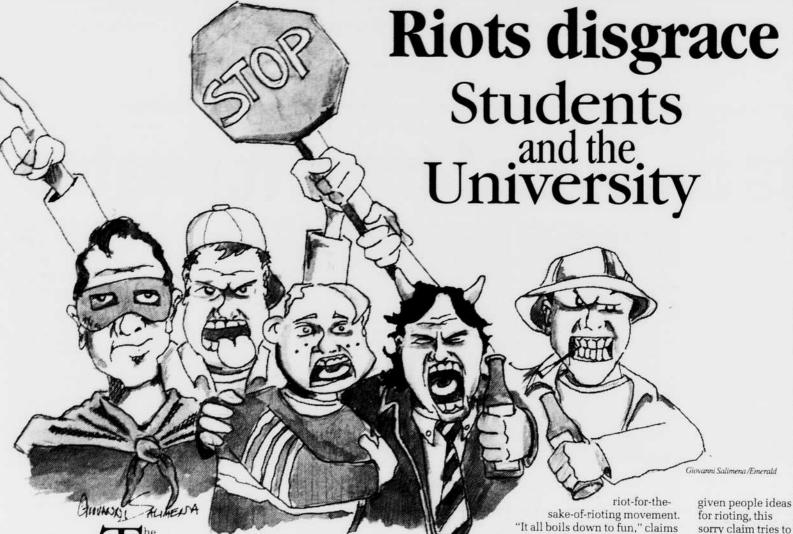
NEWSBOOM (541) 346-5511 E-MAIL odele oregon, upregon adu ON-LINE EDITION: www.uoregon.edu/--ode

## PERSPECTIVES

EDITOR IN CHIEF Ryan Frank EDITORIAL EDITOR Kameron Cole Stefanie Knowlton



Recent student riots across the country are prompted by intoxication and stupidity

University is known for its athletic program, top research facilities and Halloween riots. The first two attributes enable students to feel a sense of pride; the last characteristic should

Yet another Halloween has passed with students taking to the streets throwing stop signs, lighting lamp posts on fire and generally behaving like idiots on Alder Street between 16th and 20th avenues.

And what is the point to all the rioting? Has there been an infringement on students' rights that everyone but the handful of rioters is unaware of?

Unfortunately alcohol-induced student riots are not unique to the University or the nation. This is the third Halloween riot here in three years, and riots at universities nationally are a growing trend that accounts for eight this year.

These riots seem to be prompted by little more than drunk students becoming violent. The Oregonian wrote on Oct. 31 that recent student riots are "the 1990s version of anti-war protests."

But what social injustice are students rioting against? Unlike antiwar protests that stood for ending the Vietnam war, these riots are prompted by intoxicated losers who could not find anything better to do on a Saturday night.

As students in the '90s, is this what we want to be known for? Is this our cause? We think not. There is no cause behind these riots. It's blind stupidity, and that's not something we hope to be remembered for.

Before you decide for yourself, let us quote some of the members of the

"It all boils down to fun," claims Josh Connoloy, a visiting Portland Community College student.

Well, if tear gas and getting arrest-ed is his idea of fun, then he certainly had a lot of it Saturday night.

Leroy Jenkins explains, "The cops are just house Nazis. They think that just because they wear a badge they can do anything.

Yeah, students throwing stop signs at police officers is no reason to get all upset.

Are these the chosen leaders of our generation? As a student body we should be outraged at this behavior. It degrades the name of the University and all who attend. We need to collectively take a stand against rioting. It is embarrassing to the University, the city and the state.

Although a number of students have chosen to blame the police and publications such as the Oregon Daily Emerald and The Register-Guard for their riot coverage that may have

SAID

"Last year everyone was pissed at the cops, this year everyone is pissed at each other ... This year it's about students' stupidi-Ron Weaver.

University senior "It all boils down to fun."

Josh Connoloy, Portland Community College student

"It's a U of O tradition. It's a part of Halloween. We like to have a good time." Grant Blume, University sophomore

"We're not making too much noise. They're looking for an excuse. I mean, this is how they justify their paychecks." Matthew Putman, University junior

"The cops are just house Nazis. They think that just because they wear a badge they can do anything. Leroy Jenkins, unknown

in the actors. It's time to take responsibility for your actions and stop embarrassing the rest of us.

excuse the rioters

from their behav-

blame. It's a scape-

While the Emer-

have brought back

the memories of

last year's riot, it

blame. The Emer-

peteer for rioters.

The problem lies

ald is not a pup-

can't take the

ior and shift the

ald or Guard's

coverage may

goat

This editorial represents the opinion of the Emerald editorial board. Responses may be sent to ode@oregon.uoregon.

