

Columnist forgiven

As those responsible for the reactions to Vince Medeiros' column over the past week, we would like this opportunity to clarify our intentions. Our main concern is the way that the Emerald functions as a paper. Medeiros' column (ODE, April 2) is merely representative of an editorial policy that places more weight on misspelled words and misplaced commas than on words that perpetuate racism and violence against women. Accordingly, our meeting with Emerald editors focused on their editorial standards and the implications of this past week on the future conduct of the Emerald. We have never meant to attack Vince as a person. Vince has approached us personally to express his regret and apologies for the column and plans to extend this to other concerned groups of students. We respect and commend his current ability to use the commotion as a learning experience and appreciate that we have been able to engage in respectful dialogue. We accept his apology and appreciate his intent to examine the sexism and racism that is ingrained, to varying degrees, in all of us.

Jessie Wofsy
Saferide
Kyla Schuller
Women's Center

A different perspective

In spite of recent criticism, I commend the ODE on printing Vince Medeiros' column. I found it refreshing and fun, and even bold in its lighthearted way. The entire piece showed excellent exercise of freedom of speech and freedom of press.

I have taken the liberty of adding a public discussion forum regarding Vince's Column to my Web site (<http://www.mediaRobot.com>) to let those who wish to air their opinions on the subject to do so freely, whether you hate him or love him.

Kyle Ritter
Lane Community College

Respect others

I am not completely ignorant. I know that sexist attitudes such as those in Vince Medeiros' opinion column exist. But it bothers me that the editors chose to perpetuate and validate his attitude by printing it.

The opinion pages can be a powerful tool and instead you waste them on stupid banter about porn and booze.

Please respect your female readership by not printing articles that treat them as sex objects. Please respect your Chicano readership by not treating Mexico as your playground. And please respect the intellect of all your readers and begin to print opinion pieces on important issues.

Instead of printing an article that bragged about "cheap sex" some guy got in Mexico, why not discuss the fact that "cheap labor" is being refused organizing rights and safety precautions in the factories a short drive from his hotel?

Molly Dames
Spanish

A second look

Fuzzy white rabbits hippity-hop around the tree and back into the hole again, forming a knot ... a noose ... that we need to break free from ... and take the purple chill-pill.

First of all, Vince Medeiros knows how to have a good time. And he has a sense of humor, sick maybe — but certainly not serious or sexist.

If anyone out there thinks beer and porn in the ODE office is a reality, then perhaps they need to well, stop being so literal and get the satire.

Vince writes lustily of Tyra Banks and then says, "But it's none of that. And I don't even think she's that good."

If you read between the lines here, he is bashing Tyra and what she represents. And about the "violent sex" with "prey," this is a fictional diary entry that mocks spring breakers and MTV. Also, it's the "panting and grunting" that is violent not the sex.

This article was meant as a fun, youthful, frolic in student journalism that belongs on every American campus — not a serious account of witnessing prostitution or rape.

Noel Lau
Landscape architecture

ASUO hopefuls supported

While it seems like the cool thing to do now is bag on student government, I think it is important to remember what has been done and who has done it. This week we will all be voting for the next ASUO president and vice president. I plan to vote for Dan Reid and Matt Swanson because they campaign on issues that affect students and have made real plans on how to see these goals achieved. I am going to vote for Reid/Swanson because I support student control of student fees. I want to see students in control of their lives and their money so I am going to vote for two people who have the experience and the competence to protect my interests throughout the next year.

Jon Luck
Student senator

Vote Progressive

In the upcoming elections a number of students, including myself, are running under the banner of the Progressive Slate. The P-Slate is a group of students dedicated to running on a platform, agreed upon by all, and dedicating a term of service to those issues. This year we are running so that we can improve lighting on campus to improve overall safety of students. We are also advocating for greater student voice within the University Housing system. One issue that we are running on, and one that concerns us all, is creating greater diversity on campus. We hope to lead the way in advocating for hiring and retaining both faculty and students of color.

The P-Slate represents many facets of student life, multi-cultural and multi-political. Furthermore, because we have dedicated ourselves to fighting for our issues, students know that by voting for the members of the P-Slate, they are ushering in a group of students who will be able to work together to achieve our common goals. Working to-

gether is a large part of the P-Slate philosophy. By organizing as a group and combining all our skills, we will be better able to voice student concerns. Remember to vote for change, vote Progressive.

Ryan Lawrence
Undeclared

Candidates reach out

Let me tell you, living in the dorms sucks. We have to pay \$5 a day to move out early, and next year that fee will go up to \$9. We can't change rooms until three weeks are passed, even if our roommate is ganking our stuff. University Housing refuses to pull Gardenburgers out of the cafeteria even though I am told that a boycott has been going on for three years now. These are not things that make me feel like University Housing is concerned with student needs. I do feel that there are two candidates who are committed towards making University Housing contracts more flexible because they took the time to come down to my dorm and ask me what I thought. I think that people who find out what is important to the people who are affected by certain issues are concerned and willing to make a difference. They took the time to talk to me so I want to take the time to say that I will vote for Reid/Swanson because I don't care about posters, I care about personal contact.

Ryan Wagner
Landscape architecture

Keep tuition frozen

I am a junior at this university who is alarmed about the possibility of the elimination of the University tuition freeze.

Frankly, I am surprised that a University publication such as yours, intended to represent the interests of students at this liberal educational institution, has not thoroughly informed students of the state of their tuition. University students should be aware that from 1989 to 1996, tuition increased by 90 percent. In 1997, a tuition freeze was passed. The tuition freeze is up for vote again. Legislators need to be aware that the student populace wants a tuition freeze.

University costs have risen too high. Incoming freshmen who receive financial aid are estimated to have accumulated over \$20,000 in debt by graduation. This debt will certainly follow students far past graduation, affecting career choices and living costs.

If tuition increases, then enrollment will fall! Statistics show that for every \$100 increase in tuition, there will be a 1-2 percent decrease in enrollment.

I urge this paper and students to demand a tuition freeze from legislators. The heart of education is not money. Help us continue to educate ourselves! Freeze tuition and increase educational public funding

Laura Pallin
Pre-Journalism



Give us just 10 minutes of your time and this could be you. Hiking, camping under the stars, river rafting, mountain biking. If you've ever dreamed of seeing the "real west"—cowboys, canyons, deserts and riding the range—then this is the 14-day trip for you!

Fill out our EMU Student Survey in next week's Oregon Daily Emerald and we'll enter your name to **win a free** "Experiencing the West" trip.

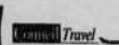
Call it a bribe, but we really want you to fill out our EMU Student Survey. We want to know more about you. About what you want from your EMU. About how we can better serve you.

Oh, and when you hand in your completed survey, you'll get a book of coupons and a fistful of suckers.

EMU Student Survey
Monday • April 19th • In the Emerald

So tell the EMU what you think. After all, it is **your** student union.

* Trip compliments of Council Travel. Includes: round trip airfare from Eugene to LA, travel by AmeriCan Adventures van, (Itinerary: Los Angeles to Joshua Tree NP, Grand Canyon, Lake Powell, Monument Valley, Moab, Bryce Canyon NP, Zion NP, Las Vegas, Los Angeles), services of AmeriCan driver/leader, two nights at Rocking H Ranch with free lodging, meals and use of all ranch facilities, river rafting, jeep tour, mountain bike tour, camping and cooking equipment. Must be current UO student to win.



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