

Graduates prove balance between doing well, good

At my graduation, law Professor Tom Liningger urged us to strike a balance "between doing well and doing good." Seems like a tall order, doesn't it? Look at Jayson Blair, Martha Stewart and President George W. Bush. In their drive to fame, fortune and victory, respectively, they decided it was OK to lie, (allegedly) cheat and hoodwink the American public.



Philip Huang
A different light

But good examples surround us, too. Here are a few past graduates and the lessons I've learned from them over the past four years.

Keep your promises. In 1932, law school graduate William Knight pledged to his professor and Dean Wayne Morse that "I shall always stand ready to do anything that I can to promote its interest." Knight became a successful lawyer and newspaper publisher, while Morse was elected to the United States Senate four times. Their politics differed, especially on labor. But Knight never forgot his promise, which his son Phil Knight fulfilled with a \$10 million gift toward a new law building. The William W. Knight Law Center was dedicated on Sept. 15, 1999.

In contrast, Phil Knight was battered by charges that Nike exploited sweatshop labor. In an act that would've made Wayne Morse proud, students and faculty voted in April 2000 to join the Worker Rights Consortium. Phil Knight's response — to

revoke a \$30 million pledge to renovate Autzen Stadium — further damaged his reputation.

Dream big. Ann Bancroft has crossed oceans of ice and deserts of snow. After graduating in 1980, she became the first woman to reach both the North and South Poles. Then she and Liv Arnesen trekked where no women had gone before — across Antarctica. In February 2001, they completed the 1700-mile hike, inspiring a new generation of explorers.

Be Merry. On Nov. 11, 2001, America lost its merriest prankster, Ken Kesey. Kesey published two wonderful novels before 30, then defied expectations with his unconventional life. Eschewing fame or literary reputation, he bought a farm in Pleasant Hill and raised a loving family. More than anyone else, Kesey em-

bodies the values of Eugene.

Stand up for yourself and others. Minoru Yasui was an unlikely rebel with a cause. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1937, then finished law school. But no firm would hire this bright young man from Hood River. Then World War II arrived and curfew was imposed on everyone of Japanese descent.

He was arrested for breaking curfew, and served nine months in solitary confinement before shipping off to an Idaho internment camp. But Yasui kept fighting. He fought for admission to the Colorado bar. He fought to overturn his conviction. He fought for a government apology to Japanese-American internees. And he won. In May 2002, our law school announced it would endow a professorship in his name.

Be fair. As a World War II infantry-

man, Alfred Goodwin noticed the belt buckles of German soldiers declared that God was on their side. During the Cold War, Congress inserted "under God" into the "Pledge of Allegiance" to proclaim God was on ours. In June 2002, Judge Goodwin ruled that a teacher-led pledge recital was unconstitutional because it endorsed religion. How? It sent a message to unbelievers that they are outsiders. In 48 years as a state and federal judge, Goodwin has authored many decisions, including one that kept Oregon's beaches public property.

Congratulations on your fine achievement. I wish you the best.

Contact the columnist at philphuang@dailymerald.com. His views do not necessarily represent those of the Emerald.

Copy desk heroes fight battles behind scenes

I get excited about my job. I love marking up pages with a red pen. I enjoy channeling my energy into a worthwhile cause: making the newspaper look good. I am satisfied when I find mistakes and correct them. But I wonder, when will reporters ever learn that "due to" only follows a linking verb?



Jen Snyder

Reporters get all the glory. Their stories are praised, and their egos shoot through the roof. Their stories get slammed, and they complain about having low self-esteem and a case of depression.

The last set of eyes to see their sto-

ries before the newspaper goes out the door gets no credit or acknowledgment. The reporters hardly ever see the masterminds who write the headlines, summaries and photo captions. The only way these nameless, faceless heroes get any mention is if they screw up.

But, if it weren't for us, there would be unimaginable catastrophes. Stories would not be lined up, tags would be missing and names would be wrong. Hawaii would be called a country, daylight savings time would happen in October instead of April, and worst of all, independent clauses would not be separated with commas.

Copy editors are the last line of defense in the newsroom. We scrutinize every detail in subjects ranging from ASUO elections to nudist camps, marijuana legalization and the fate of the Lukes in basketball. Not only do we

have to know a little about everything, we have to work quickly in order to edit stories, write headlines and other extra text, edit the proofs and make deadline.

We brainstorm ideas for headlines that often fall by the wayside, even though they are worthy of a prize, such as "SARS wars" and "Group to get more money next year." Thousands of headline rules exist, but they are too ridiculous to state here.

The point is, headlines are one of the biggest challenges of copy editing: I defy anyone to write a feature headline about the Spruce Goose and Walter Cronkite (one of our brilliant ideas for this was "Filming flying wood").

The biggest pressure is that any mistakes that show up in the newspaper are blamed on the copy editors, specifically the copy chief. Our job, essentially, is to cover the reporters' hides when they make mistakes, leave out

information, editorialize, skew the facts and write articles that potentially could make people act irrationally.

When I think about it, perhaps it is best that the copy desk is behind the scenes. Our job is not as easy as it looks, even though we have plenty of off time to watch reality shows and Michael Jackson documentaries while we wait for proofs and stories. We don't even have to start work until 4:30 p.m.

So, call us heroes for doing all that work and still making or beating deadline. Or call us doofuses for missing an obvious mistake or incorrect fact. But, if you ever see the elusive members of the copy desk, give us a hug. We deserve it.

Contact the copy chief at jennifersnyder@dailymerald.com. Her opinions do not necessarily represent those of the Emerald.

Reinhard

continued from page 3

indulgent rants and witty prose. But don't post any nasty comments, or I'll delete them and hunt you down. Also, thank you, Mom and Dad, for splitting the costs of my college education 50-50 and helping shape me into the ace journalist I'll be in 30 years or so.

Oh, I almost forgot: Need a place to live this summer? I've got a great second-story Von Klein apartment in the heart of the city that I'd be willing to part with for the right price. It's full of character, cozy and inches closer to the ground every passing day. E-mail me in the next 30 minutes and I'll throw in a complimentary "mystery" pet.

Contact the news editor at brookreinhard@dailymerald.com. His opinions do not necessarily reflect those of the Emerald.

Congratulations graduates!



Good luck on finals. We're looking forward to seeing you and your family and friends at Commencement.

**Be safe.
Have fun.**

Celebrate responsibly!

For more information about commencement, go to: http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/cmncmnt/comcmnt_home.htm