

## Stating a lifestyle

Today is "Gay Bluejeans Day." It is the day chosen by the gay community to "affirm their lifestyle in a safe way," according to Leonard Wolf, chairperson of the Gay Awareness Committee.

The idea is good, but will the wearing of bluejeans, the basic uniform of most college students, gay or straight, really help the gays affirm their lifestyle?

A lifestyle, gay or not, is not something that can be easily affirmed by the wearing of a particular garb. A lifestyle is more intrinsic than that and can only be affirmed by practice and true commitment to the cause.

Gay persons have historically been discriminated against because their sexual practices do not conform to what is generally regarded as "natural" or "moral". In our "liberal" and "enlightened" time, they are still discriminated against.

In Oklahoma, a bill was passed last Thursday by that state's legislature that would allow school boards to fire teachers who engage in public homosexual conduct.

In a similar incident, the Washington State Supreme Court last year affirmed the firing of a Tacoma teacher because he admitted, when asked by school officials, he was gay. It was thus determined that he would be a bad influence on the children he was teaching. There was no other reason given for firing. Being gay was enough in the eyes of the school board.

More recently, a Seattle police officer has launched a petition drive to repeal city ordinances which prohibit discrimination on grounds of sexual preference in housing and hiring. The Seattle gay community is fighting the measure.

Across the country there are similar instances of gays and anti-gays battling over the gays' right to keep their lifestyle without governmental and community encroachments.

The battle will most likely continue.

Perhaps the best way to effect a change is for non-gays to become informed about the gays. They are living, breathing human beings, just like everyone else. They have feelings. More importantly, they should have the right to do what they want with their private lives.

—D.A.E.

## A short note

The success of an effort by ASWSU to arrange for President Jimmy Carter to hold a "town hall" meeting in Pullman, rests with student enthusiasm.

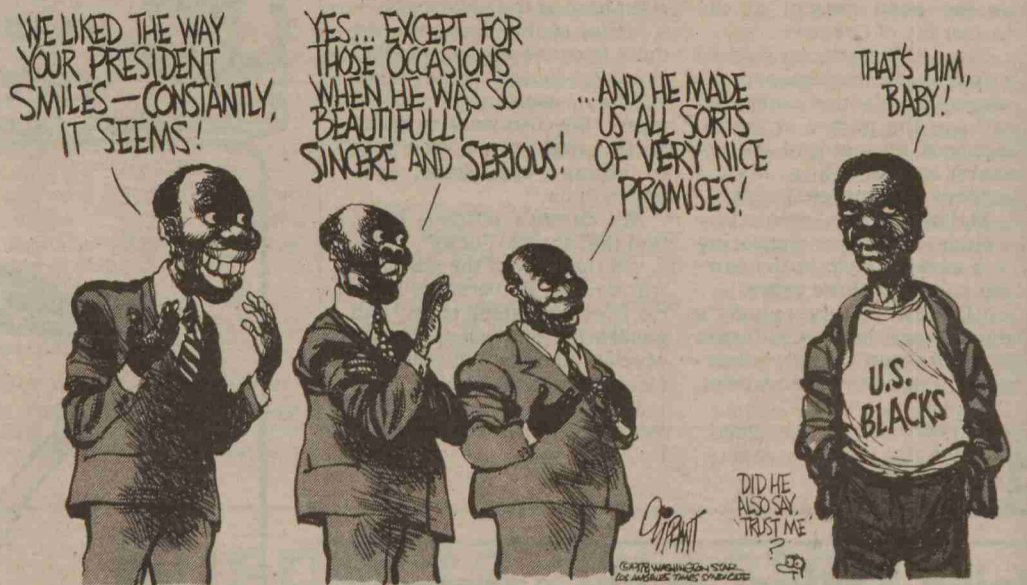
Without a consensus of backing by the student body for a presidential visit, Carter probably will not bother with WSU.

Carter will be in Spokane on May 5 to discuss farm legislation.

A "town hall" meeting is being planned by the president, although the decision on where the meeting will be has not been made. Advance personnel for the president will make a decision in nine days.

Write a short note. Ask the president to come to WSU and spend the day; to learn from us while we learn from him.

A letter to the president's scheduling director Fran Vorde, 184 Old Executive Office Building, Washington D.C. 20500, will do the job.



## Your views

### Own business

Originally I had decided to let the whole issue die down until I read Leonard Wolf's letter. He seemed to miss the whole point of the rebuttle to Bluejeans Day. It seems as though I am forced to be blunt.

He (Mr. Wolf) feels that one's sexual preference is their own business. To be able to carry on as they please in the privacy of their own home. If so, then why the hell are you advertising the fact that you are gay if you think it's no one else's business but your own? Frankly, I cannot understand your warped train of thought. Indeed it is your "preference" to carry on perverted activities with a person of the same gender even though you did state the fact it is the job of the GAC to educate the WSU community about homosexuality, why do you persist in cowering in a corner. Come out, let yourselves be known.

Leonard Wolf stated that the GAC wants to keep the names of its members out of the paper for fear of verbal and physical persecution. If this is so, how do you...expect to accomplish anything worthwhile? You are not going to get whatever you want handed to you on a silver platter. If this article has done nothing but to outrage you, it has served its purpose.

In closing, I would like to ask one more question from us "normal" individuals to you people. You said that all money appropriated will be used for educational purposes. What education-

al purposes are those, the new and exciting Position #32?

Craig Sutherland

### A poem

I went out jogging one night, black was the moon, the stars were bright.

I strode with steady steps in headlong flight upon the sidewalk lighted by shining streetlights.

On I ran with strength and might, though my lungs were sore and my legs felt tight.

The activity, the pressure of the day to smite, released me for a moment to fly like a kite.

When I was done my day had seen its height.

This fond memory is blotched with one bleary blight.

In black of night, with lack of sight, I missed a stair and fell a flight.

"Jack fell down and broke his crown and Jill came tumbling after."

Six stairways lead to the Stephenson Complex. Three of these are close to being adequately lighted. Unfortunately, the stairway which gets the heaviest use is one of the three which is not lighted well. Strangely enough, all of the unlighted stairs are provided with light posts which are not being used. Energy conservation is a good policy, but so is safety.

Bob Wright

### Pick one

Why am I wearing bluejeans on Friday? (Choose one or more.)

1. I am gay.
2. I am not gay, but feel strongly about human rights and support their cause.
3. I hate Anita Bryant.
4. I hate "queers," and am using myself as bait, so I can bust some noses.
5. It's a great put-on and I want to piss off a redneck.
6. Nobody's going to tell me what to wear!
7. Nobody's going to tell me what not to wear!
8. Hey guys—I don't own any other pants!

Dennis C. Cartwright

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### DOONESBURY



by Garry Trudeau

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