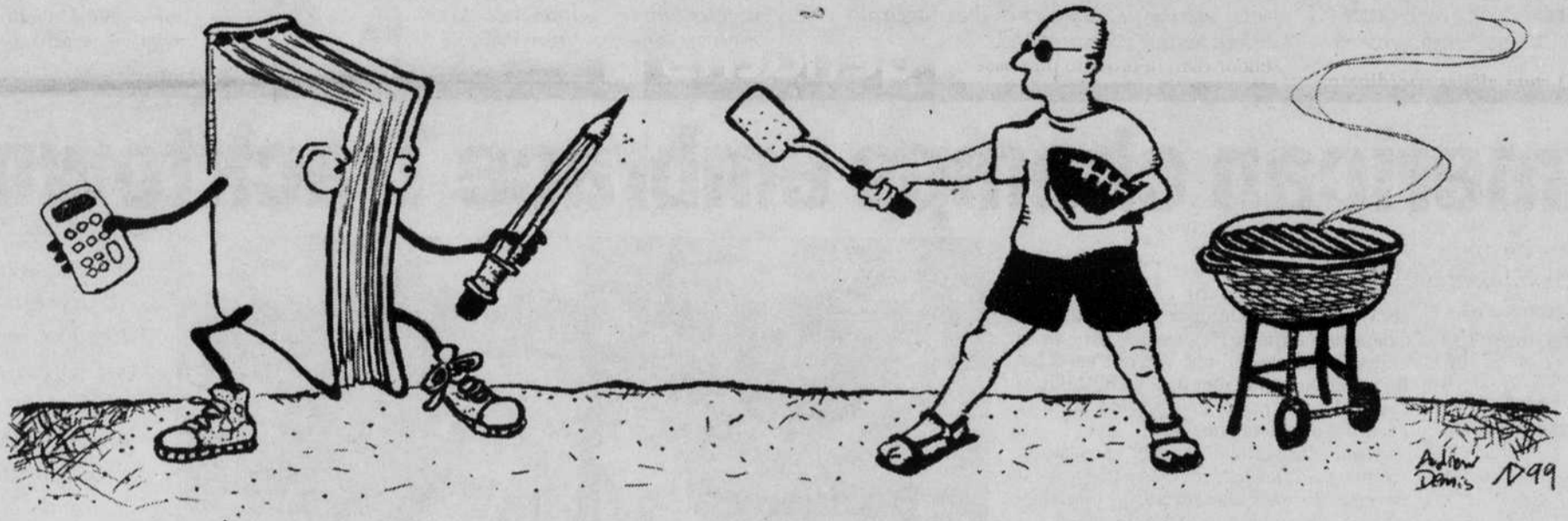


# PERSPECTIVES

EDITOR IN CHIEF  
Tim Pyle  
EDITORIAL EDITORS  
Jack Clifford  
Mirjam Swanson



## Sweating your STUDIES?

*Students expecting to breeze through summer classes didn't know what they were getting into*

Summer school students, are you finding yourselves incredibly busy these days? Really stressed out? Without enough time even for part-time summer employment, let alone the normal summer fun you patiently waited for all school year?

You should have known.

If you had realized that the summer-school workload would swamp you more than a regular school term, well, you still might be here, but you'd at least have been prepared for what you were getting yourself into.

The fact that you have to read extra chapters each night while cramming for once-a-week language exams wouldn't be so jolting.

But — unless you've been through it before — you really didn't know, did you? You had no clue.

At the start of the summer term, 6,300 students were registered for classes. But

within the first two weeks of the term, almost 300 have withdrawn.

Joe Wade, director of academic advising and student services, admits that amount is significantly more than usual.

And although he chalks up some of the withdrawals to students merely covering their bases — registering for classes in case they decided to take them but without definite plans to do so — the large number also has a lot to do with first impressions.

Like a professor's summer greeting: "Hi, hope you all had a nice week off. Don't even think about getting a summer job. You won't have time with all the work that you're going to be doing."

Sure, courses vary. And the different summer sessions do too.

There is a four-week session that runs from June 21 through July 16, two eight-week sessions and an eleven-week session that extends from June 21 through Sept. 3.

Pity on you poor students who fell hook-line-and-sinker for the four-week idea without comprehending what it means to pack 10 weeks worth of schooling into a shorter time frame.

By now you've discovered that it's a very intensive learning program.

For instance, a daily supplement of three hours devoted to a given language course can translate into several additional hours of homework every day.

If you miss a class period, you're not just missing an hour's worth of lecture, you're missing three hours' worth. That's three regular class periods for one absence. And you're playing catch-up in a class that is already moving as quickly as world-record holder Maurice Greene down the straightaway.

That's a tough task for any student, especially those non-traditional students who came in looking to, say, broaden their horizons or pick up a few extra credits.

Especially if they didn't know it was going to be like this.

Like they should have.

Instructors ought to make it perfectly clear that summer school is not a laid-back learning environment.

And the University needs to do the same.

Teaching is accelerated, the pace is rapid and you're sacrificing a large part of your summer.

Prospective students should be made aware of that. So instead of being lulled into the idea of taking what they thought would be mellow summer courses, they can make more educated decisions about their summer plans.

And then, when they do decide to go for it, they'll receive no further sympathy from us.

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

### Letters to the Editor

#### Emission from health plan unacceptable

As students in the Oregon University System (OUS), we are pleased with the Legislature's commitment to funding the OUS budget. This budget will allow for increased access to a quality education. Unfortunately, the Republicans are chopping away at access to education in other vital areas. The recently revealed budget that has been guiding the leadership all session shows that Republicans want to force low-income students to choose between receiving health care or working for an education and a better life.

The Republican proposal to remove Pell Grant-eligible students from the Oregon Health Plan is a disastrous idea. Adopting the proposed budget would not only be detrimental to the state, it would be outright discrimination against Oregon's students. If this proposal is adopted, low-income college students would become the only

population group that is denied coverage.

Sen. President Ron Adams, Speaker Lynn Snodgrass and their colleagues need to realize the fiscally conservative thing to do is to give low-income Oregonians as many tools as possible to transition out of poverty and into a successful, stable life. Why don't the Republicans want to help people trying to help themselves? Health coverage should be an intrinsic right and a paramount responsibility of our state government. Health care or education? Nobody should be forced to choose.

Students should call their representatives to voice their concerns about the removal of students from the Oregon Health Plan. The ASUO has numbers and phones available for students interested in calling. The state Legislature needs to hear from all of us.

Wylie Chen and Mitra Anoushiravani  
ASUO president and vice president

#### Republicans chopping away at health

The Republicans' proposal to cut \$50 million out of the Oregon Health Plan, including cutting all of Oregon's neediest students, is detrimental to the state. But cutting eligibility for students is outright discrimination. If this proposal is adopted, then low-income, post-secondary students become the only population group that is denied coverage by virtue of their status as "students."

The Legislature needs to realize that planning for the long term requires giving low-income Oregonians as many tools as possible to transition out of poverty and into a successful, stable life. That includes access to health coverage while going to school. Health care or education? Tough choice.

C.J. Gabbe  
Planning, Public Policy and Management

#### 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.