

**Nike misinformation**

Nike recently had a press conference via telephone with 18 student publications around the country (ODE, Oct. 15). University of Oregon students should understand this is a public relations ploy to divert attention away from the International Day of Action that was scheduled Oct. 18. There's no need to read the details on Page Six since the Emerald has summarized the article in a tidy little sound bite in the large green box, "Company officials say conditions and wages for their workers are good."

If you critically read the article, you will find some incredible misinformation that was churned out by Nike labor practice manager Dusty Kidd. He says, "A lot of people sort of put into the memory bank that the average person needs \$2.10 a day just for food ... That's simply not true in a country where

the per capita income is \$300 a year." Per capita income tells us nothing about the cost for basic necessities. The cost for three meals a day in Vietnam is \$2.10. Nike workers make an average wage of 20 cents per hour, or \$1.60 a day. Therefore, the Nike pay in Vietnam is a wage below subsistence level. Kidd tells us the information that the labor right abuses are "anecdotal" and not based on "facts." Here are some facts:

- This year on International Women's Day (March 8) 56 women employed at a factory making Nike shoes in Dong Nai, Vietnam, were forced to run around the factory in the hot sun because they hadn't worn regulation shoes. As a consequence, 12 women were taken to the emergency room (Bob Hebert, New York Times, Mar. 28).

- Jang Mi Baek, a forewoman at the Sam Yang factory in Viet-

nam, lined up women workers and beat them in the face with an unfinished shoe (Far Eastern Economic Review, Aug. 22, 1996).

- Thuyen Ngyen, founder of Vietnam Labor Watch, reported violations of minimum wage and overtime laws and the use of corporal punishment at the Sam Yang Company (Jeff Manning, Oregonian, Mar. 27). Ngyen is not your typical labor activist; he was previously a New York investment banker.

Students should also be aware that Nike recently challenged the sweatshop resolution introduced by shareholders and the United Methodist Church. The Securities and Exchange Commission allowed Nike to omit the sweatshop resolution from its proxy statement (Campaign for Labor Rights, Oct. '97).

For more details on these issues, check out the following

sources:

[www.cleanclothes.org/1/nikehigh.htm](http://www.cleanclothes.org/1/nikehigh.htm)

[www.globalexchange.org/campaigns/nike/faq.html](http://www.globalexchange.org/campaigns/nike/faq.html)

[www.globalexchange.org/campaigns/nike/resources.html](http://www.globalexchange.org/campaigns/nike/resources.html)

clr@igc.apc.org (Request the Stephen Glass article published in The New Republic, Aug. 1997)

**Julia Fox  
Andrea Coukos**  
Sociology department

**Write living will**

Why the euphemisms? Isn't "suicide" the taking of one's own life? If someone else gets into the act, is it still "suicide"?

If we do not do the deed but assist someone who does, we are "accomplices" and share the blame.

Those who take life have been known for ages as murderers, butchers, military aggressors or executioners. Do we really want to add another name to that list — doctors?

If people are determined to kill themselves, they are free to do so, but let them take full responsibility for their actions. Don't dump some of the guilt on a doctor.

As an alternative to "assisted suicide," I suggest that everyone over 18 have a living will refusing extraordinary medical measures and requesting enough painkillers to keep them comfortable should they ever be verified as terminally ill by more than one doctor. Then, should the occasion arise, they can wrap themselves in the love of their families and friends while they get their spiritual and temporal affairs in order. Nature will take care of the rest. Meanwhile, vote yes on Measure 51.

**Veronica Sittion**  
Corvallis

★★★★★  
—Morningstar ratings for the CREF Global Equities Account, CREF Equity Index Account, and CREF Growth Account\*

AAA  
—S&P and Moody's rating for TIAA\*\*

1  
—The 1995 DALBAR Ratings Customer Satisfaction Survey\*\*\*

**"Your service bowled me over."**  
—William Ravdin, TIAA-CREF Participant

**Top ratings from Morningstar, Moody's, S&P, DALBAR, and Bill.**

\*Source: Morningstar, Inc., June 1997 Morningstar is an independent service that rates mutual funds and variable annuities. The top 10% of funds in an investment category receive five stars and the next 22.5% receive four stars. Morningstar proprietary ratings reflect historical risk adjusted performance, and are subject to change every month. They are calculated from the account's three-, five-, and ten-year average annual returns in excess of 90-day Treasury bill returns with appropriate fee adjustments, and a risk factor that reflects performance below 90-day T-bill returns. The overall star ratings referred to above are Morningstar's published ratings, which are weighted averages of its three-, five-, and ten-year ratings for periods ending June 30, 1997. The separate (unpublished) ratings for each of the periods are:

Period	CREF Stock Account	CREF Bond Market Account	CREF Social Choice Account	CREF Global Equities Account	CREF Equity Index Account	CREF Growth Account
	Star Rating/Number of Domestic Equity Accounts Rated	Star Rating/Number of Fixed Income Accounts Rated	Star Rating/Number of Domestic Equity Accounts Rated	Star Rating/Number of International Equity Accounts Rated	Star Rating/Number of Domestic Equity Accounts Rated	Star Rating/Number of Domestic Equity Accounts Rated
3-Year	4/1,423	4/566	4/1,423	5/274	5/1,423	5/1,423
5-Year	4/924	4/364	4/924	5/158	N/A	N/A
10-Year	4/441	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

\*\*These top ratings are based on TIAA's exceptional financial strength, claims-paying ability and overall operating performance. \*\*\*Source: DALBAR, Inc., 1995 CREF certificates are distributed by TIAA-CREF Individual and Institutional Services. For more complete information, including charges and expenses, please read the CREF Prospectus offered above. Read it carefully before you invest or send money.

TIAA-CREF.  
Proven  
Solutions  
To Last  
a Lifetime.

We take a lot of pride in gaining high marks from the major rating services. But the fact is, we're equally proud of the ratings we get in the mail every day from our participants. Because at TIAA-CREF, ensuring the financial futures of the education and research community is something that goes beyond stars and numbers. So from traditional and variable annuities to life insurance and personal savings plans, you'll find we provide the right choices—and the dedication—to help you achieve a lifetime of financial goals. The rating services back us up. So does Bill.

To receive a free Personal Investing Kit, including charges and expenses, plus our variable annuity prospectuses, call us at 1 800 226-0147. Please read them carefully before you invest or send money.

[www.tiaa-cref.org](http://www.tiaa-cref.org)



Ensuring the future for those who shape it.™

*Oregon Daily*  
**Emerald**

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published daily Monday through Friday during the school year and Tuesday and Thursday during the summer by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co. Inc., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon. A member of the Associated Press, the Emerald operates independently of the University with offices in Suite 300 of the Erb Memorial Union. The Emerald is private property. The unlawful removal or use of papers is prosecutable by law.

NEWSROOM

**Editor-in-chief:** Sarah Kickler  
**Managing Editor:** Nicole Krueger  
**Community:** Eric Collins, editor.  
Michael Burnham, Jesse Sowa  
**Entertainment:** Evan Denbaum, editor.  
**Higher Education:** Laura Cadiz, editor.  
Teri Meeuwesen, Megan Turner  
**In-depth:** Ashley Bach  
**Perspective:** Michael Schmierbach, editor.  
Chris Hutchinson, illustrator. Jonas Allen, Kameron Cole, Nicole Kristal, columnists.  
**Student Activities:** Doug Irving, editor.  
Michael Hines, Kristina Rudinskas  
**Sports:** Ryan Frank, editor. Chris Hansen, asst. editor. Joel Hood, Rob Moseley, Alex Pond  
**Copy Desk:** Holly Sanders, copy chief.  
Tammy Salman, Kelly Schulze, Shannon Sneed  
**Presentation:** Matt Garton, editor.  
Pamela Sirianni, Cara Strazzo  
**Photography:** Michael Crisp, editor.  
Wendy Fuller, Chad Patteson, Rose Fung  
**Freelance:** Carl Yeh  
**On-line:** Nicholas Stiffler

BUSINESS

**General Manager:** Judy Riedl  
**Business:** Kathy Carbone, business supervisor. Judy Connolly, receptionist.  
**Distribution:** John Long, Joy Sears, Dave Ovall

ADVERTISING

**DISPLAY:** Becky Merchant, director.  
Leigh-Ann Cyborn, assistant. Yujin Chi, Brian Diamond, Chris Erickson, Lindsay Knaak, Andy Lakefish, Justice Rhodes, Erick Schiess, Rose Soll, Matt Solomon, Chris Suydam  
**CLASSIFIED:** Anne Amador, manager.  
Danielle Ing, Katie Krystkiewicz, Kate Lamb

PRODUCTION

Michele Ross, manager. Tara Sloan, coordinator. Shawna Abele, Joselyn Bickford, Susan Head, Melissa Lebahn, Leah Lekas, Laura Lucas, Leanne Nelms, Brandt Nelson, Broc Nelson, Katie Nesse, Sylvia Tewes, Serena Williams

NEWSROOM (541) 346-5511  
BUSINESS OFFICE (541) 346-5512  
DISPLAY ADVERTISING (541) 346-3712  
CLASSIFIED ADS (541) 346-4343

**Correction**  
An article in last week's edition of Well Now, which is published by the University Health Center, incorrectly stated that RIM intramural sports are free. In fact, fees range from free to \$40. Nor is crew an intramural sport, as the article suggested. Well Now regrets the errors.

