

COMMENTARY

Lauderbaugh

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cally. I have only one political philosophy that has been strengthened time and again in my two years here at the University: Practice what you preach.

I have found that most organized protests on campus are designed only to annoy people who are not in them. This epiphany was exemplified during the Worker's Rights Consortium protest last year, when angry students fought for the rights of poor sweatshop workers while murdering thousands of innocent blades of grass under their Nike shoes and "Made in Korea" tents. The horror!

On the right hand, I don't exactly have a framed picture of Ronald Reagan above my fireplace. And an eye for an eye will eventually leave the world blind, unless you look the other way.

Luckily for Emerald readers, this year we have assembled a roster of columnists who run the gamut of political and social labels for your ranting pleasure. Our purpose is not to alienate with holier-than-thou rhetoric, but to incite thoughtful discussion on issues pertinent to the University community.

I urge Emerald readers to continue to let us know how we're doing, and if you haven't been incensed by our commentary contents at least once by the end of the year, we're not doing our jobs.

I look forward to the organized chaos. Sermon over.

Julie Lauderbaugh is the editorial editor for the Oregon Daily Emerald. Her views do not necessarily represent those of the Emerald. She can be reached at julielauderbaugh@dailyemerald.com.

Letter to the editor

OUS health care coverage is inhumane

This letter speaks to the University community about the Oregon University System's refusal to cover health care coverage for people working less than 40 hours a week. These employees care for parents, spouses and children. They work for departments without funds to hire full time or that have hours beyond normal. They are people trying to get degrees or whose work hours are limited by medical conditions. Most of all, we give our best to this University

This University seeks to make us pay for even the high deductible health insurance we now have. For a university with an excellent humanities program, this is a singularly inhumane act. One cannot speak of ethics and pathos while cruelly striking at one's lowest-income individuals and families.

A great fear is illness without health insurance. A few days in the hospital cost more than many of us make in a year. OUS seeks to make those making the least money pay most for coverage. This University pays hundreds of thousands to put a football player's image in Times Square, yet refuses to pay a few thousand to cover insurance for employees working less than 40 hours a week.

Maybe all we are is a football college. Football teaches people to crush the weaker opponent. This seems to fit the approach our president and chancellor are taking to avoid not only part time workers, but all who labor for this University. We, the employees, may surprise them with our strength.

C.M. Berglund
University Health Center

CORRECTION

In Monday's paper, the name of a multicultural recruiter for the Ambassador Program was misspelled. It should have read Pisith Kong. The Emerald regrets the error.



Steve Baggs Emerald

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