

Monologue

Goodwill toward homeless shallow in nature

By D. Dietrich
Arts Editor

Goodwill towards others is something that is seldom complained about when in action. Even as I write I feel a little uncomfortable voicing my distaste about a seemingly kind act that many Portlanders have felt compelled to join in on. I'm referring to the influx of street people that have been "dumped" on the streets after rejecting the Rajneesh way of life.

I don't mean to offend those people who are genuinely concerned about the welfare of street people. But I don't like the idea of seeing local heroes being made out of people who find this as opportunity to make the Rajneesh appear even more insensitive (which may or not be the case). It could have been worse. The Rajneesh could have made the street people walk out of Rajneeshpuram, certainly not one of Oregon's finer scenic trails.

I'm sorry one of the street people died of exposure after being dropped off in Government Camp. But I'm also offended at the concern some of Portland's more wealthy citizens have suddenly found for people that they would have normally refused the time

of day to just because it is the latest cause to be in on.

I understand that Portland does not have the facilities nor the manpower to support hundreds of surplus transients gathered from around the nation. Therefore, it may be a good idea to ship them back to whence they were recruited, but let's remember why we're so concerned about the welfare of these people all of a sudden. I do not believe the charity benefits I've heard of being organized to raise money for bus tickets back home are generated from that golden word "charity". Nor do I feel the community should be responsible for sending these people back home because they didn't catch the right vibes at Rancho Rajneesh.

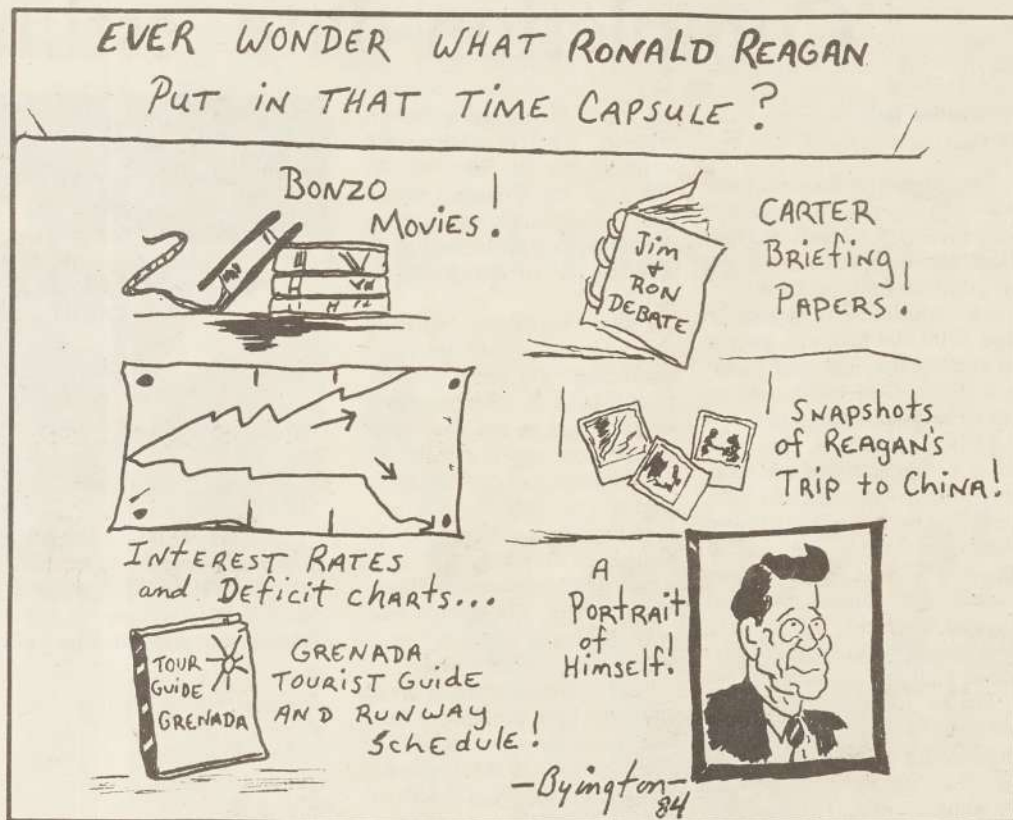
The street people went to Rajneeshpuram of their own free will. Obviously they didn't have much of a home in the city they left, so is it really helping them to send them back to the streets of their own city? We don't have the means to support all of them here, but the "charity" workers seem to think we can simply bus these people out of view and the problem of the nation's homeless will go away. Out of sight out of mind

is not the answer.

I have heard no mention of trying to fund additional low-rent facilities for these people. Why? because the general population doesn't want them around to clutter up the

streets. Now, is that really goodwill at work? It seems the law of distribution should come into action here. If these street people were getting help in their hometowns from the same kind of funding that

Portland's Baloney Joe's is working on, why doesn't the city ask for additional aid to support the overload that must be giving some reprieve to other cities?



Portland Trailblazers destined to go far this year

By Shelley Ball
Editor In Chief

(Editor's note: Never let it be said that I write only political editorials.)

Portland Trailblazer fans had to wait a long time (a whole summer, at least) for the start of the team's 1984-85 basketball season. And this year's wait does not appear to have been in vain.

Anyone who has faithfully followed the Blazers through the ups and downs of their seasons can see there's something different about the team. It's not just the addition of rookies like Sam Bowie and Jerome Kersey, or the acquisition of former Denver Nuggets player Kiki Vandeweghe that makes the team different, either.

There's a gleam in Blazer Coach Jack Ramsay's eye that hasn't been seen before, now even when the team won the National Basketball Association

Championship in 1977. Of course, times have changed and so have the Blazer players, but that gleam gives one the feeling this year's team is special.

Just watch Ramsay whenever he's being interviewed about his team. Ramsay, the coach well-known for wearing loud pants and possessing a quiet, low-pitched, monotone voice, now seems to come to life with renewed energy. Judging by the Blazers' performance in the first few games of their season, it's no wonder Ramsay is so excited.

The Blazers have always been known to play like a real team, because every player contributes in one way or another. Such teams as the Los Angeles Lakers or the Boston Celtics only rely on a few exceptional players to get them to the playoffs. Therefore, the pressure to perform is on players like Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Larry Bird, while the rest of the players on the floor seem to be there just to take up space.

This never has been, and hopefully never will be, the case with the Blazers. The team, which has always received its strength from the group-effort principle, now is playing even stronger with the addition of Bowie and Vandeweghe.

The Blazers also seem to be stronger when playing games on the road. The Blazers used to be famous for being blown off the court when they played outside their security blanket, Portland's Memorial Coliseum. But out of their first four games on the road, the Blazers have lost only two, each by less than 10 points. In their recent game against Los Angeles, the Blazers were trailing at one point by 26 points, but they were able to come back enough to save themselves from a blow-out by losing 124-116, a mere eight points. That is an improvement.

So take care, rival basketball teams. The Blazers look like a team that will have to be seriously reckoned with this season.

THE PRINT, a member of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, aims to be a fair and impartial journalistic medium covering the campus community as thoroughly as possible. Opinions expressed in THE PRINT do not necessarily reflect those of the College administration, faculty,

Associated Student Government or other members of THE PRINT. THE PRINT is a weekly publication distributed each Wednesday except for finals week. Clackamas Community College, 19600 S. Molalla Avenue, Oregon City, Oregon 97045.

