

Opinion and Comment

Reagan would kill student loans

To many of us here, the proposals contained in President Reagan's new budget seem abstract and distant. Billion dollar figures are tossed around casually, traded among programs, multiplied, depreciated and subtracted. For students, what does it all add up to?

In education, funding for student tuition grants and low-interest loans would plummet. Lola Finch, director of financial aid here, calculates that over 300 people would lose the aid that covers the majority of their education expenses.

A large number of the 2,330 students at this university who receive Pell Grants would also face significant drops in financial aid. On the average, Pell Grants contribute \$1,400 to those students. The Reagan budget would prohibit students from families with annual incomes over \$25,000 from attaining such aid.

Currently, 1,183 students here are assisted by yearly Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants averaging \$653. Under the Reagan budget, this source of educational assistance would be wiped out completely.

Graduate students would bear the cruel brunt of the Reagan education cutbacks. Nearly 1,300 grad students here obtained \$3.6 million in low-interest guaranteed student loans. The Reagan budget would obliterate these loans, and with them the graduate careers of many worthy students.

As Financial Aid Director Finch has pointed out, "statistics show there would be a drastic effect" on enrollment here. Many students would be forced to drop out of college altogether. Across the nation, about 460,000 students would suffer an elimination of their loans.

These educational programs would be sacrificed in the name of deficit reduction. A more short-sighted approach to reducing the federal deficit is hard to imagine.

Economic growth, emphasized so strongly by the Reagan Administration, depends significantly on levels of educational attainment. The relationship between education and growth will become increasingly pronounced as the economy comes to center around high technology. In the long-run, forcing students out of college means forcing innovation and growth out of the economy.

Reagan sincerely believes that our nation must maintain its strength, and few would disagree with him over this necessity. The problem is that Reagan defines strength solely in terms of military hardware. But the degree of education within a country is also a profound source of national power and pride.

Although perhaps a cliché, our future does lie in education. The budget slashers must not be allowed to trespass on our future.

Wm. Smith Greig

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



Spineless punks fake flyer about Coan

Dear Editor:

When I walked into my classes in Todd Hall, I was greeted by a flyer on my desk regarding ASWSU President Mike Coan's academic status. This trite little eyesore made me think: If I even cared about Mike Coan's academic performance, would it be any of my business?

I wonder if the spineless individuals who ripped off your masthead to get attention really understand the contributions Mike Coan has made to Washington State University.

His efforts in Olympia and his service on the Council for Postsecondary Education are of great importance to this institution.

Mike's grades are his own business, and any legislator in Olympia who is worth his salt will realize this.

If these individuals who put all these efforts into taking a cheap shot at Mike Coan have enough guts to come forward, I hope your reporters will ask why these people felt personally obligated to let everyone in Todd Hall in on a "rumor." After

this, I suggest finding counsel regarding the possibility of taking these people to court on the grounds of copyright infringement.

Marc Burns

Wilson, Reagan, Hitler compared

Dear Editor:

A response to "Reagan unlike Hitler."

Reagan has picked up employment through defense spending. According to Caspar Weinberger, "For every \$1 billion dollars cut, we lose 35,000 jobs." Hitler used defense and social spending like FDR did to pick up employment. Our freeways and German autobahns are one notable result.

Hitler stifled the press and free assembly. Thru federal legislation, (Espionage Act 1917, Sedition Act 1918), Woodrow Wilson stifled the press, (the Masses, etc.), and prosecuted people who spoke against the government. Wilson employed the FBI, APL, SS (Sedition Slammers). Hitler employed the Gestapo, SA, SS, just to harass people. Ron Reagan testified for Hitler incognito Joe McCarthy's House Un-American Activities Committee.

Hitler and FDR both ripped off property, assets, and cash, herding Jews and Japanese to "concentration camps," both considered dangerous to National Security. If FDR had ordered it, there are plenty of cops, prison guards and FBI agents who would've gassed Japanese. The inferiority complex required is not indigenous to SS officers. Blacks were lynched and beaten to death and our laws against murder weren't enforced. Is our government more justified than Hitler's, or is racism somehow different when directed at Blacks than Jews?

Ron Reagan co-authored a book against abortion. Hitler said, "But in abortion and birth control they murder, ...etc." and "The primary right of the world is the right to life, ...etc." They are both militant right-wingers.

Government is government, following the program of its most recent "Fhrer." Hitler used the Nazi machine to harass Jews, just like the Southern Democrats used the democratic machine to keep Blacks in their place. Read YOUR history, man!

Charles T. Church

ASWSU can't decide

Dear Editor:

In response to GPA and its funding I would like to point out that this is an educational institution. During the past semester I had the opportunity to sit in on several of the GPA's speakers' bureaus. Not only did I find them informative, but sometimes humorous. I think it's a shame that a society that promotes discrimination, such as this country saw during the Salem Witch Hunts, still exists.

Furthermore, I never felt threatened, either sexually or emotionally by this group of individuals. People are evidently speaking from fear of the unknown rather than from facts. Too bad our senators aren't as responsive to the needs of this community. By all the uproar, it is quite evident that the Gay Awareness Committee should exist on this campus, now more than ever!

Lastly, as Wm. Smith Grieg pointed out so well, our learned senators can't make a rational decision — unpopular yes, but in the students' best interests — without making a big deal out of it. The Wonderful ad by the Programming committee is a fine example, but come on guys — you forgot to say "Free Admission" and perhaps offer door prizes to the most outspoken individuals.

Craig Saunders

Sorority members speak on gays

Dear Editor:

We would like to respond to the article, "Gay funding issues are not new here," which appeared in Tuesday's edition of the *Daily Evergreen* and was written by Michael Wickline.

As current members of the Alpha Delta Pi sorority, we are a very diverse group of women with differing opinions and attitudes. At the time our sorority petitioned the student

Assembly to suspend funding of the Gay Awareness Committee, we were fifth, sixth and seventh graders.

The obviously strong views of our sisters can in no way be thought to be reflected in the views of our current members.

Currently, our sorority has no unified stand on the issue of gay funding nor do we plan on formulating one. We simply request that we are not assumed to share the opinions of women who were collegiate members of our sorority eight years ago.

Laura Alferd
Stephanie Smith
and the women of Alpha Delta Pi

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BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed

