

# COMMENTARY

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Friday, February 22, 2002

## Yesteryear's Editorial

### Give Greeks Full Anonymity

The Greek-Student Conduct code relationship has been a problem for some time. While the fraternities haven't caused any special trouble lately, they have come under fire for policies on drinking. And several questions have come to the fore:

- Should the houses be required to report decisions of their IFC-Panhellenic tribunals to the Conduct Committee?
- How much goes on that isn't reported?
- Should the Student Court and Conduct Committee be in a position to reinforce rules of the Greek house?

University of Oregon

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• How much control does the conduct system really have over the Greeks when it comes down to prosecuting individual cases? And what would happen (or does happen) if the Greeks decide they don't want the University to handle a case?

• And, most important, why should the University try to punish Greeks for offenses punishable by civil law?

With all these questions floating around, we suggest the Conduct Committee just drop the Greek system from its jurisdiction ... closing hours, group offenses, drinking, and all.

This proposal, we are sure, will meet with strong disfavor, even among members of the fraternity system. Some will say the University would be shirking its responsibility ... alas, its bounden duty ... to ensure that the Greeks are living clean and lawful lives.

President Flemming may object on the grounds that he wants to keep some degree of control over the Greeks, in case of discrimination and since he is opposed to drinking.

And many sorority members would argue that they want the Conduct Committee behind them to enforce rules of conduct, just in case ...

Our answers to all these objections would be: the fraternities have proven themselves fairly responsible in setting up and enforcing cases in their individual houses without even bothering, in many instances, to bring the conduct system into the matter. Sure there has been drinking in the houses. But the problem hasn't been widespread or even more prevalent than it ever has ... maybe even a little less than in the past, since students tend to be more academically oriented than those of our parents' generation.

And in the area of discrimination: If there has clearly been a case of discrimination, let the Conduct Committee remove the house's recognition, just as it would any other organization. This would prohibit the house from using any University property and would be a very adequate sanction.

Would removing Greeks from the Code really bring about mass lawlessness, alcoholism, and sin? Let's be realistic. If the houses are allowed to set their own rules and run their own affairs ... if they knew where they stood with the conduct system ... they would have a chance to develop the maturity and responsibility that has been demonstrated by an increasing number of students living under the fraternity system.

Let's give them a break whether all of them want it or not.

This editorial was taken from the February 22, 1967 issue of the Oregon Daily Emerald.

### Letters to the Editor and Guest Commentaries Policy

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.

## Letters to the editor

### Response to Dreier just knee-jerk liberalism

Attacks on ASUO candidate Tim Dreier in Tuesday's Emerald were unfounded ("Dreier creates racist environment," "Dreier seeks leadership through fear," ODE 2/19). Yanagishita's and Edwards' letters both represent the fanatical knee-jerk liberalism that is bringing not just this school but this country down.

First, to respond to Yanagishita's claim that Dreier is creating a hostile and racist environment. The red threat is found on every continent. It is not limited to one country of origin or one culture. From the Tupac Amaru Revolutionaries of Uruguay to the Red Brigade of Europe to Earth First and the ELF here on our home soil, this threat is pervasive, regardless of race or creed. How difficult the task ahead is, with our inability to type the subversives along any of these lines.

Edwards, you question how to define a subversive, and wonder about the complex term "un-American." Well, let me clear things up for you. "Un-American" defines anyone or thing that stands against freedom and the American way of life. A subversive is anyone who wants to undermine these values to fit their own twisted agenda. Edwards, I only hope that you have the sense to see through your liberal rhetoric and recognize the importance of the task at hand. Bravo, Mr. Dreier, and see you at the polls.

Kimberly Froemming  
Eugene

### Drier considered sophomoric

My congratulations to ASUO presidential candidate Timothy Dreier. He exemplifies "sophomoric" more exactly than anyone I have ever met.

Henry G. Campbell, Jr.  
community education student

### Edwards is a commie sympathizer

The letter by Nathan Edwards in Tuesday's Emerald clearly demonstrates his complete lack of understanding in regard to my platform ("Dreier seeks leadership through fear," ODE, 02/19).

His major is listed as English. This would lead one to believe that Edwards would have some understanding of what we call "satire." Apparently, this is a poor assumption to make. So, for Edwards and any others who don't quite understand, I will offer a little pocket synopsis.

Every candidate is running on a set of buzz-words and vague ideas that encourage conformity — I am just running on a different set. If you read the statements by other candidates, you will find just as many vague references and bits of paranoia, only theirs will be things like "diversity," "safety" and "student voice." You will not see a clarification of what any of these things mean or how any of their plans will come to fruition. Hence, I am running on a McCarthyism platform to demonstrate absurdity by going to the opposite extreme.

While Jonathan Swift is busy eating Irish babies, I will be busy eliminating subversives with dueling pistols. And, as far as Edwards' vote goes, I don't need support from an obvious communist sympathizer.

Timothy Dreier  
sophomore  
economics

### Fashion show a spectacular success

With the help of various departments and student groups, local Eugene and Springfield stores and shops, talented performers and all of our Black Heritage models, the ninth annual AKA Black Heritage Fashion Show was a spectacular success.

Thank you to everybody who helped to make the show what it was, and to the 300 people that came out to see it. A special shout-out to Melissa Ballard, the star of the show, who had the crowd laughing out of their seats.

Lastly, I would like to say "skew-weee" to those lovely women of the Sigma Delta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha who worked diligently to produce an outstanding show and who always strive to be "supreme in service to all mankind."

Abolade "Bola" Majekobaje  
senior  
biology

### Eugene needs housing code

Because I am only a freshman and living on campus, some might feel that the need for a housing code in Eugene would not affect me. However, I, like a majority of freshmen, will be a renter next year. The fact that Eugene does not have a housing code to provide for the rights of renters and landlords scares me.

A housing code is designed to keep our city neighborhoods in a safe, clean and livable environment.

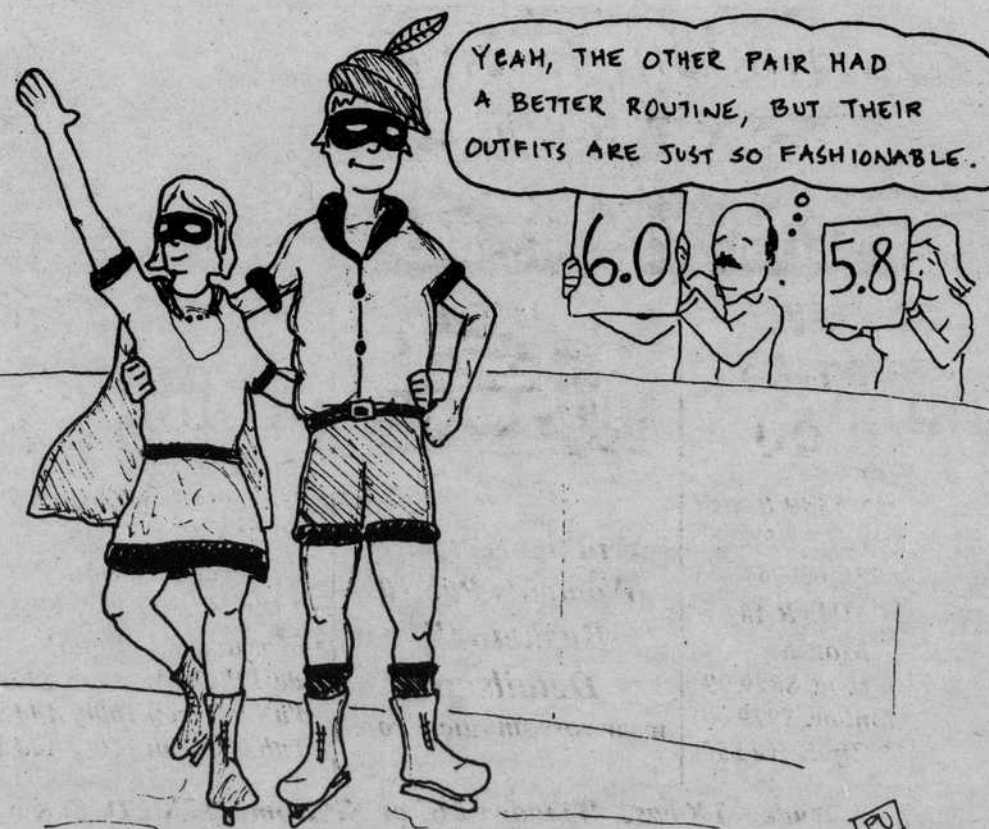
By drafting a code, the city would help designate rules for upkeep of houses or apartment complexes and other basic maintenance issues, as well as help alleviate other potential problems.

The current code that Eugene operates under (the Oregon State Landlord and Tenant Act) doesn't allow for these things to happen. In fact, the general guidelines it is based on were drafted with the intention that cities would create their own, more specific codes.

This is an important issue that affects all students, faculty and staff, and other renters in the city of Eugene. It should be taken seriously.

Morgan York  
freshman  
exercise and movement science

Peter Utsey Emerald



THE THOUGHT PROCESS OF A FIGURE SKATING JUDGE