to the University or city besides ... athletics.

On the first point, the University is willing to put student concerns over those of the greater community when those students are athletes, namely very lucrative athletes. But when a concert comes to the EMU, for instance, a building used by hundreds of students every day, any meeting room or venue within 200 feet of the ballroom is emptied. How many students does this inconvenience? How many plans and schedules must be changed for every major concert in the EMU?

It doesn't quite make sense when the University is unwilling to inconvenience student athletes because of a concert opportunity, even rejecting the possibility of changing the location of the activity. Why does it suddenly become such an advocate for student interests? Oh yeah ... those students

are athletes.

Speaking of athletes, why does the AD, with such a major stadium behind it (literally), only focus on athletics? At first glance, this would seem obvious. As the athletic department, athletics would inherently be its focus. And in most cases, this is true. But Autzen is bigger than any of the sports it holds, and ultimately capable of so much more.

The AD has a duty to use Autzen for all events it has the capability of housing, as long as it works out financially. The Stones concert would certainly be more lucrative than a few football practices, so really the decision is more a question of philosophy and long-term gain.

The AD will stand by football until the end. The sport has been too good to the University. Even \$150,000 won't change this fact. Rational thought and financial examination obviously weren't part of the decision. Instead, blind loyalty to a sacred cash cow was the driving force. Placing football on the back-burners, even for just a few days, seemed too dangerous, too much of a departure even to consider.

This is all both sad and a slap in the face of every student who doesn't play in a revenue-generating sport — a large number of people. When it comes to events the whole city could benefit from, we cease to be priorities. The true colors of the AD shine through. And they're not pretty.

This editorial represents the opinion of the Emerald editorial board.

LETTERS

Health Center team

I was pleased to see the large health care supplement you produced for the March 11 *Emerald*. Maintaining health is an important need for our students, and many have a high interest in the topic.

Because of this importance, I feel compelled to point out some errors and misconceptions conveyed by the supplement.

The statement that physicians who work at the Student Health Center are "considered part of the Sacred Heart

medical staff" is incorrect. A few of our physicians are indeed on the medical staff of Sacred Heart or McKenzie-Willamette Hospital, but that does not involve their role at the Student Health Center. We have our own separate and fairly extensive credentialing process for our staff, which is necessary to meet accreditation requirements.

In several places there is the implication that care provided by non-physicians or non-specialists is inferior care. This is a common misconception that is incorrect.

Our nurse practitioners, in particular,

were offended by statements such as "there are other limitations to the services provided... patients will most likely be seen by nurse practitioners." In fact, our nurse practitioners provide excellent care. Some patients prefer seeing nurse practitioners to physicians.

We monitor our patients' satisfaction with care using an ongoing survey. I see a huge number of extremely favorable comments regarding our nurses, nurse practitioners, dental and physical therapy staff and every one of our support staff, as well as physicians.

One approach to delivering care effi-

ciently is to match resources used to those needed for a particular problem. Student health centers throughout the country have been in the forefront by using a variety of non-physicians, such as nurses, nurse practitioners and physician assistants in creative ways.

Students and others are often surprised at the breadth and complexity of services we are able to provide in this manner, saving them the cost and inconvenience of emergency room or specialist visits.

Gerald J. Fleischli, MD
Health Center

Top 10

Top ten signs your professor is insane

10. Randomly spits on students in the first few rows.
9. He insists you call him "Führer."
8. You're taking a political science class, but all the assigned readings are by Beverly Cleary.
7. She replies to every question with, "You want to fight over that, Braniac?"
6. Still believes the University Bookstore is the best deal in town.
5. Constantly drawing parallels between the text and Pauly Shore movies.
4. Every time he hears police sirens he ducks down and crawls out the back exit.
3. Students are given the option of taking the final exam or arm wrestling the professor for a good grade.
2. Grading breakdown: 25 percent midterm, 25 percent final exam and 50 percent karma.
1. She voted yes on Measure 47.

Correction

The reported amount of the raise in President Frohnmayer's salary as reported in the April 1 *Emerald* was wrong. The presidential endowment will increase the president's salary by \$20,000 and the other \$20,000 will go to research. The *Emerald* regrets the mistake.

In the April 7 *Emerald*, the outline for the feature photo entitled "Preparation for the big night," mistakenly stated that International Night would take place on April 12. The correct date for International Night is April 20. The *Emerald* regrets the mistake.