



PERSPECTIVES

The Stones' song

Some people get their fingers burnt while joking around.

Just ask Earl Butz. He told a racial joke on an airplane within earshot of ex-White House staffer John Dean and suddenly every newspaper in the United States was trying to figure out euphemisms for Butz' unfunny joke. He lost his job very quickly.

Now, the spectre of racial prejudice haunts the Rolling Stones with the release of their new album "Some Girls."

The line from the title track, "Black girls just like to get fucked all night," has raised the ire of the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who has mounted a media blitz to get the Stones to change the offensive sentence.

The difference between Butz' joke and the Stones' song is miniscule, one parodies blacks, the other, female roles. Despite a reported halt in pressing the album (the cover has been changed since its initial release as well,) Rolling Stones Records President Earl McGrath has said the song will not be edited and pressing continues.

According to Rolling Stone magazine, McGrath issued a statement saying: "It never occurred to us that our parody of certain stereotypical attitudes would be taken seriously by anyone who heard the entire lyric of the song in question. No insult was intended, and if any was taken, we sincerely apologize."

It's fine and dandy they did not intend to offend anyone, but even the use of the word "fuck" is offensive to some; in context it is even worse.

The Stones will probably not give the matter another thought — for them the issue has blown over. The point is, however, that the song, as such, should not be played over the airwaves, perpetuating the stereotype, rather than destroying it.

Hopefully, the Stones will realize next time that whatever comes from the lips of rock stars, particularly in vinyl form, is taken as gospel by a lot of impressionable teeny-boppers and will perhaps think twice before their next effort at "parodying" stereotypes.

— brent siewert

To the editor Freedom to express views

Hurrah to Ken Loomis and Chris Widrig! Both made good points in their Oct. 31 letters.

Mr. Loomis expressed how good it is that "we live in a country which allows opinionated publications..."

Yes, this is still a country with the freedom of the press. How often we take this freedom for granted. Everybody is entitled to their own viewpoints which they have a right to peaceably convey.

The Daily Evergreen gives us students the freedom to express ourselves through the Perspectives section. This freedom is good.

Opposing views, animosities, and misunderstandings are brought out into the open. As a result, people with insight share their ideas bringing opposing

views closer together, abating animosities, and clearing up misunderstandings.

For example, the Greek-Dorm war of words in the Perspectives section resulted in the peace-making letters from Joan Ross (Oct. 31) and from Dave Brumbaugh and Mark Eby (Nov. 1.)

Chris Widrig's letter expressed wise insights concerning the Greek-Dorm war. His last sentence is best, "I would rather hear praise of what one or the other system has to offer or has done for individuals or society than generalized attacks against them."

Therefore, in response to his letter, I as a dormie give praise of what one fraternity has done. Phi Delta Theta sponsored a raffle for charity last year. I had

bought a raffle ticket and won the grand prize, a flight for two to Lewiston for dinner.

Much of my thanks belong to the fraternity and to Cam Powell, the pilot. Their work for charity deserves much praise. They certainly did not fit the Greek stereotype.

Fellow students, do you stereotype people and living groups? Are you a part of the Greek-Dorm war? Or are you upset about certain articles in the Daily Evergreen?

If the answer is "yes" for any of these questions, then, with an open mind, read the articles of insight promoting peace, and be thankful for the freedom of expression the Daily Evergreen gives us.

— kenneth rekila

How many really want gay funding?

The Homosexual Awareness Committee is at it again.

Last year in the spring, if I remember right, we voted against funding the committee. And now they're trying it again, asking for a hand-out to fund what they call "education."

Isn't it clear to you that you aren't wanted by the fact of lack of people supporting you?

Either way you look at it, homosexuality boils down to be a perverting of the human body and the sex act... It corrupts the whole idea of love.

My opinion of "education about homosexuality" is that it means to be told that it's fine and dandy to crawl into bed with another guy and pervert the whole sex act.

Does that sound sick and unappealing? Perhaps it's because it is. That kind of education belongs exactly where it came from, the gutter.

I agree that funding would set a precedent. It means that next year they'd come back, saying "you agreed with what we do

last year, so you have to give us money this year."

Before the assembly members even think about approving this, they'd better find out how many "few protesters" there really are. How many people knew about the discussion on Oct. 25? And now it's blown out of proportion saying the majority support HAC.

This is one majority that does not support the funding. My vote is NO.

— wes taylor

Concert details needed badly

Paul Brians and John Ehrstine (Evergreen, Oct. 25) very rightly deplore the absence of program details from the publicity/advertisements for classical music concerts on campus.

It is well-known elsewhere that, for artists not so famous that people come anyway, the works being performed play a vital part in determining audience size.

Irrespective of the artists, a Beethoven or Brahms concerto

will attract many more people than the same soloist playing Prokofiev or Shostakovich.

In the case of the Sofio Philharmonic Orchestra concert, how many people in Pullman had previously heard of the orchestra? My guess is "next to nobody."

On the other hand, how many had heard of Beethoven's Violin Concerto? Practically everybody who likes classical music. The

failure to adequately advertise this concerto must have reduced the audience by hundreds.

It should be the duty of (as well as being in the interests of) every promoter of classical music to make complete program details as readily available to potential audiences as possible, and not to leave it up to the audiences to seek this information if they want it.

— michael edgeloe

Stop hostility toward each other 'Good times' ad apologized for

I am a junior transfer student from Los Angeles. My time at WSU has so far been a good experience, and I have come to meet some very fine people.

But some of these fine people seem to lose their self-esteem and respect for other human beings at football games.

I have been to sporting events at UCLA, and I must say that although UCLA as a school is more impersonal than WSU, at least the students show respect for each other when they are at a football game.

This doesn't mean that they are not rowdy and having a good time, because they are. They take their hostilities out on the

opposition, not their comrades. That's the difference.

This letter is not meant to be a comparison between two schools, but rather it is a plea to the food-throwing people to please stop! If we show respect for others, whether they be in the band, or selling peanuts, or just out to enjoy a football game, we will be taking a positive step toward a goal that everyone at WSU has. That is, to be the best that we possibly can.

Let's put the ideals of love and respect to work to make them become realities for all of us at WSU.

— randy ziegler

We placed an ad in the classifieds which appeared in Tuesday's Daily Evergreen.

I asked people to call Kristi if they wanted a good time.

The reaction leads us to apologize to Kristi for the humiliation she subsequently suffered from receiving phone calls, which still continue.

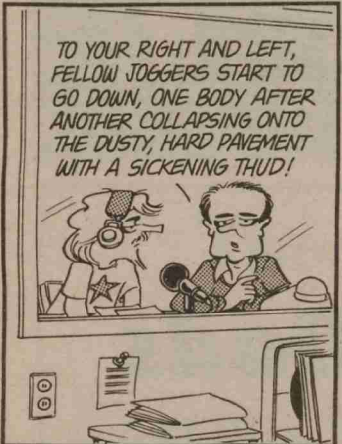
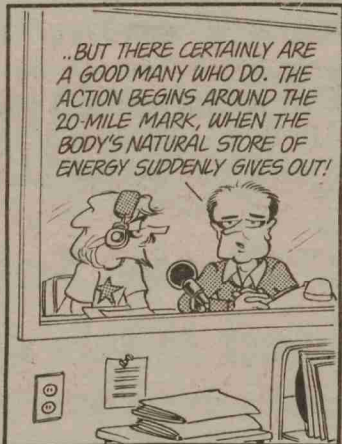
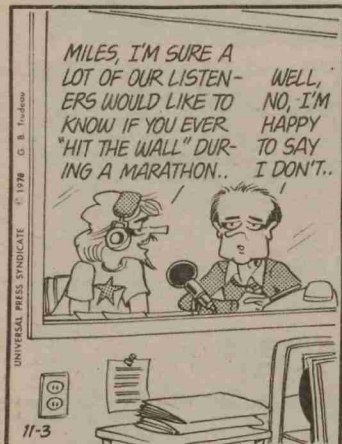
It was intended as a joke. Unfortunately Kristi feels we insulted her, and apparently we committed a crime.

Therefore, we publicly apologize and ask people not to call her.

— terri hanson val nelson

DOONESBURY

by Garry Trudeau



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