

Homosexuals need acceptance

Many pessimists fear that American society is entering a period in which its level of tolerance may be self-destructive. What is more likely, however, is that understanding, which breeds tolerance, will be the one factor that can save society.

It was demonstrated Tuesday night that tolerance levels are becoming higher, at least on college campuses, when two self-proclaimed homosexuals spoke to a capacity audience in the CUB Ballroom. The chance of such an event occurring four years ago is so slight as to be almost non-existent.

Just the ordinary physical appearance of the two was a shock as some members of the audience admitted. This initial shock can be the first step on the road to breaking down stereotypes, which the speakers claim is their main problem.

The main ingredient of the homosexual stereotype according to Robert Oberholtzer, doctor of sociology at Pacific Lutheran University, is that homosexuals are sick people. He maintains that they display no greater instances of sickness in their sexual behavior than does the heterosexual population.

Because of the heavy social pressures against gay marriages most homosexual contacts are transient. Since the contacts are transient the homosexual is many times promiscuous, but if

some research on them is to be believed this is not what the homosexual desires. A number of homosexuals who were interviewed profess a psychological as well as physical need for a stable relationship with a member of their own sex.

This separate way of living leads to fragmentation and lack of understanding. The way to promote acceptability is to have people such as the two that appeared Tuesday night available for speaking engagements.

Members of the "gay world" need to be accepted as people who happen to be homosexual, rather than vice versa, so that they and the rest of society can recognize them as being something other than sexual objects.

By Paula Wikstrom

Stuffed cougar

The traditional value of Butch, WSU's reluctantly-supported mascot, is debatable, but his practical value is unquestionably nil.

With the ASWSU Senate openly admitting it lacks the funds to feed and care for the cougar, it is neither humane nor sensible to hang on to him. How he is disposed of is not important; the main

thing is we should not continue to rationalize our keeping something we obviously are not able to support.

As there are many who still value its traditional meaning, disposing of Butch will not end the issue. It will, rather, open the door to a substitute mascot which should be no less satisfactory as a symbol of tradition and far more economically reasonable.

A stuffed cougar of museum-mount quality, according to a Spokane taxidermist, would cost between \$700 and \$800 dollars. It would be guaranteed to last for decades, and expected to stand for centuries, if well-cared for.

The cost of such a mascot could be written off in a single year, were we to apply the present cost of keeping Butch for that period of time--\$789.

Should the ASWSU Senate decide it would like to save even more money while preserving the tradition, it could acquire a half-mount for \$500 to \$600, a head mount for \$160 or a full skin with head for under \$250.

In addition to the initial and long-term savings the stuffed-cougar alternative would represent, it would also solve the problem of providing and maintaining adequate living space for the mascot. A relatively inexpensive glass case, much like those found in abundance in the university's Conner Museum, would more than suffice.

If the tradition that a living Butch represents is still important to some individuals, then it's preservation is a worthy cause. However, since we have indicated an inability to preserve it with a living mascot, we should stop trying to fool ourselves into thinking we can.

We should preserve the tradition but do so the sensible way, with a non-living mascot.

By Steve Patch

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Soulin' Coubabes

An open letter to the Soulin' Coubabes:

Why don't you show allegiance to our flag during the National Anthem? During football games you turned away from the flag and lowered your heads. Now for basketball you remain seated. Why?

Are you trying to show a separatist attitude? If so, why don't you publicly state so?

Are you representative of blacks on our campus, or just putting on a show to call attention to your "pep" group. You have succeeded in attracting public attention, but what kind of attention do you want to receive?

How can you expect the ASWSU to continue supporting your group if you do not account for such actions.

Al Anderson
Off-campus

Ed. note: The Soulin' Coubabes have no comment at this time.

Army

Dear Editor:

Mr. Mathiason is right--Army liberalization is not enough. The

immediate and pressing goal of all sane people in our world should be to get rid of all armies.

Even if you accept, as Mr. Mathiason apparently does, a necessity for an army, surely reform should be aimed at making the army more humane for the peoples of the world who it deals with. The army of Amerika is not a pleasant experience for our people who are in it, but it is much, much less pleasant for the people all over the world who it murders, directly or through proxy (the South Vietnamese "government").

Please, Mr. Mathiason, let's keep our attention on the things which have to be done and not wander off on side issues.

Off the Army
Power to the People
Al Winship
Off campus

Reader's Digest

Evergreen readers:

Reader's Digest pays \$5 for short, pithy stories in two different departments. Clip DAM's, "Remember What?" page two Evergreen Dec. 8, 1970 and send it to Humor Editor, Reader's Digest, route it also to "Pardon My Slip is Showing" Editor.

If neither editor will award

your effort with \$5, threaten them with another DAM editorial and up the ante to \$10.

R.A. Gilkeson
802 Ridgeview

Incompetence

Dear Editor:

I have recently contemplated writing a letter to you concerning the marked lack of ability on the part of you and your staff. I find, however, that I must revise this opinion somewhat. Reason: research has led me to the conclusion that the Evergreen's inferior quality is really due to a marked ability on your part. According to "The Peter Principle" by Laurence J. Peter and Raymond Hull you and your staff have all very successfully been able to reach your individual levels of incompetence.

Congratulations on reaching that magnificent pinnacle at such an early age.

John M. Gray
P.O. Box 4
Albion, Wa.

Letters Policy

All letters to the editor of the Daily Evergreen are welcome. Such contributions will be printed as space allows.

In order to be printed, letters must carry the full name as well as the address and phone number of the author. Letters which are unsigned or are signed with pseudonyms will not be printed.

Correspondence must be typed and letters should be limited to 250 words or less. The editor reserves the right to edit for matters of libel and length if letters exceed the 250 word limit. No letters will be returned.

All correspondence should be addressed to the editor, P.O. Box 2008 College Station, Pullman, Washington, 99163, or brought to CUB B-27.

Odd Bodkins

