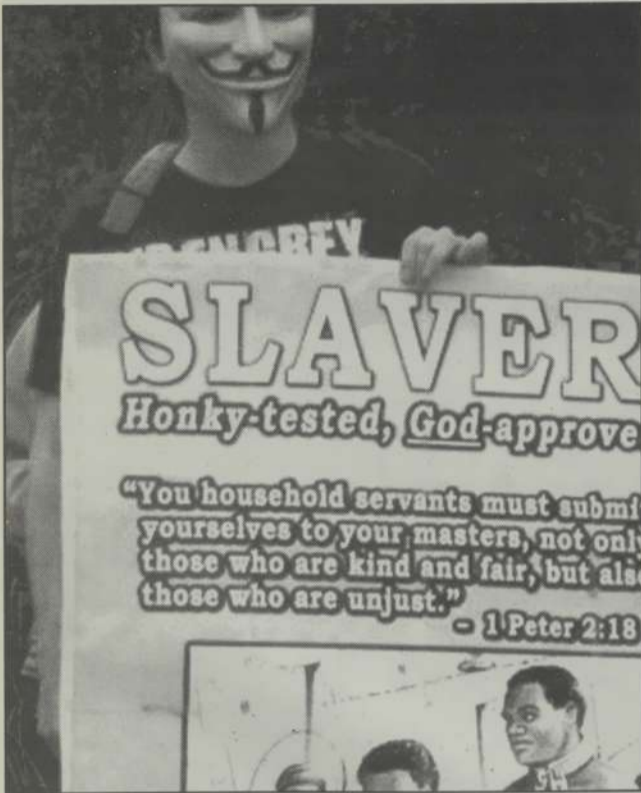


Protesters fight church's views



Chris Morrow protests the Westboro Baptists outside the New Hope Community Church on Sunday, May 30. Morrow's counter-protest satires the often theatrical demonstrations of WBC.

By Jaime Dunkle
Associate News Editor

The Westboro Baptist Church takes advantage of free speech, claiming that God hates Jews, America, homosexuals and female preachers. WBC picketed synagogues and churches in the Portland Metro area this weekend.

The WBC protested against New Hope Community Church in Happy Valley on Sunday, May 30. WBC was opposing New Hope's utilization of female preachers. Protesters left after only 30 minutes of holding signs and marching around the church parking lot and down Stevens Road.

WBC will return to Portland Thursday, June 3 to protest Grant High School for having a gay support group. The WBC will be present from 7:35 a.m. until 8:05 a.m.

Tammy Owen is an administrator at the New Hope Community Church. WBC sent a fax to New Hope, notifying the church of the protest.

The Sunday protest was non-violent. People peacefully rotated around the turnabout outside of the church for exactly 30 minutes.

"They held up their signs and walked around, protesting what they were for and against," Owen said. "There were about seven to 10 of them."

New Hope Community Church

has four female preachers. The women at New Hope have a unique talent when it comes to preaching, according to Owen.

Chris Morrow is a gay rights activist from Clackamas County. He opposes WBC's viewpoints.

"I think the Westboro Baptist Church is a bunch of retarded douche bags," Morrow said. "On par with David Duke and the Ku Klux Klan."

Morrow was a part of the counter-protest at New Hope. He was there to express his views on the similarities between racism and homophobia.

"The violence perpetrated against homosexuals is no less violent than, or [no less] spawned by personal hatred, than the violence perpetrated against black people in the 50s," Morrow said.

People interpret the Bible in many different ways. Morrow dissected different Bible verses condoning abuse against woman and slavery.

"There are several verses in the Bible that touch on the topic of slavery, and there are some Bible verses which state that if a man rapes a woman, he can pay the father off 50 shekles, and then he has to marry that woman and they can never divorce," Morrow said.

Morrow recommends some literary sources that analyze biblical verses.

"I'm an avid reader of EvilBible.com, 'The Brick Testament' and 'The Skeptics Annotated Bible,'" Morrow

said. Shirely Phelps Roper is one of eight daughters of WBC founder Fred Phelps, who also has 20 grandchildren. Roper is also WBC attorney.

When asked what the WBC is about, Roper emphasized Armageddon. The WBC's bottom line is that the world is in disarray.

"We're just simply servants of God in these last hours of the last day of all," Roper said. "This nation's destruction is imminent; we're just people running to and fro to help you connect the dots from your rebellion against God."

WBC travels all over the country to share their beliefs. When asked about the WBC's source of funding, Roper said, "It's a secret, but I'll tell you — we work!"

"We pay our own way. We don't ask anything from anyone, and we don't take anything from anyone," Roper said.

The WBC especially disapproves of the Pacific Northwest. Targeting the region for being the worst in the nation.

"I'll tell you that Oregon and Washington are the most filthy and vile states," Roper said. "We've been on the mean streets of America everyday for 20 years, and you guys never fail to give. It's amazing you never disappoint; we assume you into that state that it's going to be filthy and filthy, and it always is."

CHEMICALS: breathe easy?

Continued from CHEMICALS, Page 1

"If you go online and look at any of the chemicals that they are using on the lawns, how to spray them and what to wear, I mean you should be wearing a hazmat suit to spray that shit," said Andersen.

Andersen is currently an art professor but has had his fair share of work experience with some of the chemicals CCC uses on its lawns. Working as an entomologist for a company called Environmental Labs side-by-side with toxicologists in the early '80s, Andersen is well educated in the field of chemicals and the side effects they carry with them, both short and long term.

Andersen has, over the years of working with such chemicals, become what is called "chemically sensitive," which makes him more susceptible to illness when such herbicides are sprayed or used around him. Andersen's sensitivity, on the other hand, does not make his concern less important. Andersen explained that even though he may get sick more often, the damages caused by spraying these chemicals around public areas are felt everywhere, both environmentally and personally.

"Weas faculty, students and staff are walking around campus in this haze of invisible, odorless chemicals, and then we get sick or become allergic and the doctor said 'Oh, it's just allergies,'" Andersen said.

Andersen also voiced his concern with the long term effects of the chemicals used to kill off the weeds and bugs on campus.

"What it's going to do to us in the long run is pretty scary and because in most of those chemicals the vehicle for them is

a chemical that is an endocrine disrupter, which totally screws with a whole bunch of issues. One of the symptoms of chemical exposure is learning disabilities in young kids," Andersen explained.

Department Chair of Horticulture, Elizabeth Howley, showed concern that some people might get sick from use of chemical sprays for weeds around campus. Howley, on the other hand, was unaware of the school doing much spraying.

"I don't think much of anything is being sprayed at all," said Howley.

This past Memorial Day weekend, campus services sprayed the grounds around the school with a weed killer called Trimec Classic Broadleaf Herbicide, according to Dean of Campus Services, Bob Cochran.

According to the specimen label for Trimec Classic, it's a chemical that is extremely corrosive, causes irreversible eye damage and must be sprayed wearing special chemical resistant clothing covering all areas of skin. The specimen label also mentions that the chemical is very dangerous to aquatic invertebrates and poses a threat to other people and animals if sprayed in or near waterways where runoff may occur.

Earl Tracy, a representative of pbi/Gordon Corporation, the company that makes Trimec Classic, said that if the chemical is used properly, it has no harmful affects.

"There is really no concerns with runoff because the plant absorbs the chemical within six to eight hours," said Tracy.

For more information on Trimec Classic, you can look at the Label information at www.pbigordon.com/pdfs/TrimecClassic-SL.pdf.

Finals Schedule

| Class Start Day/ Time | Exam Day/Time | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Mon. 6/7 | Tues. 6/8 | Wed. 6/9 |
| 7:45 or 8 a.m. | 8 - 10 a.m. | | |
| 9 a.m. | | | 8 - 10 a.m. |
| 10 or 10:15 a.m. | 10 a.m. - Noon | | |
| 11 or 11:30 a.m. | | | 10 a.m. - Noon |
| Noon or 12:45 p.m. | Noon - 2 p.m. | | |
| 1 p.m. | | | Noon - 2 p.m. |
| 2 p.m. | 2 - 4 p.m. | | |
| 3 or 3:15 p.m. | | | 2 - 4 p.m. |
| 4 or 5 p.m. | 4 - 6 p.m. | | |
| T/TH | | | |
| 7:30 or 8 a.m. | | 8 - 10 a.m. | |
| 9 a.m. | | 10 a.m. - Noon | |
| 10 or 10:30 a.m. | | Noon - 2 p.m. | |
| 1 p.m. | | 2 - 4 p.m. | |
| 2:30 or 3 p.m. | | 4 - 6 p.m. | |
| 4 or 5 p.m. | | See Instructor | |
| Conflicts | | | 4 - 6 p.m. |

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