

Opinion and Comment

Nicaraguan communists threaten U.S.

Lenin once said, "The road to victory over capitalism runs through Mexico City." The United States is at the end of that road—and Nicaragua is closer to Texas than Washington state is.

The Nicaraguan government has seized control of all media except one heavily-censored newspaper. It denied Roman Catholic priests the right to say Mass on television during Holy Week. It has stifled the private sector and independent trade unions. It has driven the Miskito Indians out of their homelands, while burning their villages, destroying their crops, and forcing them into exile.

As former U.S. United Nations Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick stated, "Everyone who cares to know now understands that the government of Nicaragua has imposed new dictatorship."

Robert Leiken, editor of *Central America: Anatomy of a Conflict*, testified before Congress against aid to the Contras. After a recent visit he stated, "One of the most depressing aspects of our trip was to hear from so many that their lives are worse today than they were at the time of Somoza. Before the revolution Nicaraguans ate well by Central American standards."

The Sandinistas blame Nicaragua's economic crisis on the Contra war. Yet a December 1981 internal staff memorandum of the International Monetary Fund found that real wages had fallen 71 percent since July 1979 and have continued to decline. The economic crisis can actually be blamed on the Sandanista government.

Nicaragua's rulers have introduced into the country thousands of Cuban teachers, trainers and supervisors, including at least 2,000 military advisers. The Sandinista rulers have denied their international supporters the comforts of ambiguity. They have announced their principles, "We guide ourselves by the scientific doctrines of the Revolution, by Marxism-Leninism."

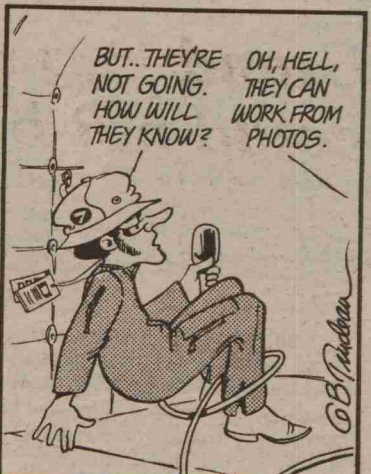
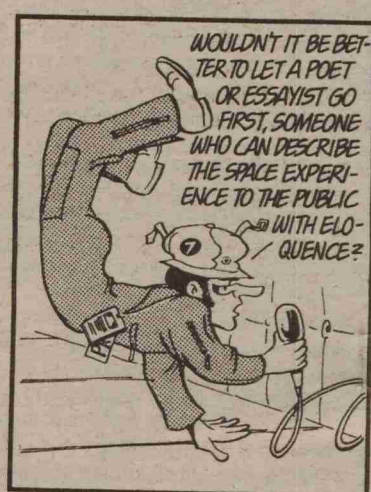
Some people have compared Vietnam and Central America and the crucial difference is not the Pacific Ocean, though that is important. The crucial difference is that the Congress that cut off aid to Vietnam could say it did not guess what would follow.

When Congress discusses supporting the Contras I hope they keep in mind something else Lenin said, "Probe and if you find steel probe somewhere else." Let the U.S. be that steel.

Tara Stevens

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



Variety of views healthy

Dear Editor: I differ with many of the ideas expressed in the article on the Straight Alliance, but I will address the one which disturbs me the most: being around gay people will cause a person to become gay.

Apply the same idea to other groups of people; for example: blacks, gays, men, children, and mentally-ill people. I have spent considerable amounts of time with these people, yet I'm not black, gay, a man, a child, or mentally-ill.

However, we do share one commonality—we are all human beings. The Straight Alliance seems to be lacking in tolerance, because they only appear to want to associate with those who are exactly like themselves. I have enjoyed the variety of people I've met throughout my lifetime and feel that knowing all of them has helped me to grow.

Roma Barman

GPA not respected

Dear Editor: This letter is directed toward all students concerned with how their funds are distributed, and other organizations, such as the GPA, that want to use our student allocated funds.

Obviously homosexuality is unnatural and extremely revolting. No amount of preaching, condemnation or harassment is going to change their preferences.

Students, do not let the GPA be freeloaders. They are acting like other minorities, whining about how unfairly they are treated, instigating controversy, and in turn, gaining all the attention they wanted. I do not see how an organization can gain community respect by whining.

GPA, if you want community respect, EARN IT. Do not be freeloaders using student funds. If you need funds to pay for your social events, then charge admission, like all other organizations. Be creative with your solutions to financial problems and earn your money. Let our funds go towards more practical uses. When I say "our," I am referring to all students, including the GPA. If you get picked on because of your sexual preferences, then that shows you drew attention towards yourself with immature actions. If you want respected attention, do something respectable!

Allen Dauterman

Survey biased

Dear Editor: The survey and petition should not be used as indicators of how the majority of WSU students stand towards the Gay People's Alliance funding issue.

Both measures were performed in an unprofessional manner, grossly biased, and hardly represent the majority of WSU students. If anything, the survey and petition show that the Gay Alliance issue is highly misunderstood and is also an outlet for many who are prejudiced against the group.

Many students are not asking themselves critical questions about the issue and are often easily persuaded by faulty surveys and wrong information from such groups as Campus Crusade for Christ. Good decision making is improved by seeking accurate information, casting aside prejudices, and learning to be more tolerant of other opinions.

Philip Virtue

Moral guardian not needed

Dear Editor: We must be ever thankful for watchdogs like E.S. Paul who will save our abnormally developed teenagers from the heinous crime of education.

And now that I know that AIDS and herpes are spread by these...these...aberrations, I vow never to sleep until they are righteously exterminated! And I will never read another article on gays lest I become confused and then tempted to turn gay.

Even as I write this letter I pull out my wallet and look at a snapshot of the aftermath of Sodom and Gomorrah to remind me of the ultimate demise of those who deviate from somebody's norm. Yech!

Luckily I was in blissful ignorance of gays during my young teenage years, and only because of this I made it to the 12th anniversary of my 13th birthday without desiring sheep, dogs, or large women.

Keep up your diligent vigil, our fine E. S. Paul, we know that true morality is safe in your hands — and mind.

Don Sverdrup

Numbers about gays

Dear Editor: It is important for students to be aware of homosexuality. The average homosexual has about 500 (usually anonymous) sex partners in his lifetime.

Only two percent of the U.S. population is homosexual, another two percent are bisexual. However, 72 percent of AIDS, 35 percent of hepatitis, 51 percent of gonorrhea (throat), and 53 percent of intestinal infections reside within this 4 percent of our population. If statistics are meaningful, homosexuals are 15 times more likely to commit murder than heterosexuals, so says Dr. Paul Cameron, chairperson for the Institute for the Scientific Investigation of Sexuality. Dr. Cameron believes that homosexual relationships are particularly prone to physical violence.

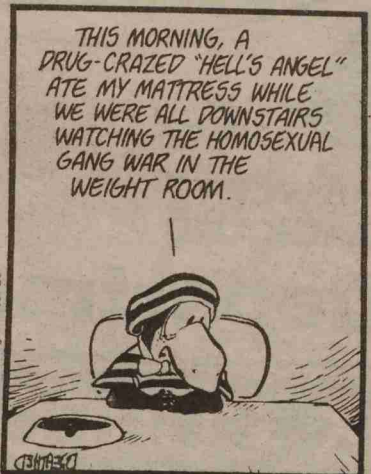
I highly recommend that students become better informed about homosexuality before they fund it with their money. There are several good books on the subject: *The Homosexual Network* by Enrique Rueda, *Homosexual Politics* by Dr. Ed Rowe, *The Unhappy Gays* by Tim LaHaye, *The Homosexual Revolution* by David A. Noebel.

Students, become informed!

Ken Morse

BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed



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