Respond Don’t React

It is easy to act out of anger. It is strong to be level-headed.

Last Saturday the Board of Trustees issued a statement (printed on pg. 7) that relates to an issue of prime concern within the EMU community: the amount of freedom faculty and staff have to discuss issues of controversy in the church.

Our response to the Board’s statement is, “We disapprove. We are angry, we are disappointed and we are disillusioned.”

We laid out our position on open debate at EMU in the Oct. 17 issue of The Weather Vane. We will continue to stand by that statement.

We know that there are others who share our sentiment and we encourage them to take action with us. In order to effect change we must make our voices heard and our power seen. This is our education, now is the time to take control of it.

But, in order to take control of our education effectively we must first control our emotions. We are angry, yes, but we cannot let anger command our behavior. We should not react just react to our response must be grounded in clear thinking.

The first step to maintaining a level head is by recognizing the "other side"s humanity. The administration is as torn as we are. They face their own pressures and they must not be condemned for attempting to do their jobs as best they can.

President Lapp should be well recognized for offering a time to discuss the Board’s statement with faculty and staff. But, he must go further. He must make the same clear effort to hear from students. This debate will effect our education and we have the right to be heard.

In the meantime, we urge all parties involved in current employment disputes to offer and accept compromise until lasting changes can be instituted. Remember that we, the students, are the first constituents of this university, our interests should be paramount in the decisions that will be made.

In the wake of the Board’s statement there have also been whispers among some students of desires to transfer, but change will only come from within. To leave now and make the United Nations look foolish. It’s the only one representing my class that afternoon (who will remain nameless and voiceless).

Another Election Day Passes Unnoticed

OPINION: Another amendment to the elementary and secondary education funding bill signed earlier this year by President Bush (the “Son of Samuel” serial killer from the 1970s), after writing letters to jail and requesting this Fox focused on Berkowitz’s interpretation of our society’s “movie culture, Hannibal Lechter identification problems” while discussing his thoughts on the snipper.

OPINION: David Berkowitz may be a convicted and confessed murderer, but he is not an analyst, regardless of ratings.

FACT: Fox News’ Rita Cosby stated that she had written to him in jail and the Selective Service system is supposed to be supplying an answer to this question, we write to every one of them not supplying their students to the armed forces.

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FACT: President Bush said last week that Saddam Hussein has made the United Nations look foolish.

OPINION: The United Nations pointed out that the English language has made President Bush look foolish.

FACT: Last Tuesday (election day) I was one of two people participating in the voting process in my Political Science class. I was the only one representing my class that afternoon (who will remain nameless and voiceless).

OPINION: I do not see what the message they’re really sending. That giving girls a positive role model is great, as long as they can milk them for a huge profit!

FACT: Sotheby’s auction house has announced it will be selling a controversial Mexican artist who is the subject of a new movie. Kahlo, a surrealist painter and political activist who died in 1954 at age 47, was married to celebrated Mexican muralist Diego Rivera. If it’s him that most of the 36 letters, documents and notes in the archive that will be offered on December 13 were written by.

OPINION: And they say you can’t buy love.

FACT: This is an old fact, but I just read it in Reader’s Digest, so it was new to me. Women’s life expectancy reached a new record in 2000: 79.5 years, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

OPINION: Now I’m even more concerned that these could actually be “the best years” of my life.

Moving Beyond Hair Distraction

Relaxing on the couch late at night with a million thoughts rac- ing through the mind sometimes brings with it old thoughts real- ize that nature. Such was the case a past event that occurred of the blue I stated to my housemate, Kevin, “Wow, we really are a family. You know, watch- ers are out for each other and saying good-night and stuff.”

His one-word reply, “True,” said it all as I am proficient in reading my housemate’s familial speech mannerisms.

It feels good to me to be liv- ing in a house with six of some of my closest friends. I know with whom I can have the deep con- versations, who is down to hang out or to call when in need of excitement, as well as who is good to sit with in silence. We share a lot of experiences and

strong desire to see the other world. Therefore, our senior hair status seems to confine us to thoughts of being “out there” as if in some other world.

My sense is that many peo- ple suffer from hair distraction. The hair is taken quite concretely and the whole essence of a person completely battered. The conclusion reached is one the person was looking for all along. Surely life is more complex than this. Let us look beyond the crazy waving hair and endeavor to understand the whole person.

For more opinions and Letters to the Editors, please see page 8