

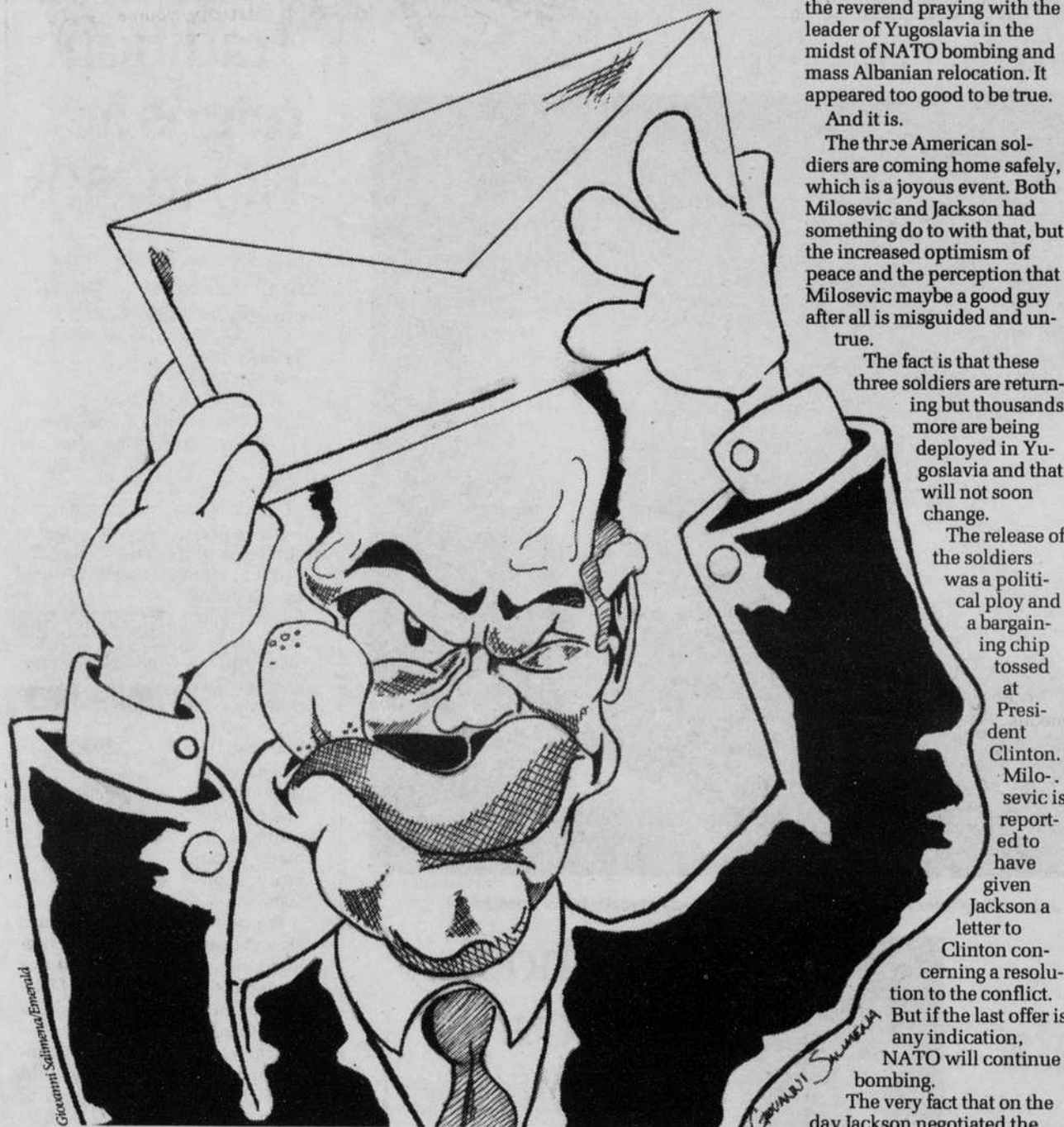
NEWSROOM:
(541) 346-5511
E-MAIL:
ode@oregon.uoregon.edu
ON-LINE EDITION:
www.dailyemerald.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Ryan Frank
EDITORIAL EDITORS
Kameron Cole
Stefanie Knowlton

PERSPECTIVES

Looks can be deceiving

While Milosevic is holding one hand out in a gesture of peace, we should question what the other hand is doing



The picture of Jesse Jackson holding hands with Slobodan Milosevic, both their heads bowed in prayer, seemed like a great feat in trick photography.

There is a surreal quality to the reverend praying with the leader of Yugoslavia in the midst of NATO bombing and mass Albanian relocation. It appeared too good to be true.

And it is.

The three American soldiers are coming home safely, which is a joyous event. Both Milosevic and Jackson had something to do with that, but the increased optimism of peace and the perception that Milosevic maybe a good guy after all is misguided and untrue.

The fact is that these three soldiers are returning but thousands more are being deployed in Yugoslavia and that will not soon change.

The release of the soldiers was a political ploy and a bargaining chip tossed at President Clinton. Milosevic is reported to have given Jackson a letter to Clinton concerning a resolution to the conflict. But if the last offer is any indication, NATO will continue bombing. The very fact that on the day Jackson negotiated the

soliders' release, NATO launched 600 attack missions over Yugoslavia revealed that NATO isn't convinced that Milosevic has seen the light.

Milosevic weighed his options carefully and realized it was more valuable to release the soldiers rather than hold them. He put the ball in NATO's court and forced it to respond to his gesture and perhaps accept his agreement.

That is about as likely as it is that the agreement contained full concessions to all of NATO's demands.

With regard to public sentiment, his gesture may have worked in another way. When release of soldiers and possible agreements are afoot, people become optimistic and gestures of this kind make Milosevic look reasonable. That doesn't make NATO look good.

The United States banks on leaders like Milosevic fitting the part of the crazed leader seeking world domination. Without it, public sentiment wavers and ultimately will turn against U.S. involvement.

Reports of misfired bombs hitting civilian targets, bombings of media centers and massive Albanian relocations are already working against the United States and NATO.

NATO doesn't need another thorn in its side, and maybe that is why Milosevic returned the soldiers.

Hopefully, Americans are not so easily fooled. Milosevic, we are grateful that you released our soldiers but we do not bend to the will of a leader for simply giving back those who were taken from us.

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

Thumbs



THUMBS UP To fairer sentencing:

An incident in a University residence hall sparked the Oregon House to pass a bill that closes a loophole in sex crime laws.

To a new contract:

With her new four-year contract, Jody Runge reportedly becomes the third-highest paid women's basketball coach in the Pacific-10 Conference. She led the Ducks to six NCAA Tournament appearances.



THUMBS DOWN To insensitivity:

Against much protesting from community members and parents, the NRA chose to go ahead with a conference in Denver just 10 minutes away from Columbine High School where 15 people died when two gunmen rampaged through the school.

To losing ground:

The University dropped from ninth to 51 in the national most wired universities survey. This year the survey changed its criteria and many high-ranking universities fell as a result.

Letters to the Editor

Column demeaning

I read the Emerald several times a week, picking it up at Sacred Heart where I am currently chief of surgery and a practicing gynecologist.

I was very concerned with Vince Medeiros' column (ODE, April 2). I would have found his comments offensive and demeaning of women even if they had been in a letter to the editor, let alone a column produced by your newspaper.

Whether Medeiros is aware of it, ongoing objectification of women, harassment and utilizing women in a selfish fashion is demeaning to both men and women.

While I think it's great for newspapers to publish a wide variety of material, I believe that you made a serious error in this case in printing that column.

Gary J. Le Clair
M.D., Sacred Heart

Sour grapes

In your editorial "Sore Losers" (ODE, April 19) you openly chide Dan Reid and Matt Swanson for up-

holding the rules. Is this truly the position of the Emerald?

Do you really believe that rules are only meant for certain people in extreme circumstances? I advise you to think about the circumstances this position brings to your credibility.

Any moderately intelligent reader can see right through your thinly disguised political agenda. It is in fact the Emerald that is the sore loser.

Having so furtively endorsed a candidate who allegedly violated the rules, it is truly sad and plainly seen that you are merely covering for an error in judgment.

The reason we have campaign rules is so that unfair advantages are not exploited. The first decision by the Election Board clearly stated that Wylie Chen and Mitra Anoushiravani broke these rules and did give themselves an unfair advantage. The only fair course of action is to have a second election. If the rules aren't enforced, then why are they in place?

If Chen and Anoushiravani are allowed to freely break the rules, then a frightening precedent will be set. It

will be OK to break the rules, as long as you win by enough votes.

If the Emerald supports you in the beginning, nothing you can do will change its mind. It will even print vindictive editorials with degrading pictures accompanying them to cover for itself.

The Emerald's lack of logic and integrity is both shocking and scary. This is the primary source of news for most of the student body, but yet this newspaper can't understand a simple cause and effect relationship.

A real paper wouldn't come close to printing the sour grapes you spouted about Reid and Swanson. This sort of vindictive journalism undermines any sort of journalistic integrity and credibility that is vital to any source of news.

Jon Gray
Business

A gift horse

It's unfair to generalize and call corporate gifts to higher education self-serving for the donor or to sug-

gest all major donors gain their millions through socially negative business practices.

But as we were reminded by Ralph Nader in his campus talk, sometimes that is the case. I don't envy Duncan McDonald and his University Development staff and the task of cultivating philanthropists who are out to produce a P.R. plus for themselves rather than to benefit society.

How to monitor motives without shutting off the cash flow was called a dilemma by McDonald at a campus meeting on corporate code of conduct. So it is.

But he can be true to the University's mission by thanking donors for their generosity, while refusing to let them in any way influence that mission.

Too many sources of gifts, government and corporate, already have too much influence on the academic character of education. McDonald must take a hard line: be grateful, but don't give in to donor prejudices.

George Beres
Eugene

LETTERS POLICY

The Oregon Daily Emerald will attempt to print all letters containing comments on topics of interest to the University community. Letters must be limited to 250 words. The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length, clarity, grammar, style and libel. Letters may be dropped off at EMU Suite 300.