

OREGON COMMENTATOR

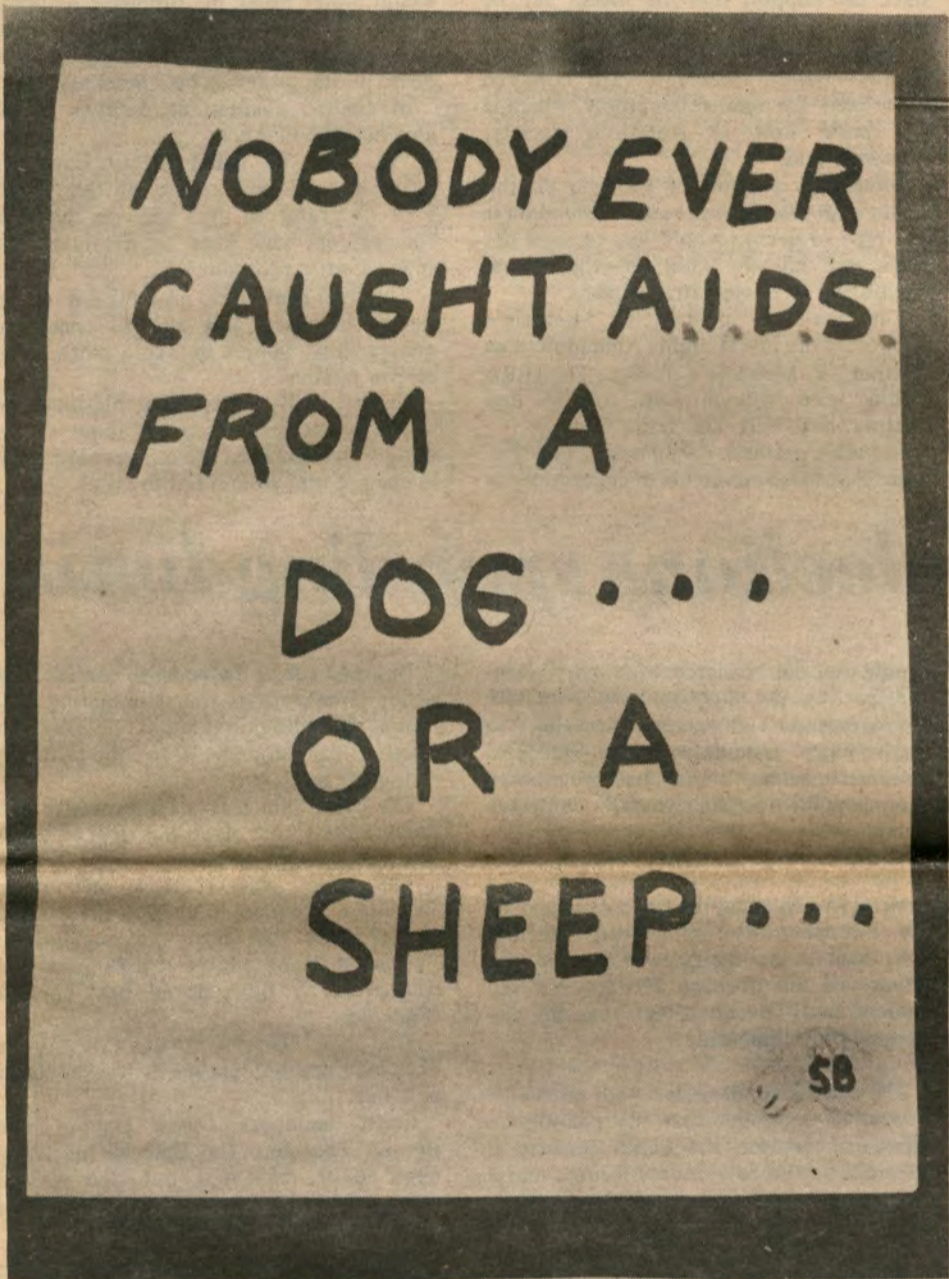
Volume I No. 7

Eugene, Oregon

Monday February 13, 1984

Intolerance meets its match: intolerance

*And in this case, the cure
is worse than the disease*



Part of Students for Bestiality's display that was removed from the EMU's display case.

Few students noticed the small ads that appeared in the *Emerald* last fall announcing a new student group called "Students for Bestiality."

And no students joined the group once it officially was recognized by Student Administrative Board head Bill Snyder as an organization that would "educate students on the issues of bestiality; societal basis of values and various forms of animal husbandry."

But it was no secret that the group also aimed to challenge both the Incidental Fee Committee's decisions to fund groups such as the Gay and Lesbian Alliance, and what SB called "hypocrisy of student values" concerning "various perversions." Brandon Shepard, the student who is withholding 10 cents of his incidental fee to protest mandatory student financial support of GALA and Students for a Nuclear Free Future, signed SB's form requesting recognition as a student group, which Snyder said he approved "because I had no choice." And the form listed as members Michael Cross and Dan Goulet, two students who form what could be described as the Jerry Falwell/Larry McDonald wing of the campus College Republicans.

The first time these students tried to make their views known to a large number of students by placing this sign (left) and others in the EMU display case, all hell broke loose.

Within four hours on the morning of Jan. 30, under heavy pressure from campus homosexuals, student leaders had found a way to get SB from saying all those distasteful things about homosexuality: revoke the group's status as a student organization, which would bar them from using the EMU display case to communicate with students. They convinced the

EMU administration to boot SB's display from the case until the SAB could find a way to get rid of SB for good, a surprising move considering the EMU's past reverence for the principles of free speech and free pursuit of Truth in an institution supposedly devoted to such ideals.

Those who have a knowledge of First Amendment law will begin to smell a rat here—the Supreme Court has ruled countless times that speaking out on social issues is a special class of speech with virtually no restrictions, and it has not been tolerant of smokescreens used to try to get around this protection; for example, police arresting a woman distributing leaflets on a streetcorner and charging her with littering.

As distasteful as SB's signs were, they still were expressing opinion on current social values. And the claims by GALA Director Dave Funk and *Emerald* Editor Debbie Howlett that the SB signs were "slanderous" were legally absurd.

What appears on Page 5 is an account of the SAB hearing that took place the evening of the same day SB's display was removed from the EMU display case. Normally, we would be happy to allow such an event to fade from the collective student consciousness as soon as possible, but in this case, we think it is such a classic microcosm of the Eugene political climate that it must be preserved as a cultural document. The mindlessness that exemplifies so much local political activity is demonstrated in this episode. Years from now, students of society will look to GALA's and the ASUO Executive's lesson on how to deal with a nasty display of intolerance: be even more nasty and intolerant.

Story on Page 5

Denny Smith: less government, strong America

Denny Smith first entered the Oregon political spotlight when he defeated Representative Al Ullman in the 1980 elections. The son of former Oregon Governor Elmo Smith stunned Ullman, the chairman of the House Way and Means Committee and long-time political heavyweight, by winning the 2nd Congressional District seat.

As chairman of the board of Eagle Newspapers, Inc., a family company of community newspapers in the Northwest, Smith brought his business experience into a government he said he wanted run on a business-like basis.

As well as stressing a strong economy by less spending, Smith advocated a strong defense for the United States. He flew 180 Air Force combat missions during the Vietnam War.

But Smith's re-election race in 1982 against state Senator Ruth McFarland (D-Boring) was close. Running in a new 5th Congressional District and during the 1982 recession, Smith narrowly defeated McFarland.

Smith talked with *Oregon Commentator* Editor Richard Burr recently in Washington, DC, about issues concerning Smith's term in office as well as some current issues.

Oregon Commentator: First of all, Oregon is well known for its moderate and liberal Democratic elected officials. Even Republican Senators Mark Hatfield and Bob Packwood are moderate to liberal. Considering this, how did a conservative Republican such as yourself get elected in a state like this?

Denny Smith: I think, first off, the election in 1978 gave me some good encouragement that maybe there was a change in the way that people looked at their public sector, and they wanted to have it run on a business-like basis. And I think the election of Vic Atiyeh as governor of the state was a very key factor in my considering that there was some opportunity out there for people who believed as I did that you should run

government like a business and try to balance this budget by reducing taxation and basically get government off my back as a citizen.

So, as I looked at it, I have always felt that the problems were with the federal government, so I looked around and felt that the race for the 2nd Congressional district, which was my district, was extremely important to the future of my children; and therefore, I got to somebody like Vic Atiyeh, who agreed to help me, and that's how I got involved in it.

OC: I've been told that your campaign strategy, which was instrumental in the 1980 upset of incumbent Al Ullman, is a model in Washington for other such campaigns...

DS: I think it's been pointed out that the reason I beat Al was because, No. 1, we started early; we focused on what the incumbent had done wrong, that is, that he had done a poor job of representing



Continued on Page 3

Representative Denny Smith

Women start group to blast Mondale

By Robert Davis
Contributor

Two Springfield women who say the National Organization for Women does not represent them have formed a political organization called Women Against Mondale, which they hope will help to defeat the Democratic front-runner.

"I'm sick of hearing liberal women represent me," said Lori Parkman, coordinator of the group. "They are a minority. I'm sick of people telling me how I feel."

Parkman, 22, formed the group with the help of Cheryl Tanton in order to bring former Vice President Walter Mondale's stand on women's issues to the attention of Lane County voters.

"We want to open women's eyes to the sort of things that are in the Mondale campaign," Parkman said. "I'm delving into his platform, and I'm going to expose him."

"Most Democrats never read the Demo-

cratic platform," she said. "After we show them how Mondale stands on the issues, they won't vote for him."

Parkman said about a dozen women are forming the core of the group. She hopes that as the Oregon primary nears, the group will grow to 50 or more women.

The group will publish leaflets, hold meetings and conduct press conferences, Parkman said. She said she hopes the group will have a grass-roots appeal and be able to operate without fund-raising, through volunteer help and contributions.

Women Against Mondale is composed of women of a broad age span, Parkman said. "We have women in their 20s, 30s, all the way to their 50s."

Parkman said she hopes the group will attract Democrats as well as Republicans. "It's not a Republican club," she said. "There are Democrats within the group that are more conservative than some Republicans."

Parkman said the so-called gender gap—the alleged unpopularity of President

Ronald Reagan with women compared to men—is "a lot of bologna."

"There are a lot of women who support Reagan," she said. "They're out there—they just don't open their mouths as wide as feminists."

Parkman also said Mondale does not have the support that the media say he does.

Mondale's stand on several "women's" issues—which Parkman said concern everyone—are against the family, which is the basic unit of American society, Parkman said.

Mondale's support of abortion on demand is an example, she said. "Mondale is the type of person who'd like to save the seals and kill the children—that's real frustrating to conservative women."

Parkman also pointed to Mondale's support of the Equal Rights Amendment as another of Mondale's faults. The ERA would send women into combat and destroy the family, she said.

Mondale's stand on domestic and foreign issues also are points of contention for

Parkman.

"He says he can balance the budget—but he was Carter's vice president, so I think that tells you where he's headed," she said.

"John Glenn (Democratic nominee seeker) said, 'if Mondale were elected, he would either break his promises or break the bank trying to pay for them.' I think that pretty well sums it up. I'm sure you've heard all the promises he's been making."

Mondale's position on defense issues also bothers Parkman.

"In 1971, he voted to cut European forces in half—he voted to kill the Navy's F-14 program, to stop the purchase of Harrier jets and even to eliminate the space shuttle program."

The final goal of the group is not only to defeat Mondale, but also to encourage conservative women to take a more active role in politics.

"There will always be big-mouthed liberal women who scream about everything. Conservatives are quieter. We want to change that from quiet to vocal."

Court eliminates student elections spending limit

By Robert Davis
Contributor

The ASUO Constitution Court ruled Thursday that candidate spending limits in the student body elections are unconstitutional, in accordance with a U.S. Supreme Court ruling.

In a 3-2 decision, the student court agreed with Richard Burr, a senior majoring in political science and journalism who requested the court's action, that the traditional spending limits infringed upon student candidates' First Amendment rights as outlined in the Supreme Court case Buckley v. Valeo.

In Buckley v. Valeo, the higher court invalidated provisions of a law that limited a citizen's expenditures "relative to a clearly defined candidate" and imposed a ceiling on overall campaign expenditures by candidates, their families and their campaign committees.

Burr, editor of Oregon Commentator, contested the rule under a section of the ASUO Constitution that prohibits the ASUO and its programs from violating "the privileges and immunities" of students under the U.S. Constitution.

Candidates should be able to decide how to run their campaigns, regardless of whether the strategies are inefficient, uneconomical or nontraditional, Burr argued at a court hearing.

ASUO Executive representative Tom Birkland said during the hearing that the relatively inexpensive methods of "humble handbills and leaflets" traditionally had been adequate to get elected.

The court disagreed, with court member David Gibson writing in the majority opinion that "the cost of campaigning should not be limited by 'traditional' activity and should be left to the discretion of the candidate."

The spending limits for presidential and Incidental Fee Committee candidates last year were \$400 and \$150, respectively.

In a concurring opinion, Court Chairman Alan Contreras wrote that the elimination of spending limits is conducive with another section of the ASUO Constitution, which says the elections should be conducted "in a manner consistent with the best interests of the student body"—fairly, orderly, impartially and without compromising the University's educational atmosphere.

"The best interests of the student body are protected by allowing independent

candidates not affiliated with major campus 'parties' the opportunity to overcome the structural advantages accruing to 'major-party' candidates in the 'battle of political machines' that has dominated campus politics for four years," Contreras wrote.

Candidates who receive two or more endorsements from either Students for a Progressive Agenda, the law school and/or the Interfraternity Council are elected, Burr said in an interview following the release of the decision. He covered the student body elections last year for the Oregon Daily Emerald.

The court also disagreed with an ASUO Executive argument that the president's office can impose the limits because it subsidizes candidate debate forums and a voter's guide containing candidates' statements. The Supreme Court allowed a limit on presidential candidates' spending when federal subsidies were given to qualifying candidates.

"The Court holds that these activities are a service to the electorate and not a monetary subsidy to the candidate as is the case in Buckley," wrote Gibson, with whom court member Jim Richards concurred.

Birkland asked the court to consider the policy implications of eliminating the limits. Spending in federal elections increased dramatically after the Buckley ruling, he said.

The court said it is an interpretive and judicial body that does not decide policy like a legislative body.

The court also refused the ASUO Executive's request to dismiss the case on the grounds that Burr did not have a "personal stake in the outcome of the controversy." Burr never has been a candidate.

The court said the ASUO Constitution does not preclude requests for advisory opinions.

Court members Gwen Dayton and Brenda Thornton, the Emerald assistant news editor, dissented, but their written opinion had not been released by press time.

Burr said he is pleased with the decision. "The court wisely recognized that spending does not necessarily decide elections," Burr said. "That time-worn myth runs counter to the belief in our democratic society that people can make rational decisions and are not necessarily persuaded by the quantity of a message but by the quality of a message."

SPEW

A disciple of the New Age describes her martyrdom at the hands of the unenlightened authorities of the University Bookstore:

"One woman who was convicted of shoplifting at the bookstore has other opinions of the store's security system... 'It's terrible,' she says. 'It's like 1984 in there. Who wants to be secretly watched while you're shopping for T-shirts?'"
Oregon Daily Emerald, 2-7

The same victim of fascism displays an attitude toward rule of law and the concept of private property that indicates a deep awareness of the influence of Dr. Barry Commoner:

"'I needed a pen,' she said, 'and I didn't think anybody saw me with it so I just walked out the door. I wouldn't have taken it if I'd known I was being watched.'"

Mr. James Killian of cosmopolitan Oregon City, Oregon, takes offense at one of Dutch's homey metaphors:

"I would like to comment on President Reagan's congratulatory telephone call to Tom Flores, the coach of the Super Bowl winning Los Angeles Raiders, in which Reagan compared running back Marcus Allen to a secret weapon and the Raiders team to an MX missile (Jan. 23). I think that this is a clear indication of our president's unbalanced militaristic mentality. It is frightening to realize that the leader of the world's most powerful nation is thinking in terms of military confrontation even while watching a football game..."
The Oregonian, 1-29

What the hell...Here you go, Tim. Enjoy. Savor this baby.
"Well, push came to shove and I took

the 'big leap.' I become involved...my greatest joy and fear centering on getting into The Commentator's (sic) 'Spew' column."
"Off the Record," 2-84

In the letters column of the South Eugene High School Axe, a letter by Daniel Thies leads us to ask, is this the younger generation?

"...Their belief that drug use is purely a matter of personal morals is completely wrong...possession of drugs is still a crime and probably will be until the next generation of dope-crazed youths grows up...our teachers have apparently given up the task of educating students against drug use. I for one, am sick and tired of seeing dopers thumb their coke-filled noses at Uncle Sam..."
2-10

Mr. Doug Nash, boy reporter, demonstrates how he seems to find traces of Nazism in the damndest places:

"...Meanwhile (College Republicans) would drink, joke (if their shallow attempts at humor can be so-named), and superficially jockey for position within their own miniature power structure, all the while making the invisible swastikas on their wimpy shoulders evermore conceivable."
Emerald, 2-8

A Gay and Lesbian Alliance activist offers a poem, not really of the sort Rudyard Kipling used to write:

"Up on this third floor/we work, struggle, laugh and love/together, confronting peacefully/the violent oppression/that digs it's claws into our lives and tries to destroy our alliance..."
Emerald, 1-31

PLO thwarts West Bank peace tries, expert says

By Tom Mann
Contributor

The West Bank and violence seem to be synonymous. However, John Rothman, a political and foreign policy consultant specializing in Middle Eastern affairs, said there can be peace through negotiation on the West Bank.

Rothman, who worked in the Richard Nixon administration, addressed members of the University's Jewish community Tuesday and stressed the importance of "talk" to achieve peace.

The West Bank has been a land of turbulence for many decades. The British pulled out of the area in 1948, and Israel declared its independence and its right to exist. The Arab nations attacked Israel soon afterward.

While Israel survived, Jordan emerged from the war with the West Bank, Rothman said.

Jordan controlled the area and its people for 19 years until 1967, when Israel defeated the Jordanian army and regained

the West Bank in six days.

Rothman said the difference between Jordanian rule and Israeli rule is that Jordanian rule was one of annexation while the Israelis "administer" the land.

The Jordanians and the Israelis, however, were not the only people involved in the West Bank. The Palestinians also claimed the area, he said.

The Palestinians and Israelis never have been allies partially because of different religions, Rothman said. The Palestinians are Moslems and the Israelis are Jews.

Both think the West Bank is that which their respective gods had promised them in their respective religious books, Rothman said.

Joe Orzech, a Jewish University student, said another reason for the split is that the Palestinians say the Israelis have no right to exist and that the Israelis are inferior.

In 1975, the Palestine Liberation Organization moved into the area and fired upon the Israelis, Rothman said. In the PLO's constitution, it says the quest is for the total destruction of the Israeli people, he

said.

The PLO says it represents the Palestinians; however, Rothman said the Israeli government also represents the Palestinians on the West Bank.

He cited an incident in which the Israeli government took control of some land. A group of Palestinians claimed the land belonged to them. The Palestinians took the government to an Israeli court and won the lawsuit, maintaining ownership of the land, Rothman said.

In addition, when the PLO claimed responsibility for the bombing of a bus, five top West Bank Palestinians "condemned" the act, he said.

The overall feeling is that the PLO is ensuring that there will be no peace on the West Bank. All Arabs who have tried to make peace with the Israelis have been assassinated by the PLO, Rothman said.

"The PLO proudly claims credit," he said, adding that the PLO thought an act of peace with the Israelis was a "traitorist" act.

Rothman cited the assassination of

former Egyptian President Anwar Sadat as an example. He said he believes that Sadat was killed because the president recently had signed a peace treaty with Israel.

Responding to a *Commentator* article in which Madronna Holden, a Eugene resident who visited the West Bank for 11 months, said the West Bank belongs to the Palestinians, Orzech said the West Bank has been won in war and belongs to Israel because the country won the last war there.

Both Orzech and Rothman said the only way to peace is through talk and negotiation.

At the Camp David talks, then-President Jimmy Carter urged the Palestinians to get involved in the peace-making process, but they did not. Rothman said there is a feeling of hesitation by Palestinians because the PLO does not want peace.

He said he is neither an optimist nor a pessimist but a *nessimist*, meaning he thinks miracles are possible.

Rothman said Israel has the "right to exist," and he has a "dream" of peace "but not at the expense of Israel."

Smith espouses traditional campaign issue themes

Continued from Page 1

his constituents in that his constituents wanted less taxation, less spending and a strong America. And those simple issues, pounded home on a regular basis, are really what, regardless of political philosophy or political registration, most people if you ask them, would rather have lower taxes, lower spending and a strong America, so I guess a part of what was involved was trying to get back to the basic America, I did that.

We raised a great deal of money, worked very hard—worked at it for 15 months full-time—had a professional campaign put together on that basis. It is necessary to get here. It is used as a model and rightly so, in that kind of an incumbency. You couldn't take that same campaign, however, and run against Denny Smith necessarily.

OC: That's what I was going to ask as the follow-up question—now that you're an incumbent, how has your strategy changed, and how would you counter your own 1980 challenger strategy?

DS: I'd guess, first off, I still stand for those same three elements—less taxation, less spending and a strong America. I think my votes here in the Congress have been very responsible and trying to point out that I don't agree with wasteful spending, even in programs that I would normally support. I think the lower taxes are important. We don't have the budget deficit we have today because we have given too big a tax cut. We have it because we have increased spending by some almost \$300 billion—I guess \$275 billion in the '85 budget. Our tax revenues are up, even with the tax rate cut (from 75 percent down to 50 percent) that was given in 1981, which the president put forth and which I support and still think is the right thing. The big spenders are still active in Congress and are spending more money, and that's where the problem is.

OC: One thing connected with that—you talked about the economy and the budget deficit. Oregon has recovered from the economic recession slower than most states in the nation. As an advocate of Ronald Reagan's earlier policies, what do you tell Oregonians who may not have yet experienced the benefits of the recovery?

DS: Basically, if I had been in the White House and had been in charge of the budget, I would have frozen spending in 1981 and gotten the budget straighten-

ed out before I did anything else. So it's a little difficult for me because I think we could have done more. I don't think the president recognized the opportunity he really had, and he didn't realize the number of votes and how many people really supported what he stood for. We had a window of opportunity; we didn't get the budget balanced there. Spenders got busy and have spent a lot more money. The entitlement programs are a problem. I think the assassination of the president was very key—or the attempt on his life—was very key. But how I counter it is—and I guess it takes some explanation and that's the difficult part.

First off, the deregulation of the banking industry happened in the mid-'70s under the Carter administration. And that deregulation has forced the cost of money to banks and savings and loans much higher since they now pay 8, 9, 10 percent and even up to 16 or 17 percent in the last two to three years to their depositors.

Therefore, they have to make 1½ percent probably to make a profit, and it has changed what the cost of money truly is. I still think interest rates should have been brought down. The Federal Reserve has been responsible for that. But I guess we know that we don't want the high cycles of inflation back and forth. We know that we've stopped inflation—virtually—it's down to 3 or 4 percent. We know that we've changed the perspective of the spending, even though we haven't reduced it in overall terms.

So that, I guess I try to explain that this is what we've called for, and while I'm not happy with everything that we have done—I think we could have done more—I am pleased we were able to do what we were.

I guess you have to put it in perspective. It's still tough to explain why we have the problems we have in the wood industry. Part of it is a long-term problem in that industry itself—it's moved to the Southeast. And Oregon and Washington and Idaho are going to suffer for years in the future because of some of the things that were done in government a decade or two ago.

OC: I take it then—are you still pushing for a budget freeze like the one you proposed two years ago? And I was wondering, it would seem from the way that you're talking that you're very against what Reagan has proposed in his most recent budget.

DS: The budget law is very specific

about what the president has to propose. And he puts forth a budget that looks into the next five years of spending. And some of these are very unrealistic. They've called for economic assumptions that you can't ensure you're going to get to. So it's kind of a fairy tale that you have to put forth. I still think the president should have frozen the entire budget whenever he wanted to do it, and I still would suggest he do it this year. And there are a number of us here who are conservatives who believe very strongly in the president but also believe the president's advisers are not giving him the best advice in this area, that he should be freezing the budget and/or even go in and cutting 10 percent out of everything across the board—and I might add, including defense. I think there are a number of areas that could be delayed, extended, where we don't have to buy whatever the military has asked for exactly this year. We've straightened out a lot of the problems in the military, and it's time we got the economy straightened out.

OC: In an article on Oregon representatives in *The Oregonian*, it was said that you do not work well with the Democratic representatives and vice-versa. I was wondering if this is true, and if so, why?

DS: You could make that charge I suppose. I think you could turn that around and say they don't work well with me. Their votes in the Congress have been for more spending, for more taxation, for more regulation—more business as usual here in Congress. Whereas when I came here in 1981, I had been elected by the people of the 2nd Congressional district of Oregon to provide that new kind of leadership and not just go along and get along. And so, if I cooperated with them, I would just be changing my principles to stay here under the same premise they've been here over the years. Of course, I don't think that's what I was sent here to do. That's why I felt that it's important that the kind of confrontation or lack of cooperation that we have, I think, is the best thing for our state. I was sent here to try and do something about the mess we have.

Where we've had something that needs to be done for the purposes of the state—the National Guard squadron in Klamath Falls, which was a brand new squadron; where the helping in the trying to get the Bonneville Locks, which

is the oldest locks on the Columbia River, approved—I've been right there with everyone else trying to help Oregonians. The best way I can help Oregonians and Oregonian working people, taxpayers, is to get this deficit under control, and I've tried to do that in every way I can.

OC: What has been your experience with the media in reporting on you?

DS: I think that, first off, the media was not used to dealing with somebody like Denny Smith, who tries to tell it like it is. I'm not afraid to speak out for what I believe in, and I'm not afraid to try and express the fact that I believe in less taxation, that I don't believe in taking dollars from the working people, the working Oregonians, and giving them to people who are not working, in programs that are well-intentioned but ill-conceived and ill-monitored and so forth, that where we get a situation where we started in 1965, I think, with the food stamp program at some \$50 million and the food stamp program has now \$12-plus billion. We have not really stopped "poverty."

Another good example would be the need for insulation in homes. We've been insulating homes now for a number of years under energy-saving programs trying to help low-income and elderly, and we keep coming up with more and more homes that need insulating. Now, is the problem that we're getting more poor? I think not. I think it is that we're just trying to take dollars and provide make-work jobs rather than truly trying to help the people, and that's one of the reasons why I vote against those types of programs.

OC: This kind of leads to another question—how has your experience in business differed with your experience in government?

DS: I think the difference very simply is in business is that you can do more maybe in a week in trying to run a business than you can do maybe in a year in the public sector, certainly in Congress. This is a very frustrating experience, one that you have to try and figure out. You try to vote your conscience, you try and stand on principle, and you try and do the best thing for the long-term course of this country. And in so doing, help out everyone who is a taxpayer and everyone who is a new generation of people. Part of the problem is that the older generation has been promised more than those of us who are in the Congress today can afford to pay for.

"When all are thinking alike, no one is thinking...very much."—Walter J. Lippman

Campus plague

It is disconcerting, to say the least, when one begins to realize that many allegedly open-minded "liberals" on campus and around the country are actually illiberal and intolerant.

For example, the president of Smith College told U.N. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick that the college couldn't guarantee her safety on campus, thus prompting Kirkpatrick to refuse acceptance of an honorary doctorate.

But Kirkpatrick, a Democrat, former Hubert Humphrey aide, Georgetown professor and prominent political scientist, is not the only respected intellectual treated like trash by the intolerant campus left. Senator Daniel P. Moynihan, a highly respected scholar as well as politician, also has been the target of campus protests, despite the fact that he is a liberal of long standing. The fact he has, in the past, been a vocal opponent of totalitarianism is enough to bring the wrath of the Thought Police upon his head. William F. Buckley, a most respected conservative and one of the most eloquent individuals of any political hue, also has been the target of immature abuse at colleges.

Jerry Falwell, a man with whom we sometimes disagree, provides yet another example of the growing intolerance on campuses. When Senator Edward Kennedy visited Falwell's Liberty Baptist College, he was greeted warmly and listened to courteously. However, when Falwell toured the Ivy League campuses, he was greeted routinely with an incredible barrage of abuse from students and faculty. In an ironic twist, it was the supposedly narrow-minded fundamentalist who gave the supposed sophisticates of the Ivy League a lesson in open-mindedness and courtesy.

The effects of illiberals are more pervasive than preventing a few speeches. At Dartmouth, an administrator punched, kicked and bit a student distributing a conservative journal; he pled guilty in court while the faculty censured the journal! Some conservative publications are said by some faculty (although not at the University, where they are more tolerant than students) to be in "bad taste." It is odd that complaint is not levied against 1960s protestors wearing American flags as loincloths or 1980s editors at Penn suggesting it's too bad Hinckley missed.

At the University, the Student Administrative Board, in a fit of open-mindedness and constitutionalism, decided that stifling an alleged attack against homosexuals was more important than the First Amendment's guarantee of freedom of speech. ASUO Vice President Kevin Kouns, interpreting Students for Bestiality's goals to claim the groups misrepresented itself, issued the well-researched and binding opinion that its members are "fascist, nasty people." Normally, that would be about as effective and intelligent as us labeling Kouns a "Marxist, nasty person" but the other illiberals gobbled it up under the rule that "If you haven't got something sensible to say, scream and shout as much vituperative drivel as you can think of."

Another ASUO Executive illiberal, in another instance, shouted that "asshole Republicans" are holding up the presidential interior decorator's attempt to waste \$5,000 removing a supposedly sexist landmark.

Finally, there is the matter of the ASUO Executive recommending no action by the Incidental Fee Committee on a student body subscription to the *Commentator* and suggesting a battle at the polls that Students for a Regressive Agenda will no doubt turn into a nasty partisan fight. It will, of course, be done regardless of whether other student publications are referred to the voters the same way or whether the students should receive other points of view.

Illiberals apparently cannot accept our system's limitations and reject the partnership of rights and responsibilities because this idea allows too much freedom for those with whom they disagree. We can only hope illiberals will be recognized by others and themselves for what they are, and then allow a truly open admissions policy for ideas.

If they don't, they will be carrying on in the tradition of their spiritual ancestors. It was in 1921 that Adolph Hitler said, "The National Socialist movement in Munich will in the future prevent, without exception, and if need be with force, any meetings or addresses which are calculated to have a demoralizing effect upon our fellow citizens."



LETTERS

Clarification

Please allow us to clarify the following points with respect to our interview ("West Bank: 'land without compassion'") with the *Commentator*.

We do not support "integration of settlers with West Bank Palestinians." Although we certainly favor cultural and economic cooperation between Israelis and Palestinians, we stand with the American Jewish Committee, the United Nations, the Reagan Peace Plan and the Israeli citizens of Peace Now, who last year camped in front of bulldozers preparing a moratorium on West Bank settlements. Our use of the term "binational" indicates, in this context, an independent and self-governing Israel and an independent and self-governing Palestinian population.

We also never said that we thought the situation on the West Bank "hopeless." In the context of our remarks on the economic entanglements between Israel and the West Bank, we were asked whether we thought it difficult. In fact, we can cite several changes in the military occupation on the West Bank which would immediately lessen tension in that area:

1. Restore free elections (suspended since 1967) on the West Bank and negotiate with freely elected Palestinian representatives in determining the governance of the West Bank.
2. Remove military orders forbidding non-violent political assemblies, strikes and demonstrations. Guarantee non-violent response of the occupation forces to non-violent Palestinian protest.
3. Set up curfews, checkpoints, entry of military personnel into private Palestinian residences and sweeps which confiscate I.D. (and thus confine to house arrest) segments of the civilian Palestinian population only with specific and serious security reasons, which can be justified before a review board composed partly of elected Palestinian representatives.

Advisory Board: Ross Anthony, Assistant Professor of Economics, University; Gabriel H. Boehmer, Reporter, Vancouver (Wash.) *Columbian*; Jerrold H. Claussen, Editor, *The Sawhorse*, Oregon State Homebuilders Association; Paul Holbo, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, University; Peter Murphy, President, The Murphy Company; August Palmitessa, Esq., Staff Attorney, Bick & Monte; Rep. Denny Smith, U.S. House of Representatives; Fred Van Natta, President, Public Affairs, Inc. Titles are listed for identification purposes only.

4. Reconstitute and follow the directives of, the committee composed by the Israeli government for the purposes of investigating violence perpetrated on civilian Palestinians by Israeli settlers. (The chair of that committee recently resigned due to inaction on the committee's findings.)

5. Publish (especially to Israeli and Palestinian civil rights lawyers) the list of illegal books on the West Bank. Abolish military censorship which make illegal the possession of any piece of literature on the West Bank for which a permit has not been specifically obtained.

None of the changes in occupation policy above will harm Israel security, but they will serve to immediately lessen tension on the West Bank, as well as to lay the foundation for future negotiations between Israeli officials and Palestinian representatives based on mutual dignity and respect.

In closing, let me put in context the remark that "if you put Israelis and Palestinians in the same clothes you could not tell them apart." The tension on the West Bank has the feel of a blood feud. The remembrance of wrongs on both sides is a part of this; but another part is the kinship between the antagonists. Israelis and Palestinians share a Semitic heritage. They are similar not only in physical appearance and language, but in certain cultural traits: the love of bargaining and the skill in the use of oral tradition are two of the most obvious of these. But most importantly, these two peoples share a heritage of maintaining for generations a sense of identity in the midst of the most adverse of external political situations. In a very real way, Israel could not ultimately hinder the national resolve of the Palestinian people without destroying a most important part of herself as well.

Madronna Holden
 Ken Collins

Editor's Note: Collins was quoted as saying there are "few hopes."

John-C. Gorman, Graphics Editor; Mark J. Pynes, Photo Editor; Advertising staff: Kevan Houser; Board of Contributors: Kenmar V. Bual, Jordan P. Cowman, Michael Cross, Daniel B. DeGrange, Paul A. Daghlian, James Fleming, R. Hance Haney, Manuel "Manny" Hernandez III, Leslie D. Joynes, Thomas Mann, Ron E. Munion, Thomas Prowell, Kathleen Y. "Kathi" Rinks, Alan Scarce, Eric Stillwell, Jeffrey P. Wilson.

Copyright 1984 Oregon Commentator Publishing Co., Inc. All rights reserved.

Beastly meeting turns to low comedy

By Michael Rust
Assistant Editor

In the stillness of the morning of January 30, 1984, a terrible ugliness was born in the display case of the EMU lobby. The unnatural creature called "Students for Bestiality" (from here on, known as SB for the sake of brevity) had a brief, but lively, existence.

Throughout that eventful Monday, *Commentator* stalwarts Richard Burr and Robert Davis were on hand to record for posterity the death throes of the beast. (Like the *Emerald's* Doug Nash, they've had their share of "negative experiences on the journalistic beat.") Knowing of my morbid interest in local political activism, they have provided me with their notes and observations, and asked me to present them here for the historical record. (Unlike ASUO President Mary Hotchkiss, Burr and Davis believe in the value of history.)

So the following is the story of the decline and fall of SB; thanks to the seeming eagerness of all sides in the controversy to make fools out of themselves, it is more low comedy than epic. However, it also could be considered cheap melodrama. So let us commence with "Disaster Averted, or How Plucky Lads such as Kevin Kouns, Bill Snyder and Their Friends Kept their Fingers in the Dike All Night and Kept Fascism From Flooding the University of Oregon."

I should make clear than an informal poll of the *Commentator* staff revealed a unanimous disapproval of the SB display. However, before the official purging ceremonies had begun, our publication was drawn inadvertently into the line of fire. Davis and Burr were in Suite One, talking with the noted local malcontent Brandon Shepard, who was staffing the College Republican "office." (The CRs and Inter Varsity Fellowship each have a desk apiece sandwiched between Students for a Nuclear Free Future and the Survival Center. The aesthetic effect is like that of an Easter lily growing from under a pile of feces.) Anyway, Shepard was upset that the SB display had been described as "obscene," and asked Davis to compare the display to a sign in the SNUFF office that carried the words, "Fuck the Army," along with a picture of a turtle apparently attempting to enjoy carnal knowledge of a military helmet. Davis, a promising young photo-journalist, snapped a picture of the sign, which brought a hirsute SNUFFer over howling, "They're taking pictures of my desk." Into the scene, in the best John Wayne tradition, stepped ASUO Student Events Coordinator Bill "Duke" Snyder, who promptly accused Davis of photographing "papers." After Davis denied this, Snyder said, "You have two choices. You can tell the truth or you can lie." That's usually true. This is the same Snyder who earlier was quoted as saying that the EMU "Statement of Purpose" should be changed because "that was the '50s and now it's the '80s." That's true, too. In any case, Snyder refused to listen to Davis' explanations, said it was all "bullshit," and stormed off. The games were about to begin.

The group sitting in judgment upon SB was the Student Admin. Board. Just to calm the fears of anybody who might take campus government seriously, there was a major dispute at the beginning of the meeting about where everybody should sit. (The group had not met for four years, so proper etiquette was uncertain.)

Finally, after 20 minutes, everybody was settled in cozily: members of the brutalized gay community in one corner, various spectators in another, the SAB in front. Michael Cross and Dan Goulet, the only individuals who were willing to speak up for SB by this time, arrived at the last minute and began scribbling on pieces of

notebook paper. They later read from the papers, so it seemed as though they had nothing prepared for the "trial."

The hearing was delayed, however, as Snyder couldn't figure out how to open the meeting. While the board went through their rule books, a couple of people went to fetch the SB signs that had been locked up somewhere. They returned and displayed the signs on a table for all to gaze on and be horrified by. There were disgusted looks at Cross and Goulet, along with a few snorts. Finally, Snyder decided the best way to conduct the meeting would be to announce

evening would turn out to be an oasis of relative calm. After they had their say, it was free-for-all time. Snyder attempted to head off the bloodletting by saying that everyone should be brief and restrained, and that if he could be in control of himself, everybody else should also.

ASUO Vice President Kevin Kouns proved to be in classic form. He began by saying that part of the reason he was so annoyed with SB was that he had to skip a class that morning to deal with the SB fiasco. This commendable display of academic zeal soon was overwhelmed by

in saying "point of order"; what for, nobody knows. The parliamentary procedure phrase was made famous by the late Senator Joseph McCarthy during the 1955 Army-McCarthy hearings; the similarities between Hope and the late Wisconsin demagogue is an interesting point to ponder. But then perhaps this is unfair. Perhaps she had watched the Democratic debates and thought that that's the way grown-ups act during parliamentary proceedings. In any case, she finally was silenced when she said, "Point of order—will the speaker (Cross) please state the question," and ASUO Constitution Court Chairman Alan Contreras turned to her and said, "There is no question, Mary."

"Oh," she responded as she wilted back into the corner. Hope recovered enough to say a little while later, "May I make a motion?" The SAB had to explain to her that as they were the people trying SB, they were the ones who had to make motions. Her remarks, however, were appreciated by most of the group.

Hope was by no means the only confused participant in the hearings. Tom Birkland, acting as a student but who also was director of the campus American Civil Liberties Union, weighed in with the opinion that "It is fundamentally amazing that it has even come to this tribunal." Cross and Goulet should have been kicked out with no due process at all. However, Snyder broke in to say that because they are students, and because the University is such an inherently decent place, even scum such as SB deserve a hearing. Birkland toned it down a little, but he continued to be a very vocal critic of SB: "It amazes me that these students want to infringe on these other students' Constitutional rights, and when someone calls them on it, they run and hide behind the First Amendment."

ACLU activists are not usually known for accusing people of "hiding" behind the First Amendment. Nor are they usually known for advocating book burning. However, as the meeting later broke up, and Kouns and company were trying to decide what to do with the signs, Birkland was heard to say, "I think you should burn them in a public ceremony." Kouns did not call him a fascist.

Mark Spence, Incidental Fee Committee member and EMU Housing Committee member, said using student-funded resources to attack another group was like writing slogans on your neighbor's privately owned house. On the other hand, it was not pointed out that the IFC-funded Muslim Student Association and Muslim Student Society have attacked each other. Also ignored was the fact that MSA had a controversial exhibit last year attacking Jews, Zionists and President Ronald Reagan, who was called a Zionist puppet. The exhibit was not removed.

Things began to get rather messy for SB as the evening wore on. Oregon College Republican Chairman David Ridenour's name was on the form that SB had filled out to get recognition status. When the SAB read his name, Ridenour stood and said he didn't know his name was there, he wasn't connected with SB in any way and he disapproved of them completely. At this point, in what must certainly rank as a major tactical error, Cross interjected that the CRs did indeed know about it, and that he had found the idea in a CR handbook.

The audience's worst fears about a massive right-wing conspiracy were realized at this point—although no verification was uncovered—and whatever feeble chance SB had was pretty well evaporated. At this point, in the best College Republican tradition, Cross and Ridenour started yelling at each other, inspiring one of the lesbians to suggest that "you two can fight



the charges against SB, and then listen to their response, Gay and Lesbian Alliance's remarks and then anything anybody else wanted to say. SB then was accused of abusing the use of student-funded resources. Snyder also said there was a question of whether SB could "attack" homosexuals in this way as gays are protected as a minority group under state law.

Cross presented a pretty good defense, considering the situation he faced. He said the display was in accord with the statement of purpose that the group had submitted, specifically the part that refers to study of the societal base of values. SB's display wasn't an attack any organization, but a comparison of sexual practices, he said.

Cross maintained that SB sought to reveal the hypocrisy of some people's values by displaying the way in which one "deviant" practice has more influence than others. He also asked if the signs would have been removed if they quoted in context from the Bible or Koran.

Cross also said that he considered GALA's bisexual valentine cards in the display case last year to have been obscene but he was tolerant and hadn't asked for their removal. He also pointed out that the removal of the display was a violation of his right to free speech guaranteed by the First Amendment.

Unfortunately, he nullified the effect of his speech by concluding with a challenge to the audience to "Show me one thing on those posters that isn't true." Cross began to forget what his strongest case was and started making anti-homosexual comments instead of concentrating on the First Amendment.

GALA maintained that the display was a personal attack on gays and that freedom of speech didn't cover this. GALA Director David Funk told of gays being beaten up in the streets of Eugene, and also mentioned that what disturbed him most was the "slandorous" nature of the display. He said he would be consulting with his attorney within the next few days to determine if he could file a civil suit.

As it turned out, the GALA part of the

Kouns' further observations. "I think anyone with eyeballs would be disgusted by this piece of obscene trash," he said. Cross and Goulet were "fascist, nasty" people. The word, "fascist" was used with such enthusiasm, one began to think that it was handed down on a tablet from Mt. Sinai. Kouns also said SB would "rot" before it got any funding.

Cross attempted to respond to this tirade by saying something about Kouns not knowing the meaning of the word, "fascist," and he proceeded to read a dictionary definition. This was greeted with more snorts from around the room, and a voice saying "you know what he means."

It was about this time that Death in the Afternoon came in the form of Dan Goulet. Goulet went wandering off on some kind of homophobic tangent. He seemed to be on the verge of saying something particularly nasty when Snyder cut him off, saying that he had talked too long. This brought a protest from the lesbian corner who wanted to hear Goulet finish his statement. More groans, gasps and laughter around the room.

Also present at this strange encounter was former ASUO Publications Coordinator Mary Hope. During her previous sojourn on this campus, Ms. Hope did not strike many of us at the *Commentator* as being a terribly cerebral sort of person, a reputation enhanced by her unfortunate tendency to regard anyone who disagreed with her as a "fascist." Hope was a leader in the unsuccessful effort to eliminate ROTC last spring (during which she blasted law school Dean Derrick Bell for his vote on the ROTC issue). Although she claimed the ROTC conflict was motivated by moral considerations, she said last summer than moral considerations should not enter the "food-gate" dispute, in which members of Food-Op, a private natural foods cooperative, were accused of covering up false time-card entries.

Hope's conduct during the SAB hearing seemed to occasionally border on the eccentric. She kept up a running stream of comments throughout the time that Cross and Goulet were speaking. Hope persisted

'Student shock' stunning universities

By Dane S. Claussen
Publisher

A recent comment by a professor that college students "don't have as much fun" as they did when he went to college kicked off a class discussion about how today's students think, plan and act.

No single comment was very surprising or disturbing; what perhaps was most bothersome is the number of factors students must deal with and the number of decisions they must, not simply can, make. The bottom line is that many students encounter a lot of stress before they even are legally old enough to deal with it in their stereotypical way.

Says Mary Anne Rust, a clinical psychologist in Encino, Calif., about "student shock": "The pressures of growing up have increased enormously, and neither students nor parents fully realize it."

"These aren't freshmen who feel isolated because it's their first time away from home. Many are severely depressed."

While it is up to individuals to deal with stress in the most appropriate manner for themselves, a first step is recognizing the causes and effects of stress among students. It is a problem probably still underestimated, although statistics show increases in campus counseling center caseloads.

The effects of stress actually also vary greatly from person to person, but extreme cases can result in drinking and drug problems, eating and sleeping disorders, severe depression, bulimia and anorexia nervosa, and ultimately, even suicide.

Less harmful effects of stress include a noticeable decrease in student activism across the country, along with increases in all activities related to attending graduate school or getting a job.

Causes of stress

To start off with, students now often take longer to get through school, sometimes switching majors and schools several times. Not only are the processes of changing majors or schools stressful by themselves, but the longer time in school may make a student more susceptible to "student shock." Major and school switching also is related to the stress of making what often is a career decision for half or all of a working lifetime at a time when most students really are unsure of themselves and confronted with myriad choices and an unpredictable future.

A *Wall Street Journal* article in June explained the case of Robert Dye, 22, then a student at Memphis State University in Tennessee, who "began as a geology major, but the courses seemed dull. So he switched to business, which he thought would lead to a job, but he found accounting 'pretty boring.' He had always been interested in nutrition and athletics, so he thought the field of dietetics might offer a possibility.

"A dietetics professor suggested he visit a dietitian and see what the job would be like. After spending time with a dietitian, he wasn't sure he wanted to spend his whole life doing that. Next he took a battery of vocational tests, and found out his interests were strongest in television or film production. Currently, after four years at Memphis State and no degree, he would like to get into the television business but thinks that realistically he should try advertising sales.

"Mr. Dye says he is baffled by the huge number of courses and majors. 'You can take courses ranging from Beethoven to Computerman,' he says. 'You can make up your own major by combining several different fields. Then you go into a counselor and ask if the field you select will be good in five years. The answer I received was, 'It might be and it might not.' Do you wonder why

I'm confused?'"

No. Unfortunately, awareness of the array of academic fields and jobs from which to choose is more frightening than it is a first step toward firm decisions. And then one must consider that one-third of the 965,000 members of the 1983 graduating class left campus with no job in sight and tens of thousands were still looking six months later when loans started coming due.

And few are the universities with extensive vocational counseling services such as that at UCLA, one consisting of 15 to 20 hours of testing and three sessions with psychologists and costing a cool \$475. Private firms with similar fees also flourish because of the costs involved in incorrectly choosing a college or major and then changing in mid-stream.

That number of current annual college graduates, 965,000, also highlights the fact students feel much more pressure to attend college and do well once there, in order to get the best jobs and places in the best graduate schools, which also are cranking out thousands.

As Robert W. Wilson of New York suggested in a *Wall Street Journal* letter, "Far too many kids are being forced to go to college. They are being forced to go because the colleges are there and because businesses will not hire them for responsible, upscale jobs unless they have degrees. Many bright youngsters who are not academically inclined are forced to waste four or more years of their most energetic, creative years sitting in class and doing nothing much else but sex, drugs, and neuroses."

The costs of colleges also are causing stress. Not only because many students leave college with large debts, but the high costs of college almost require that they "get their money's worth" per se and because parents often are sacrificing much. College costs for students living away from home vary from about \$5,000

a year at state universities such as the University to more than \$17,000 a year for a private graduate school. These costs are not borne comfortably in a poor economy, with many one-income, large or broken families.

Finally, there is less support today at home and even among peers because of the high divorce rate and high mobility of American society, among other factors.

While it is likely that all the factors causing "student shock" are here to stay, the recognition of that stress and how to deal with it will help some. Harold Korn, University of Michigan's counseling director, still believes that the United States will pay dearly "for what we're doing to our most talented youth. We are training people to believe that the only way to get ahead in life is through cutthroat competition. We are creating a generation who may be developing lifelong stress-related problems."

Perhaps a simple, although not permanent, solution is best for this complex problem. Ted Seastrom of Indianapolis, in another *Wall Street Journal* letter, argued that "Since most students have gone straight from high school to college, they have little practical knowledge of how the world works and what kinds of things truly interest them. A good way to gain this knowledge before going to college would be to get a job, move out of the house, and explore life's possibilities for a year or two.

"I would especially take issue with psychologist David Elkind's belief that 'society is forcing children to grow up too fast.' Quite the contrary, by prolonging well into the 20's (sic) a childlike condition of dependence and lack of genuine responsibility, our society retards the healthy personality development that comes from struggling directly with life and making one own's sense of it."

Amen.

Savage proceeding tranquilizes beast

Continued from Page 5

it out in the parking lot after the meeting."

Contreras offered his opinion that SAB should concentrate on SB's status, rather than on the display, because they weren't responsible for taking it down anyway.

After they had exhausted themselves, the final phase of the meeting began. After everything that already had happened, the SAB suddenly couldn't figure out just where their authority to get rid of SAB came from. After 15 minutes of searching through their notebooks to discover how SB could be killed, they finally decided that they did, indeed, have the authority to get rid of SB. SAB member Frank Geltner said that the only thing left to decide was whether they simply should revoke SB's right to use the EMU, or if they should eliminate the group's recognition status entirely. At this point, SAB member Lisa Nuss—who had been one of the few who seemed to realize that it was supposed to be a hearing rather than a star chamber—said, "But no one has proven that they've done anything wrong yet."

"Oh," Geltner replied. Geltner, whose mind seemed—that afternoon, at least—to be of a more solid than nimble variety, expended a great deal of energy repeatedly urging *Emerald* Editor Debbie Howlett to ensure SB's spelling errors were publicized.

Within two minutes, the SAB had drafted a proposal declaring that SB had lied in their statement of purpose, it was agreed upon unanimously and the meeting adjourned. One SAB member had suggested that perhaps Cross and Goulet could be kicked out of school for their sins, but that proposal didn't get anywhere. One final tense moment occurred when Kouns went to pick up the signs, and Shepard immediately was at his side with a hand on them also. Kouns started to pull them away, Davis moved in with his camera, and Kouns let go. He said something to Shepard about pictures of the signs already existing, implying that Shepard might try to destroy them and claim that SB never had been involved with them. Not the brightest notion certainly, but then perhaps Kouns still was brooding about that missed class time. The evening ended on an appropriate note, with Ridenour arguing with Burr and Davis about whether it was illegal or merely unethical that Cross had listed his name on the form without his permission, as he insisted they had.

One other bizarre note came when ASUO Assistant Coordinator of University Affairs Barbara McCarthy sidled up to Burr, who was diligently taking notes, and said that he should make sure to get the names spelled correctly because when the Students for a Progressive Agenda administration does "you" in, it wanted to do it legitimately. A mystifying statement under

most circumstances, it seemed to have a certain twilight zone tinge in light of the circumstances in which it was uttered.

One only can surmise, sadly, that the Hotchkiss administration has not received the constructive criticism offered by the *Commentator* in the spirit in which it was given. But then, Ms. McCarthy is rumored to lust after Ms. Hotchkiss' position. The budding campus politician's life is a rough one, and one must take a forgiving attitude, viewing Ms. McCarthy's weird mutterings with sympathy rather than scorn.

Speaking of sympathy and scorn, what can we make of the unpleasanties that occurred that Monday? The only apparent winners were the representatives of the gay community who opposed the display. Their behavior was commendably restrained, in view of all the frenzy surrounding them. (This was pointed out by a number of people at the hearing, with Kouns being the most effusive. He said he was amazed at how well they were taking it, and that if he were in their position, he didn't know what he'd do, but he would be furious, etc., leaving some spectators with the impression that he was saying that violence probably would be the right way to deal with SB, so GALA should be especially admired for their restraint.)

About SB itself, most of what can be said already has been said. SB members let their own homophobia distort the very real issue of student funding of campus groups.

While it is true that the local Left continually attacks moderates and conservatives in a mindless, crude fashion, that is no reason to respond in kind. Also, while many people (including more than a few gays) have doubts about total correctness of the gay rights movement, most people—including the *Commentator* staff—find the sort of rhetoric included in the SB display to be distasteful.

Equally revolting, however, is the hate, self-righteousness and hypocrisy displayed by the self-proclaimed defenders of human rights who were present at the SAB meeting. If the level of political discourse on this campus has sunk to a low point, they bear most of the responsibility.

Critical judgment is mixed about who turned in the most asinine performance. Hope received rave reviews, but Birkland showed rare promise, considering both his youth and his ACLU credentials. Kouns, of course, is a seasoned veteran and never disappoints. Perhaps we should say that each performance complemented the others.

The dust has settled where Students for Bestiality once trod. As for Kouns, Snyder, Hope, Cross, Goulet, Birkland—well, as the Prince of Wales is supposed to have said about the IRA bombers, God will judge them. The entire affair has a unique kind of "only-in-Eugene" aura about it. But then leaving Eugene is becoming easier and easier for a lot of us.

The Who book best of its kind

Before I Get Old; The Story of the Who
Dave Marsh
1983, St. Martins Press

By Daniel J. McMillan
Contributing Editor

Before I Get Old is, at the moment, the definitive book on The Who and the best book about a single rock band that I have encountered.

The title sums up the theme of the book. It is a lyric from "My Generation"—"Hope I die before I get old"—and could serve as an epitaph for all the contradictions that have become a part of The Who.

Rock-n-roll fans who like to read about rock-n-roll are usually at the mercy of mediocre writers from the National Enquirer school, or old hippies who can't believe that Woodstock is over. What is needed in rock-n-roll writing is a delicate balance between objectivity and an intense commitment to music.

Rock is a personal experience between listener and artist that can't be approached in the same way classical music is. The allure of rock is far more visceral than other music, and that is why a writer has to understand the emotions behind rock and

still be able to be objective about it.

Dave Marsh, a former editor of Creem magazine, associate editor of Rolling Stone and the author of Born to Run, about Bruce Springsteen, comes admirably close to the mark in Before I Get Old.

It is Marsh's portrait of Keith Moon that offers the greatest insights. Moon emerges not as the devil-may-care hotel trasher of legend, but as an insecure boy. His insecurity is manifested by the endless antics that are nothing more than attention-getters.

The irony of the whole situation is that Moon, while not being any more important than any other band member, was uniquely responsible for The Who's sound. His insecurity stemmed from doubt about his position within The Who, when in fact he was the most indispensable member besides Pete Townsend.

This is not to say that the book is without faults. Marsh tends to engage in too much psychological analysis of the group's songs and individual personalities. These portraits, instead of being insightful, tend to stress the obvious: Roger Daltrey is a street-wise punk who sees rock as a job preferable to

sheet metal work, and Townsend is the introspective and self-destructive artistic type.

The general rock fan may find some of the tour and recording information boring and redundant, but to the real fan, this information is the most fascinating. Marsh has done a good job of filtering the rumor from the fact and then presenting it all in a lucid manner. Of all the book's material, the in-depth looks at the "Tommy" sessions and the failed "Lifehouse" project, which drove Townsend to a nervous breakdown and became the nucleus for "Who's Next," are of the most value to the rock historian.

Marsh's greatest triumph, though, is that he is able to present all the material in a manner that combines the biographical without the analytical. Within this framework, he keeps to his theme of "age" without being pretentious.

By weaving statements from the band members into his narrative and analyses, Marsh backs up his conclusions, and while this does not make them ironclad, it does make them worth reading.

For all its faults, Before I Get Old is worth reading simply because it is an intelligent book about an important band.

LETTERS

Misquoted

As a journalist, I have often had to deal with the public's mistrust of reporters and the concern about accurate reporting. But never before now did I have to deal with it from the other side—as a person being interviewed for an article.

What a different experience. And I must say I, myself, was not too excited about the results.

In last Monday's Oregon Commentator, I was interviewed for an article about student entrepreneurship. To be honest, I was quite flattered to have been asked my opinions about the matter. But after reading what I supposedly said, I questioned my judgment and whether I would be so quick to oblige again. However small the details were

that were reported wrong, I felt a terrible sense of misrepresentation, of having words put in my mouth. The article states that I said, "Most students are not competent, confident and 'extremely responsible,' and thus would probably fail to demonstrate the necessary professionalism and enthusiasm to potential venture capitalists."

I never said that! I never said students are not competent!

I'm surprised I haven't been tarred and feathered by the rest of the student body, though, for the way my comments were presented.

What I did say was that more students may not take on the challenge of starting their own business because they lack the confidence and inspiration. And that learning to be extremely punctual is an important step in

demonstrating the necessary professionalism and enthusiasm to impress potential investors.

I have definitely learned a valuable lesson from this experience—one which shall remain with me throughout my career as a journalist. And I would hope that other journalists who happen to read this will keep in mind their responsibility to report things accurately, and steer clear of writing what they wanted their interviewees to say, instead of what they really said. For if we want the public to trust us, it is essential that we be honest.

Steven M. Laing
Senior, Journalism

Publisher's Note: The sentence in question paraphrased Mr. Laing's statements and was meant to say that although some students may be competent, confident, or "extremely responsible" (or two of the three), that few, if any, students exhibit all three characteristics. Mr. Laing's belief that most students are capable is made clear in the sentence immediately prior to the one in question. I admit that the sentence's meaning would have been more clear had the word "and" been in italic or other distinguishing type.

The Attic Dresser Exciting Designer Fashions

350 East Eleventh Avenue, Eugene, Ore. 97401 • 485-6666

20% off all Bicycling Clothing

Expires Feb. 25, 1984

Willamette Valley
Cycle Works

Subject to stock on hand

663 E. Thirteenth Eugene, Oregon 97401 - 343-7086

gerlach's

CAMERA CENTERS

New 20" x 30" poster prints by Kodak!

Made from 35 mm Kodacolor film negatives or transparencies.

INTRODUCTORY SPECIAL \$12.95

With coupon. Good thru 2/27/84



gerlach's

CAMERA CENTERS

Centennial Center
651 W. Centennial Blvd. • 746-6511

On Campus
849 East 13th • 344-8890

Peace Corps

Being a Peace Corps volunteer means taking what you know, sharing it with others, and learning about life in another country, another culture.

Developing nations want to grow more food to feed their people . . . improve schools and expand public education . . . provide adequate shelter and clean drinking water . . . insure good health care and basic nutrition . . . build roads and transportation systems.

The person who becomes a Peace Corps volunteer must have a strong commitment to helping other people. He or she must be willing to learn their language . . . appreciate their culture . . . and live modestly among them.

If this sounds like you, we'd like to show you the many opportunities beginning soon in 60 developing nations. You can apply now for any openings beginning in the next 12 months.

The toughest job you'll ever love

Call 686-3235 for information

Information Table-EMU, Feb. 7, 13, and 14, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Group Meeting-EMU, Forum Room Feb. 13, 12:30 p.m.
Slide Presentation-Women in Development, PLC 605, Feb. 15, 7:30
Film-"In Their Shoes"-Forum Rm., Feb. 14, 3:30 p.m.
Interviews-Career Planning and Placement Center, 244 Hendricks, Feb. 15, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Feb. 16, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Advance sign-up and completed applications required.



TYPING LESSONS
Enter Anytime

\$10-4 nights \$25-20 days

Days 11:00-12:00 and/or 2:00-3:00 mon.-thurs.

Nights 6:30-7:45 Tuesday only

EUGENE BUSINESS COLLEGE Inc.
383 E 11th 345-3413

German trio squelches perverts of rock-n-roll

By Daniel McMillan
Contributing Editor

Every once in a while, rock starts to take itself too seriously. Pseudo-sociologists and left-wing political types start to talk about rock as if it contained the key to the perfect society, or as if rock could somehow transform the masses into a proletarian vanguard.

Trio, a German trio, has arrived in just the nick of time to squelch these perverters of rock and deliver it into the hands of its rightful owners: those who just want to have fun, laugh and drink beer.

"Trio and Error," this talented group's first full-length LP, is a revelation. To say that these guys are pure is a understatement. Using a Casio portable keyboard, guitar and drums, Trio is the best thing to hit rock since the Ramones.

"Da, Da, Da" is minimalism on the cutting edge. Short, understated keyboard blips segue into a repeated refrain of "aha," which abruptly becomes a verse and then a chorus: "Da, Da, Da/I don't love you/You don't love me." Never has teen-age angst been expressed in a more succinct manner.

Although "Da, Da, Da" is the album's highlight, the rest of the album is no letdown.

"Ich Lieb Den Rock-n-Roll" can only be called cluttered minimalism. A screamed first verse presents the protagonist of the song as an angry young man who wants to break past his parents and get out and enjoy rock-n-roll. The rumbling guitar obscures everything except the joyful shouts of our liberated hero.

In case you are feeling that Trio's whole repertoire consists of bitter, angry and rebellious songs, "Hearts are Trump" and "Tooralooraloo—Is It Old or Is It New" should prove otherwise.

"Hearts are Trump" is a poignant tale of unrequited love. "I take the coffee with me and start waiting by the phone/And then and then/And then you call me/And I feel like I am floating/I feel my battery reloading." But, as any avid Carter Brown Mystery Series reader will know, it doesn't take long for a good situation to go bad: "And you don't call/Far from feeling like a her/I remain at

level zero."

When one is sitting by the ocean contemplating what was, is and can be your thoughts probably resemble the lyrics of "Tooralooraloo—Is It Old or Is It New": "Long ago and far away/Do I love you I can't say...Uuh/I loved it there and then/But would it be like that again." Sure, they don't give lots of answers—neither did Shakespeare or James Joyce, but it is that they are raising the questions that matters.

"Boom Boom" features a clas-

sic Chuck Berry guitar lick from "Little Queenie," or maybe "Carol." If "Out in the Streets" sounds like a Bruce Springsteen song that's because Springsteen might sound like this if he were German with a weird sense of humor.

Yes could have been a lot more listenable and just as artsy if only they had the sense to do something as "Bye Bye." "Anna-Let-meinletmeout" contains a subtle sexual innuendo. The token oldie is a warped version of "Tutti Frutti" at about one-eighth

speed.

And lastly, "Drei mann im doppelbett," repeated three times.

The last song, "W.W.W.," lets the cat out of the bag. These guys are no musical morons who are minimalists because that is what their talent is; they are damn good musicians who would rather have fun and put the spirit and soul (can white Germans have

"soul"?) back into rock.

"W.W.W.," an instrumental, has the kind of atmosphere that most "musicians" can't get with "real" equipment, and only Ralph Towner has ever achieved this kind of a delicate atmospheric music.

So for maximum fun from a minimal band, try Trio, Germany's defender of rock-n-roll purity.

John & Sandy's
The Breakfast Place
with great lunches too
1249 Alder

1st Annual Valentines Day Special Lunch

Meal includes:

- Cranberry sauce, home-made rolls, valentine cupcake
- Jello & whipped cream salads
- Hawaiian Chicken served on rice.
- Vegetables
- Breakfast and regular lunch served also

\$3.50

We're on campus
A little hard to find, but worth the effort
7:00 am to 4:30 pm • 484-2956
We serve breakfast all day long

BIJOU 492 E. 13th
686-2458

Reserved seat tickets available in advance at the theatre after 7:30 p.m. General admission \$4. Student with Id. \$3.50 Sat. & Sun. Matinee 3 p.m. General Admission \$3

"DELIGHTFUL...a film of summer sunlight, bare skin and escalating amorous misunderstandings - wit and irony abound." -David Ansen, NEWSWEEK

ERIC ROHMERS
Pauline
at the beach

Copyright © 1983 Orion Classics Corp. An **ORION CLASSICS** Release

Starts Friday. Showtimes: 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. **MUST END SOON!**

Sat. & Sun. matinee 4 p.m.

ALSO SHOWING: **THE GREATEST ROCK & ROLL COMEDY ADVENTURE**

THE BEATLES
A HARD DAY'S NIGHT **DOLBY STEREO**
IN SELECTED THEATRES

EYEWITNESS TO WAR

First hand reports from the War Zones of Afghanistan, Northern Ireland and Cambodia



David Kline

THE STRUGGLE FOR AFGHANISTAN
February 15th



John Conroy

NORTHERN IRELAND: AN EVERYDAY WAR
February 22nd



Daniel Burstein

CAMBODIA
February 29th

FREE ADMISSION TO ALL

WEDNESDAY 8:00PM 150 GEOLOGY UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Presented by the EMU Cultural Forum

Who reads
the
Commentator?

