

# COMMENTARY

Wednesday, November 7, 2001

## Editorial

### It's time we talk about sharing

Congratulations to Network Services for finally being upfront about bandwidth problems and peer-to-peer file sharing application violations. University Provost John Moseley has warned students via e-mail to stop using file sharing to download and distribute copyrighted materials because it violates federal law. If the administration had been forthcoming with this information to begin with, the nearly 400 cases that University officials have investigated this year might have been avoided.

So here's how file sharing and copyright law works:

When students in residence halls plug computers into the University's network, an account is created which is public record and owned by the University. Therefore, all downloads and uploads could potentially be monitored. Read: There is no privacy with a University account — it belongs to the state.

To avoid breaking the law, students should only download *non-copyrighted material*. Students must acquire file-sharing programs, such as Morphus or Kazaa, to participate in peer-to-peer sharing. Once you obtain the software, you are able to share freely, as long as the materials are not copyrighted.

Anything you could buy at a store normally falls under the umbrella of copyrighted materials. Once again, *do not download copyrighted material*. Any infringement could be monitored by Network Services, although they normally do this only for heavy bandwidth users. Subsequent violations will result in your port-being shut off as well as a meeting with the Office of Student Conduct.

Once the file-sharing program is installed, other Internet users can upload files from students, whether the students are in front of their computers or not. This takes a lot of the University's bandwidth. So, don't leave for the weekend with file-sharing software running. Once the file-sharing is done, students should disable the software so they do not clog the server. Students who wish to delete the programs can find instructions at the Microcomputer Services' Web site at <http://micro.uoregon.edu>.

Remember, personal privacy is not your right when the account is owned by the University. By disabling applications when not in use, bandwidth is not exploited by other Internet users — although students may end up on the Network Services' hit list if they download enormous files.

If the University had explained file sharing as simply as we just did, hundreds of students might not have had their service disconnected.

## Editorial Policy

This editorial represents the opinion of the Emerald editorial board. Responses can be sent to [letters@dailyemerald.com](mailto:letters@dailyemerald.com). Letters to the editor and guest commentaries are encouraged. Letters are limited to 250 words and guest commentaries to 550 words. Please include contact information. The Emerald reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and style.

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## Letters to the editor

### Emerald needs more worldly news

Today I saw my brother on campus at the EMU. We are both University of Oregon students and are both conscious and worried about the current war state our nation is in. Policies and laws are changing daily in support of a higher police state and more power in cases of possible terrorism. At the same time, people are dying in Afghanistan while we hunt for the possible terrorists of the Sept. 11 attacks. As if things were not frightening enough, we have the scare of anthrax and biological warfare rippling across the country.

While my brother and I talked of this, he picked up an Oregon Daily Emerald. We looked to see what was going on at present in our country. Surprisingly, we found not one single word in the whole paper relating to anything pertaining to the state of our nation or the world. Instead, we found a front page article on speed limits around campus ("Feeling the need to speed," ODE, 10/30).

I understand that this is important, but I expected more from my peers, my school and University students and faculty in general. Universities are traditionally hotbeds for activism, research and learning, which is part of the reason I came here, and I feel like we are silently watching the world crumble around us. The least I expect is that the Emerald will take notice of the things happening around us daily. It does not have to be a spread, just *something*, please.

Jacob Houck  
senior  
music

### Frohnmayr available to students

I would like to make my fellow students aware of an amazing and rare opportunity that will take place Nov. 13. President Frohnmayr will be available for coffee and open conver-

sation with students in the Fir Room. This is the first opportunity of such that I have encountered during my time at the University of Oregon. I highly encourage students to take advantage of such an opportunity and voice their opinions and concerns.

Students should jump at the chance to have their questions answered and hear our president's views regarding

campus issues. Do not let this opportunity pass you by. Everyone has a concern, and this is the perfect time to have it addressed. It is time to quit complaining and start taking action about issues you wish to see changed on your campus.

Lacy Ogan  
sophomore  
pre-journalism

## Steve Baggs



## Military school must be shut down

### GUEST COMMENTARY

### Matt Hornback

right-wing paramilitaries both target civilians, who they claim are supporters of the other side. Guerillas commit serious violations, but paramilitaries commit the vast majority of all atrocities in Colombia. One figure states that in 1999, 78 percent of the atrocities were committed by the paramilitaries. The army, though directly responsible for fewer violations, has extensive links with paramilitary forces at a local and regional level. Some army officers facilitate the work of the paramilitaries or look the other way as violence occurs.

A 1993 human rights report cites 247 Colombian officers for human rights violations. Fully one half of those cited were WHISC graduates. Some were even featured as WHISC guest speakers or instructors, or included in the "Hall of Fame" after their involvement in such crimes. For example, Gen. Farouk Diaz was a guest speaker at the school in 1990 and 1991 after his involvement in the 1988 Uraba massacre of 20 banana workers, the assassination of the mayor of Sabana de Torres, and the massacre of 19 businessmen. According to a U.S. State Department report,

he was also accused of establishing and expanding paramilitary death squads, as well as ordering dozens of disappearances and the killing of judges and court personnel sent to investigate previous crimes.

WHISC graduates have been linked to some of Colombia's most heinous massacres, including the 1998 massacre in Segovia in which 43 people were killed, the Trujillo chain saw massacres, which took place between 1988 and 1991 and the 1993 Riofrio massacre.

Last May, Representatives Jim McGovern, D-Mass., Joe Scarborough, R-Fla., Joe Moakley, D-Mass., Connie Morella, R-Md., Christopher Shays, R-Conn., and Lane Evans, D-Ill., introduced a bill to close the WHISC. The bill, HR1810, calls for closure of the school and the establishment of a joint congressional task force to assess U.S. training of Latin American military. Currently, there are 82 supporters in the House. Sen. Wyden supports the effort, unlike Sen. Smith. We must urge his support.

The former School of the Americas is a school of terrorism. We must work together to close this School of Assassins.

Matt Hornback is a freshman majoring in political science.