

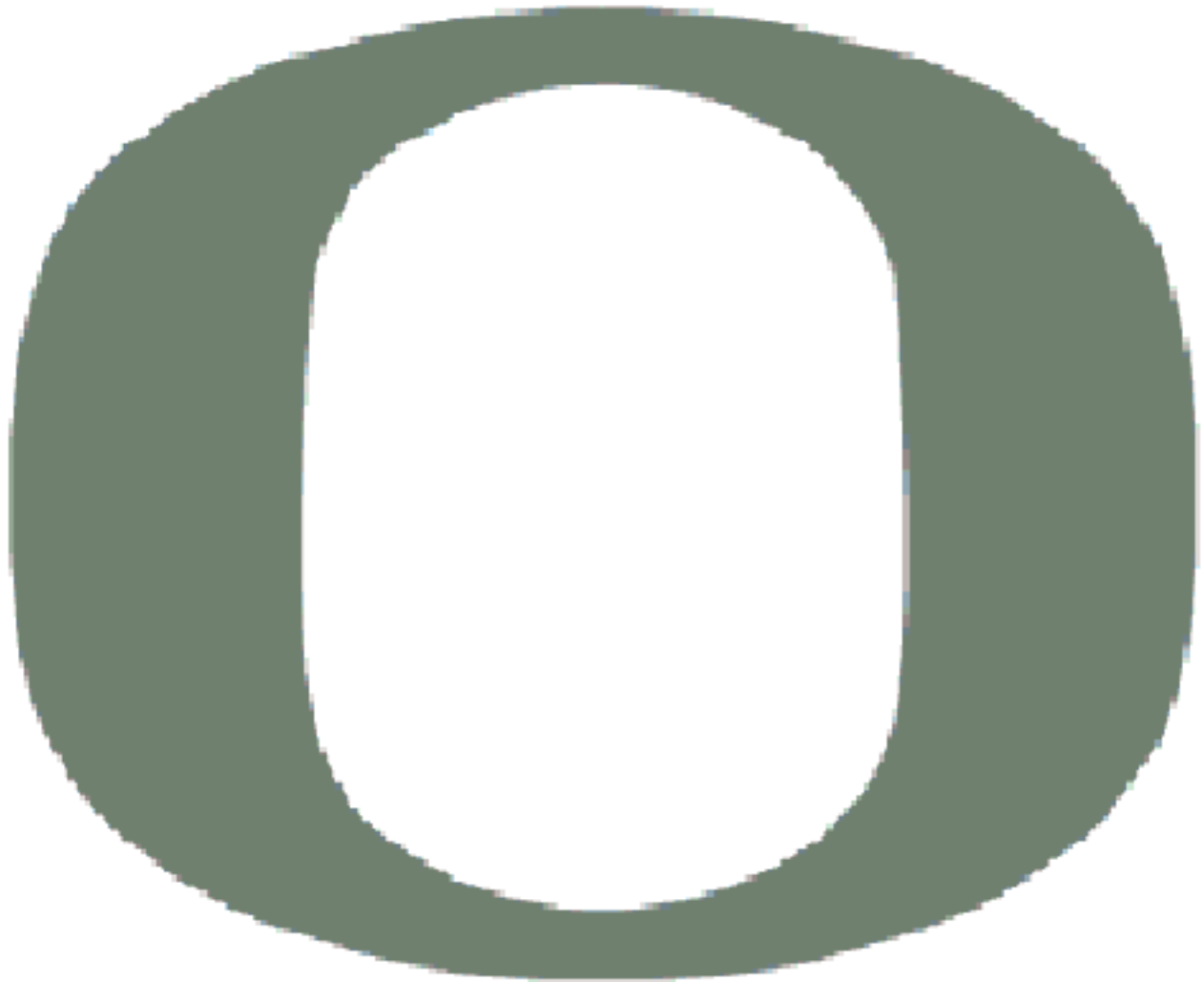
O R E G O N

COMMENTATOR

OCTOBER 31, 2002

VOLUME XX, ISSUE II

A JOURNAL OF OPINION



BRANDED!

The University Is Forcing Student Groups To Feature Its New Logo As It Tramples Speech To Boost The School's Marketing



FOUNDED SEPT. 27, 1983 • MEMBER COLLEGIATE NETWORK

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Pete R. Hunt

PUBLISHER

Bret Jacobson

MANAGING EDITOR

Timothy Dreier

ART DIRECTOR

Jeremy Jones

STORY EDITOR

Courtney Sweet

COPY EDITOR

Stacey Lauer

CONTRIBUTORS

Ben Brown, Kelly Brown, Philippe Cornet,
Sho Ikeda, Scott Kane,
John Kreider, Chris Sittner,
Lisa Toth, Marla Traweek

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bret Jacobson, Chairman
Pete R. Hunt, Director, Timothy Dreier, Director

ALUMNI ADVISORY BOARD

Thomas Mann '88, Charles H. Deister '92
R.S.D Wederquist '92, Scott Camp '94
Ed Carson '94, Owen Brennan Rounds '95
Farrah L. Bostic '98, Mark Hemingway '98
Andrew Oberriter '98

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Richard Burr, Dane Claussen
Robert Davis

The OREGON COMMENTATOR is a conservative journal of opinion. All signed essays and commentaries herein represent the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinions of this magazine or its staff. The COMMENTATOR is an independent publication and the Oregon Commentator Publishing Co., Inc. is an independent corporation; neither are affiliated with the University of Oregon nor its School of Journalism. And, contrary to popular, paranoid opinion, we are in no way affiliated with the CIA, FBI, or the Council on Foreign Relations.

The OREGON COMMENTATOR accepts letters to the editor and commentaries from students, faculty and staff at the University of Oregon, or anyone else for that matter. Letters and commentaries may be submitted personally to Room 205 EMU; placed in our mailbox in Suite 4 EMU; mailed to P.O. Box 30128, Eugene, OR, 97403; phoned in to (541) 346-3721, or e-mailed to editor@oregoncommentator.com. The OREGON COMMENTATOR can be found on the world wide web at <http://www.oregoncommentator.com>.


We reserve the right to edit material we find obscene, libelous, inappropriate or lengthy. We are not obliged to print anything that does not suit us. Unsolicited material will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Submission constitutes testimony as to the accuracy.

MISSION STATEMENT

The OREGON COMMENTATOR is an independent journal of opinion published at the University of Oregon for the campus community. Founded by a group of concerned student journalists Sept. 27 1983, the COMMENTATOR has had a major impact in the “war of ideas” on campus, providing students with an alternative to the left-wing orthodoxy promoted by other student publications, professors and student groups. During its nineteen-year existence, it has enabled University students to hear both sides of issues. Our paper combines reporting with opinion, humor and feature articles. We have won national recognition for our commitment to journalistic excellence.

The OREGON COMMENTATOR is operated as a program of the Associated Students of the University of Oregon (ASUO) and is staffed solely by volunteer editors and writers. The paper is funded through student incidental fees, advertising revenue and private donations. We print a wide variety of material, but our main purpose is to show students that a political philosophy of conservatism, free thought and individual liberty is an intelligent way of looking at the world — contrary to what they might hear in classrooms and on campus. In general, editors of the COMMENTATOR share beliefs in the following:

- We believe that the University should be a forum for rational and informed debate — instead of the current climate in which ideological dogma, political correctness, fashion and mob mentality interfere with academic pursuit.
- We emphatically oppose totalitarianism and its apologists.
- We believe that it is important for the University community to view the world realistically, intelligently and, above all, rationally.
- We believe that any attempt to establish utopia is bound to meet with failure and, more often than not, disaster.
- We believe that while it would be foolish to praise or agree mindlessly with everything our nation does, it is both ungrateful and dishonest not to acknowledge the tremendous blessings and benefits we receive as Americans.
- We believe that free enterprise and economic growth, especially at the local level, provide the basis for a sound society.
- We believe that the University is an important battleground in the “war of ideas” and that the outcome of political battles of the future are, to a large degree, being determined on campuses today.
- We believe that a code of honor, integrity, pride and rationality are the fundamental characteristics for individual success.
- Socialism guarantees the right to work. However, we believe that the right not to work is fundamental to individual liberty. Apathy is a human right.



**THE DRIVE FOR MARKETING SUCCESS BY FROHNMAYER'S
ADMINISTRATION IS PREVENTING STUDENTS' RIGHT TO FREE
EXPRESSION ... WITH THEIR OWN STUDENT FEES.**

**Oregon
Elections**

KULONGOSKI: ANTI-CHRIST?

Democrat Ted Kulongoski is taking the low road against opponent Kevin Mannix.

By Scott Kane
PAGE 10

THE END OF THE WORLD (OF HEALTHCARE)

Measure 23 would give Oregonians universal healthcare, and universal misery.

By John Kreider
PAGE 11

Politics As [Un]Usual

The OREGON COMMENTATOR's interview with libertarian Gov-hopeful Tom Cox on being a third-party candidate, wildfires and the war on drugs.

By Pete Hunt
PAGE 14

Election Picks 2002

Timothy Dreier
Philippe Cornet

PAGE 12
PAGE 16

VOLUME XX, ISSUE II

COMMENTATOR

WITHER OTTER?

Even as the University plays on the marketing value of its Animal House heritage, it's forcing Frats to give up their Toga ways.

By Jeremy Jones
PAGE 6

COVER: BUSINESS 1-0-1

The University's marketing decision to force the new "O" logo on student groups has raised concerns over costs and the rights of student groups to express their own views.

By Lisa Toth
PAGE 8

DEPARTMENTS

EDITORIAL	4
NOBODY ASKED US, BUT...	7
LETTERS	19
ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE	20
SPEW	23

October 31, 2002
Copyright ©2002 Oregon Commentator Publishing Co., Inc.
To those about to read, we salute you

The Price Is Wrong. *So Is The University.*

Who's in charge of the University? Is it President Dave Frohnmayer, recently inducted member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, or is it Allan Price, brought in to boost the University's business brand identity and profitability?

With the current decision to force all University and ASUO programs to include the new logo, it is more than clear that business interests have overtaken common sense and the University has declared war on the free exchange of ideas. The attempt to force groups ranging from the OREGON COMMENTATOR to the Women's Center, *Ol' Dirty Emerald* and Black Student Union to carry the cattle brand of the school is a terrible attempt to control the words and images of student voices.

It is absolutely critical for the free exchange of ideas to remain unfettered at a University in which a student fee is exacted to facilitate student speech. In the landmark U.S. Supreme Court case known as *Southworth*, the court held that in such fee systems "the State undertakes to stimulate the whole universe of speech and ideas." That principle then is the underlying factor that allows for incidental fees to be collected.

But when the University then tries to control that speech, it should well be considered that a violation of the *Southworth* principle has taken place. Frohnmayer cannot collect a student tax, and then tell students what to say.

The logo decision is also outrageous because Frohnmayer has sold out his publicly espoused principles since taking his leadership position. In 1996 Frohnmayer listed diversity as one of his top two priorities. He has repeated that refrain on countless occasions. And in October Frohnmayer was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences as a fellow. That organization lists one of its purposes to be "a forum for a select group of scholars, members of the learned professions, and government and business leaders to work together on behalf of the democratic interests of the republic."

By attempting to force the inclusion of a particular symbol into a wide variety of student groups and University departments, Frohnmayer has chosen to forego his stated belief in diversity — in this case intellectual diversity — and to neglect the need of democracy to have dissenting opinions manage their own ideas.

The logo fiasco is just one piece of a larger picture of Frohnmayer's reign of error. This particular area revolves

around his juggling and misjudging the various constituencies of the school while he attempts to create a self-funding, business-minded profit center that rakes in millions of dollars from an autonomous, self-funding athletic program. Everyone recalls the Worker Rights Consortium debacle in which Frohnmayer misjudged both the tenacity of student activists to push their ridiculous goals and the ardent position of Nike founder Phil Knight in defending his brainchild.

Frohnmayer's current failure is simply further testament that he is not, in fact, the great leader taking the University into the future. He has once again let an underling, this time Price, push too far in the attempt to make a modern University Utopia. The past failure only angered the famous Eugene radicals. This failure has violated the trust of all students, student groups and the principle of free expression of ideas established by the Supreme Court.

There is a hefty price tag for the new University Advancement director. Price comes with a resume from Arizona State where he led an effort to raise \$255 million for the school. But there is an unseemly ooze of greed around Price as his first major public introduction is an attempt to control a variety of student voices. Not only is it improper to forcibly attach the University logo to student groups and publications, but it is also unwise. Does the University really want to tacitly endorse all that is written in the *Student Insurgent* or the COMMENTATOR? That would be well worth considering.

Allan Price needs to be reminded that there are limits to his reach, and of the fate of his predecessor who neglected the concerns of student groups willing to make their voices heard across the country. Dave Frohnmayer needs to remember that there are important principles at play regarding the very purpose of a liberal arts institution, and that his stature as a great thinker and patriot of our time can be diminished through actions such as the logo debacle.

The University administration should retract the logo policy as it stands now so that it doesn't violate the spirit of federal law, the trust of students and the important principles on which it is supposed to be the educator.



All Aboard The Crazy Train!



Did You Know The OC:

- **Takes Up As Much Or As Little Time As You Want To Invest**
- **Allows You To Lead A 20+ Year Campus Publication That Some Love, Some Fear And Everybody Reads**
- **Always Wants People With Sharp Minds And Sharp Wit To Help Out**
- **Has The Most Impressive Alumni Among Campus Groups To Help Land You The Best Jobs**

Join Now. Or We'll Bite Your Head Off.

205 EMU

ocomment@darkwing.uoregon.edu

PO Box 30128 • Eugene OR 97402



“Take No Prisoners!”

Either embrace Animal House, or try to clean up our drunken heritage. You can't do both, jackass!

By Jeremy Jones

In the summer before my Freshman year, I took one of the tours of the campus. I was in group led by a man happier and more excited than any heterosexual should be. “This fountain was designed by a blind girl who only knew what a waterfall should sound like.” Good thing she was blind; if she could see the ugly, overly-elaborate outhouse she created she would have taken a sledgehammer to it herself. “This is Deady Hall, the University’s first building.” And from the looks of it, the guys demolishing Gilbert should have made an extra stop. Christ, even the vines on the side of the building have been dead for 70 years. “This is the Pioneer Father. The statue looks to the Pioneer Mother on the other side of Johnson through the glass doors. We like to think of this as the University’s longest love affair.” Well, that’s because he hasn’t screwed her yet. He’s stuck on the other side of campus. If he did get the chance, I would imagine he would split in a second. “This is Johnson Hall, where John Belushi dragged the horse up the stairs in the movie ‘Animal House’.” Now they had my attention. “This is the fishbowl where they filmed the food fight scene.” Imagine that. A piece of the history of drunken college antics right here in Eugene. It gave me hope. Perhaps it wouldn’t completely suck to live in this city.

Well, that hope has long since been knocked down, stomped on, pissed on and left in the sun to rot. But even so, those landmarks stand as a proof that something good can come out of this campus. Kind of like that John Belushi poster of him chugging that fifth of Jack with the American flag draped behind him. Oh how many times have his eyes gazed down at me emptying the contents of my unworthy stomach into the porcelain altar directly beneath the image of the Triumphant One when I try to perform the same miracle he accomplished on that day. Someday... someday I will be worthy. But aside from my personal failings as

a human being, that very image is the essence of what this time should be — a time to get all the really stupid shit out of our system. If not this glorified image, than at least an amusing side note of the University.

Enter the stupid University officials who want to cleanse the University of the “Animal House” image and yet are still proud of the documented perversion that was filmed here nearly thirty years ago. It wasn’t much more than a year ago when I heard the Frohn list Animal House on a list of great things this campus had done during a speech to the incoming freshmen. Even then I remember thinking, “Frohn is proud that a movie about a bunch of drunken frat boys was filmed on this campus? Is anyone else getting mixed signals around here?”

Now add to this interesting mixture the dry frat debacle Spring term. This became the first attempt to revamp the University’s image from “Animal House” to one more respectable, academically oriented and pathetically boring. Even more hilarious that just the debacle itself was the way it was going to be kept from the frats until the last minute, like they wouldn’t notice. In fact, the whole thing just reeked of a new paint job on a flaming car. Can we say, “short-sighted attempt to make the University look good?” Of course, this action, according to my reports (i.e. blurry recollections recounted to me by hung-over participants), is about effective as Alabama’s law against blowjobs. Let’s face it, the frats are not dry, nor are they ever going to be. The definition of a dry frat is one that has to hide the booze.

Jump now to the riot just before school started, when the next blow to the University’s all-important image came in the form of drunk and disorderly conduct that would make

Jump to page 18

Reporter's Notebook

Closet Conservatism in the Face of Violent Pacifism

As I sat huddled in the back corner of the EMU clutching my notes and listening to the left wing rhetoric that was the international law discussion forum (part of the October 15th Iraq teach-in), the irony of my situation struck me as hilarious. Here I was in a pacifist meeting utterly terrified to voice my pro-regime change sentiments for fear of being lynched by so-called pacifists. Throughout the discussion I heard time and time again, from academicians and students alike, how much they fear the Jingoistic evil of the Religious right. Well, there were seven of us at the forum and we were, for the most part, **silently fuming**, holding our collective tongues.

As it is far easier to compose one's thoughts on paper, I now present to you, the dear reader, my views regarding possible war with Iraq. Aside from the obvious fact that **Saddam Hussein** foments terror and frequently violates the 1991 cease-fire terms set forth by the UN — thus far with impunity — it must be said that the decision to remove him from power is imperative from a moral standpoint and wholly justified according to the UN charter. President **Bush** technically doesn't even need to ask for the UN's stamp of approval; he can occupy Iraq forcefully under UN Security council 678 of 1990 or 687 of 1991. Asking for permission is a courteous thing to do, yet unnecessary. Wall Street Journal columnist **Peggy Noonan** presents this case far better than I: "If you know Saddam is wicked, know he's gathering weapons of mass murder, know madmen are likely to ultimately use the weapons they stockpile, and know finally that he wishes America ill, then why not move against him? And why not now? Wouldn't inaction be irresponsible?"

Hussein's repeated sympathy for and outright financial support of terrorist movements coupled with the penchant for unprovoked aggression allow one to reasonably presume that he will not hesitate to use weapons of mass destruction should he acquire them.

A just war is that which eliminates evil, a war that frees an oppressed people from **aggressive tyranny**. No one, save dictators, wishes for war. It is always the last resort of republican democracy, a necessary evil. Anger should not be directed at those who would deliver an oppressed people from evil but rather toward those like Saddam, who foster terror and perpetuate the evil that makes war necessary. True and lasting peace is possible only after evil has been **eradicated**, and inaction only serves to delay the inevitable and strengthen an aggressor's resolve. As **Edmund Burke** said, "When bad men unite, the good must associate; else they will fall, one by one."

— Scott Kane

THE OC ASKS:

What Did You Do For Halloween?



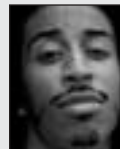
President Bush

I dressed up like somebody who wasn't sure he was going to bomb Iraq. Toughest damn disguise I've ever put on. I'm gonna bomb his ass back to the Glass Age, I tell ya' what.



Damon Stoudamire

I'm just looking for a chance to contribute to the team and prove I'm worth my weight in chronic. The 5-0 can't pin me down, neither can Kobe. 'Cept when we play the Lakers.



Ludacris

There you ho again, gettin' all up in my bid-ness. I don't dress up for Ho-lloween. Ho no! That would be Ho-riffic.



Harry Belafonte

Only a house master's slave would dress up for Halloween. You're just the master's trick, Uncle Tom. What was my first political expression? Oh yeah, it was the Banana Boat song.



Jason Fife

Once again I dressed up in my #3 jersey. God, I wish I were a real quarterback and leader here. You think my problem is the mullet? Or just my lack of talent?



Mike Bellotti

I threw on my Notre Dame hat. God, I wish I had taken the job when it was offered. You think Jason Fife's problem is the mullet? Or just his lack of talent?



RoboCop

How many roads must a man walk down, before they call him a man? Yes, and how many seas must a white dove sail, before she can sleep in the sand. Everybody now!

The OC would like to go on the record as saying that, contrary to the so-called evidence, we did not set fire to that Poodle as the "trick" when you didn't give us free beer.

Fighting Ducks: Fighting Mad

By
Lisa
Toth

A new University policy to mandate student group use of the new school logo will be financially costly and raises concerns about the autonomy of student speech.

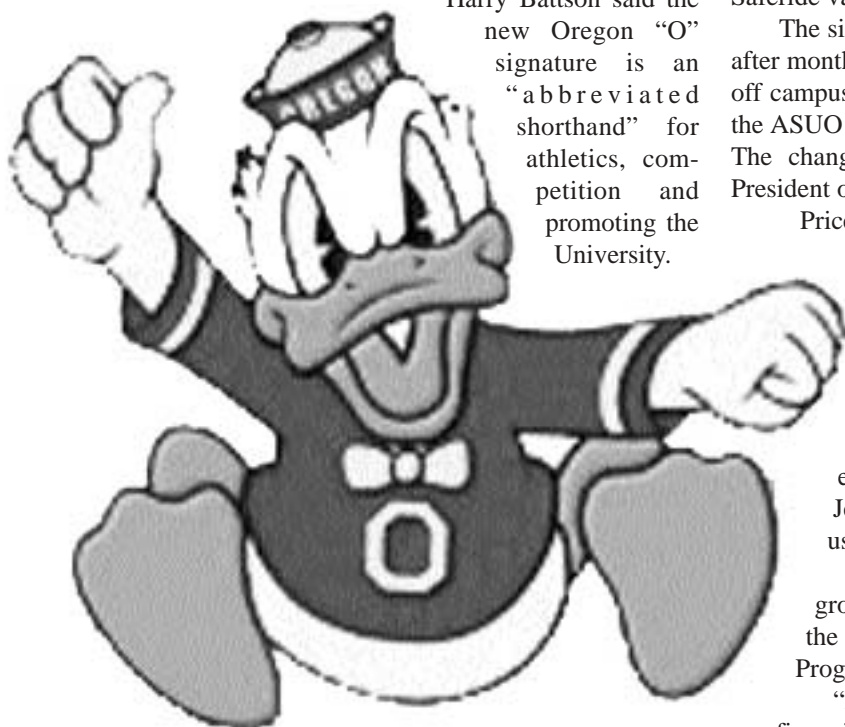
It's all about the marketing. At least that's the University's policy about the mandatory use of the new "O" logo by student groups..

George Beltran, director of the Office of University Publications, said the uniformity of using the Oregon "O" signature is good "in a business sense."

But after Jan. 1, ASUO Controllers, University Publications and University Printing will be regulating everything published by student groups to ensure that it bears the Oregon "O" signature. Without that signature, student groups could lose ASUO funding.

"You can't have 30 different letterheads," Beltran said. "You have to have a consistent image."

Associate Vice President of Strategic Communications Harry Battson said the new Oregon "O" signature is an "abbreviated shorthand" for athletics, competition and promoting the University.



"We're trying to establish identity," Battson said. "When people see the 'O' we want them to think the University of Oregon."

Battson said they are trying to raise the profile of the University, especially off campus, to go beyond the identity system. They want to incorporate themes such as access to students, quality of scholarships and University contributions to economic development of state.

The new Oregon "O" signature went into effect as of July 1 as the school's official logo and is in the early stages of implementation to replace the interlocking "UO." The new signature, authorized by University President Dave Frohnmayer and administrators, will adorn everything from athletic apparel, letterheads and business cards to T-shirts, banners and Project Saferide vans.

The signature became the official symbol of the University after months of debate and polls in the community, both on and off campus. But the decision has met resistance from many of the ASUO student groups that were not notified of the change. The change was made under "the driving force" of Vice President of University Advancement Allan Price, said Battson.

Price did not return phone calls.

Battson said they don't want to force student groups to throw away things they already have. Battson added "It's not intended to cost people a lot of money."

But there are differing views of the responsibility parties bear.

Battson said that the ASUO is "going to help us educate the student groups." But ASUO Coordinator Jennifer Creighton-Neiwert said, "Basically, they told us we had to comply."

Creighton-Neiwert said many of the student groups were confused about the guidelines surrounding the signature, which they were informed about at the Program Council Meeting Oct. 10.

"I haven't even thought about the implications of it financially," she said.

Jackie Ray, Student Senate and Panhellenic Council president, said she doesn't know how the Oregon "O" signature will be funded when there is already a budget crisis. She said the Senate doesn't have enough money as it is to provide for the needs of all the programs.

"My major concern is taking away the money from programs, activities and events that we bring to campus by focusing energy on the funding for new letterheads. The priorities don't seem to be in order," Ray said.

Co-director of Project Saferide Eve Rivinus said it's going to be expensive for them to update Project Saferide, Night Ride and DDS vans with the new logo, and the new guidelines are going to require a lot of enforcement.

Creighton-Neiwert said student groups will have until Jan. 1 to use up old letterheads and paperwork bearing past logos, but Battson suggested the requirement was that only items with the new logo could be purchased after that deadline. The new logo must be printed in certain colors, sizes and Melior Roman typography. The Oregon "O" signature must also be larger than the logos of individual student groups.

Beltran added that the University seal will still be used for publications distributed at formal academic affairs such as the University's Convocation and Commencement ceremonies, as well as on diplomas and transcripts.

Jenna Cunningham, public relations coordinator with the ASUO Women's Center, said she wasn't pleased with being forced to use the Oregon "O" signature.

"Foremost, I'm concerned about the waste of money and paper for banners, fliers and brochures that we order in bulk because it's cheaper," she said, referring to all the old paper they'll have to try to use up before Jan. 1.

She said they also will have to add the Oregon "O" signa-



ture to Take Back the Night T-shirts and banners, and the extra work will be labor intensive for the group's visual design coordinators. But more importantly, she said putting a big "O" on everything will take away from the group's message, quality and the focus of the ASUO Women's Center logo on their letterhead.

"It could make things look more uniform, but I don't really see the need for the campus groups to have the same logo. It seems a little excessive," Cunningham said.

Student Senator Andy Elliott said while it may initially be a pain for student groups to update their letterhead, over-

all it will make the University more standardized.

"It might be cool to have everything uniform," he said, although Elliott added that he prefers the old seal to the new signature.

Elliott said there were hearings last year to address concerns with the logo and no students participated. He added that some have already accepted defeat.

"I don't make the rules," he said.

The ASUO in conjunction with University Publications will be hosting meetings to explain to representatives on campus the detailed guidelines of implementing the Oregon "O" signature. University departments will meet Nov. 4 from 1-2:30 p.m., contract non-profits will gather Nov. 5 from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and ASUO student programs will convene Nov. 6 from 1-2:30 p.m. All meetings will be held in the Ben Linder Room in the EMU.



Lisa Toth, a senior majoring in Journalism, is a staff writer for the OREGON COMMENTATOR.



Ted Kulongoski is the ANTI-CHRIST

BY SCOTT KANE

If I were a liberal I suppose that I could begin this essay by insulting Oregon's esteemed legislator, but that would be a cheap shot and I am not a man who takes his shots cheaply. No, we conservatives tend to attack only the politics and policies of those with whom we disagree so any comparison of Ted Kulongoski to a deranged Santa Claus getting off by bouncing little Timmy on his knee would be silly.

Kulongoski has taken the low road against gubernatorial opponent Kevin Mannix, attacking his stance on various social issues so much so that one fails to see where Kulongoski stands on any given issue or policy.

A look at his website shows that he is endorsed by virtually every major liberal pol in the state of Oregon, from Governor Kitzhaber to Senator Wyden with Barbara Roberts sandwiched in between. Now there's an unpleasant thought. At any rate, it would appear that Kulongoski passes the liberal litmus test, all the more reason not to vote for the man.

Looking at Kulongoski's website closer still yields a concerted effort to persuade the voting populace that he is indeed a friend of Children, the Elderly, and free loaders alike: he supports socialist health care. The implication here is that Kevin Mannix does not support these things and, as we all know, we conservatives care not for the lowly citizenry. We simply don't want to bother with micromanaging life down to the last detail. God forbid that we actually believe people are the best directors of their own destinies.

Moving right along — and sorting through a smattering of Kulongoski's speeches along our merry way — we find even more vagaries and little substance. Take this excerpt from a recent speech to the Oregon Newspaper Publisher's Association:

"These gifts did not happen by themselves. They happened because of the vision, labor, and sacrifice of those who came before us. Now it is our turn to confront the growing challenges in our state. We must all step up government, business, our communities, all of us if we are to fulfill Oregon's promise."

These gifts Kulongoski speaks of are our streams, forests, and *cough* stellar economy *cough*. But how does one make gifts happen to fulfill Oregon's promise? You've got me.

Even the *New York Times* doesn't like Kulongoski: "The Democrat, former Justice Ted Kulongoski of the State Supreme Court, is considered too liberal for the state."

This writer nearly fell out of his ergonomic chair when he saw that the paper of record had used the words "too liberal for Oregon." If the liberal tome that is the *New York Times* fails to see the untapped potential of Kulongoski to set Oregon further on the road to serfdom, then perhaps even liberals should consider abandoning his gubernatorial ship.

As for the bogeyman, otherwise known as abortion, rest assured that Kulongoski favors allowing children to be ripped from the womb via Hoover vacuum or a swift kick to the stomach. However, one should note that basing one's electoral decisions on a single issue is the stuff of idiocy. No politician — save those on the Supreme court — can reverse *Roe v. Wade*. One will of course note that Oregon's own pro-life laws were subverted by the judicial fiat that was *Roe v. Wade* as there was no widespread push to legalize abortion in Oregon at that time.

But perhaps the best illustration of why not to vote for Mr. Kulongoski is one of self incrimination via the fine folks at KGW Northwest News Channel 8:

"I wish they would've voted it (new tax) straight up and not put it out to an election."

July 8, 2002, KGW Interview

KGW reporter: Do you think they could have balanced the state budget without raising taxes?

Ted: "No."

July 8, 2002, KGW Interview

Then from *The Oregonian*:

"'I don't know of any other way to get there,' said Kulongoski, adding that the 'heart' of any solution is an 'income-tax surcharge to some degree' similar to the one approved when Oregon was in a recession in the early 1980s."

The Oregonian, May 23, 2002

And as our own beloved *Daily Emerald* noted on Oct 22nd:

"In addition to Economy and Social issues Kulongoski stands behind his perspective on social issues."

Explaining how one stands behind one's perspective on "Economy" issues is beyond this writer but suffice it to say, Kulongoski believes he can win the hearts of the voting populace simply by saying, "I care."

Emotionally based drivel is not the stuff of stellar politics but rather the stuff of broken dreams backed by empty promises. Other than raising the collective tax rates of Oregonians to foster a burgeoning bureaucracy, Kulongoski is, in the words of The Bard, "Full of sound and fury signifying nothing."



Scott Kane, a senior majoring in Journalism, is a staff writer for the OREGON COMMENTATOR.



Measure 23: How to Gut Oregon's Health Care System

by **John Kreider**

The upcoming Oregon vote-by-mail general election contains a measure proposing public health care for all Oregon residents: Measure 23. Ideally, it is a great notion. Realistically, it is an economic disaster that will decrease the quality of health care for most Oregonians.

If the measure is approved, a 15-member Oregon Comprehensive Health Care Finance Board will form as a public corporation. This group will have the ability to raise personal income taxes up to 8 percent, increasing the current rate to 17 percent. A person making \$12,500 a year — just about minimum wage — will spend an extra \$1000 annually on an 8 percent income tax hike. Ironically, that means a person earning minimum wage may actually spend more on “free” public health care than they would on health insurance. A person choosing to have health insurance to cover discrepancies in the public health care system will basically be paying for two health plans.

Wondering where all that money will go? Consider this. The finance board, responsible for implementing the new health care system, will have an unlimited administrative budget for the first three years. Some state estimates regarding the implementation of this health plan have exceeded \$20 billion! Then, once all Oregon residents are covered by the Plan, the cost is projected at about \$12 billion annually. Consider all the places our tax dollars go before entering the doctor's offices, and it's easy to see: that's one hell of a bureaucratic money pit.

In addition to the money squandered on bureaucratic paperwork, the new health plan will cover some pretty bizarre health treatments. Under Section 10 of Measure 23, a “Health care practitioner” or simply “practitioner” means any person certified, licensed or registered to practice one or more of the healing arts in Oregon. That means our hard-earned tax dollars will end up paying for visits

to marriage counselors, herbalists and even a music therapists. Because each practitioner decides when their medical services are necessary — as defined in section 2, part 2 of Measure 23 — people can go to a musical therapist and listen to music for an unlimited length of time at our expense.

While alternative health care practitioners may have the opportunity to flourish under the proposed new health plan, the state's best doctors will have incentives to leave. The best doctors deserve to make the most money because they offer the best care. The extra money they make allows them to purchase cutting-edge medical equipment, in turn helping them access the latest medical procedures. If their equipment and procedures prove advantageous, they can become industry standards. That is how health care improves. Measure 23 will keep the best doctors from earning their potential, thus deterring them from making medical investments and setting an example for others. If those doctors go to California they can make what they deserve and stay the best; if they stay here their practices will suffer.

These are only a few of the many reasons Measure 23 is a foul idea. The measure will also mean lost jobs because employers can't afford the 11.5 percent increase on their payroll taxes. Furthermore, we may end up paying for non-residents who cheat the system and get truly free health care. Free public health care is a great idea. Everyone deserves to be healthy and to receive attention when they are sick. However Measure 23 is not the answer. Do not be a fool; vote no on Measure 23.



John Kreider, a junior majoring in Journalism, is a staff writer for the OREGON COMMENTATOR.



By Timothy Dreier

BALLOT MEASURES 2002

You've seen the pamphlets, you've seen the TV spots, now it's time to get the real skinny on Oregon's Ballot Measures this election season.

It is nearly November, and that means that elections have rolled around again. As is usually the case, there are an absurd number of ballot measures this year. Numbered 14 through 27, they range in scope from removing archaic language from out-dated parts of the Oregon constitution to requiring the labeling of genetically engineered foodstuffs. Good or bad, right or wrong, those are the issues upon which we must decide this election cycle. The measures are complicated, convoluted and at points quite boring, what follows is an item-by-item breakdown. Facts, figures, the works. I report, you decide.

Measure 14: REMOVES HISTORICAL RACIAL REFERENCES FROM OBSOLETE SELECTIONS OF OREGON CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE VII (ORIGINAL), ARTICLE XVIII.

This measure will remove the racial references from sections of the Oregon Constitution that are no longer in effect. The Oregon Constitution, adopted before the Civil War, referred to the State's population as "white," "free Negroes" and "mulattoes." Other than removing the references to race this measure makes no changes to the Oregon Constitution. Also, this measure corrects some spelling errors. This measure does nothing of any great importance and is sort of irrelevant, but we might as well live in a state without spelling errors in its Constitution.

Measure 15: AUTHORIZES THE STATE TO ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR SEISMIC REHABILITATION OF EDUCATION BUILDINGS.

Basically, this ballot measure allows the state to issue general obligation bonds to retrofit existing public educational buildings to withstand earthquakes. Bonds, for those who are unaware, are a saleable debt-instrument commonly issued by local, state, and federal governments as a way to raise money to finance expenditure. The issuer then pays back a fixed amount at a regular interval until the debt is repaid. This measure sets up a system under which the State of Oregon can issue general obligation bonds in order to make some improvements to existing educational buildings. This is a very common practice. Whether or not issuing more debt is a good idea for a state with an \$800 million budget shortfall is another discussion entirely. I'm happy to note that the state may not repay bonds issued in this manner with money from property tax revenue. The only particularly disturbing thing is that the measure allows the state to issue more bonds in order to repay the debts generated by issuing

the first set of bonds.

Measure 16: AUTHORIZES THE STATE TO ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR SEISMIC REHABILITATION OF EMERGENCY SERVICES BUILDINGS.

This is exactly the same as Measure 15, but for hospitals, fire stations and the like. Again, the only point of disturbance is the authorization to issue more bonds in order to repay existing bond debt.

Measure 17: REDUCES MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENT TO SERVE AS STATE LEGISLATOR FROM 21 TO 18 YEARS

Self-explanatory. Of interest is that the Voter's Pamphlet has an argument in opposition to this measure citing all sorts of biblical literature. You might want to take a gander; it's pretty funny.

Measure 18: ALLOWS CERTAIN TAX DISTRICTS TO ESTABLISH PERMANENT PROPERTY TAX RATES AND DIVIDE INTO TAX ZONES.

This measure allows counties, cities and local school districts that have not levied property taxes for any tax year beginning on or after July 1, 1990 to ask voters to establish permanent property tax limits. Under current law only taxation districts that have never before levied property taxes may ask voters to establish permanent property tax rate limits. Measure 18 also allows districts that have not imposed property taxes at any time on or after July 1, 1990 to divide its district into tax zones. Voters could then establish rate limits for each zone. Is this making your head spin yet? Stuff like this makes me glad I'm not a tax theorist. The blurb says that there is no estimated impact on revenues or expenditures. Basically, this measure allows the same taxation rights to all districts that some districts received as being grandfathered into Measure 50 in 1995. Sounds swell to me; now I'm going to go drink until I'm unconscious.

Measure 21: REVISES PROCEDURE FOR FILLING JUDICIAL VACANCIES, ELECTING JUDGES; ALLOWS VOTE FOR "NONE OF THE ABOVE"

Under this measure, if enough people in a district are unwilling to choose between judicial candidates, the election cycle will run forever. Measure 21 requires that in all elected judiciary positions "None of the Above" must be a choice on the ballot. If "None of the Above" receives more than 50% of the vote, the election must be

redone. We have a lot of elections in Oregon already; imagine the annoyance of having to revote for the same election all the time. I can understand not being satisfied with any of the candidates, but that can be expressed by not voting. Being unwilling to choose between what you have available is just passing that choice on to others who care enough to choose. Measure 21 will make elections even more complicated.

Measure 22: REQUIRES OREGON SUPREME COURT JUDGES AND COURT OF APPEALS JUDGES TO BE ELECTED BY DISTRICT

It is interesting to note that requiring Supreme Court Judges to be elected adds an air of political bantering to a position that is supposed to be free of such concerns. Also if both Measures 22 and 21 pass, we could be seeing an exponential increase in the number of elections due to Supreme Court Judges being elected and the “None of the Above” candidate in those new elections. Measure 22 doesn’t serve the greater good in any fashion, it simply adds the electoral concern to a politically neutral position and forces us to have one more item on the ballot every few years. We already vote for enough things.

Measure 23: CREATES HEALTH CARE FINANCE PLAN FOR MEDICALLY NECESSARY SERVICES; CREATES ADDITIONAL INCOME, PAYROLL TAXES

If you pay attention to one ballot measure this election season, pay attention to this one. This measure socializes health care in Oregon. Furthermore, it forces every individual in the state to pay up to 8% per year in additional income taxes (up to \$25,000 per annum) and creates additional payroll taxes on businesses not to exceed 11.5% of wages for any individual business and not to exceed 9.5% of total statewide income. In addition to taxing the hell out of us, this measure also takes the power to set income tax rates away from the Oregon Legislature and gives it to the Oregon Comprehensive Health Care Finance Board. That’s right, only the folks in charge of the health plan will be able to adjust tax rates if this measure passes. Payments to private insurance companies are not tax-exempt, so individuals have no incentive to hold private insurance if they would prefer. This measure takes away any choice in health care from the individual and places it firmly in the hands of the state. Estimated cost is \$1.7 billion per annum. If the taxation rates set in the measure are insufficient to pay for the health care plan, the Oregon Comprehensive Health Care Finance Board has full authority to raise income tax rates. It doesn’t take the economic acumen of Alan Greenspan to observe that higher taxes mean less money in the pockets of consumers, which means less spending and more economic slowdown. Oregon already has an \$800 million budget deficit and some of the worst unemployment in the country. This measure will only exacerbate the economic problems we already have in addition to establishing a terribly inefficient, overly expensive health care system in which one must participate regardless of one’s desires. I’d kill this thing faster than Saddam gasses Kurds if it were up to me.

Measure 24: ALLOWS LICENSED DENTURISTS TO INSTALL PARTIAL DENTURES (REPLACEMENT TEETH); AUTHORIZES COOPERATIVE DENTIST-DENTURIST BUSINESS VENTURES.

It’s great that this follows the above abomination in the Voters’ Pamphlet. This measure is completely innocuous and actually makes a good deal

Jump to page 16

Oregon already has an \$800 million budget deficit and some of the worst unemployment in the country. [Measure 23] will only exacerbate the economic problems we already have in addition to establishing a terribly inefficient, overly expensive health care system in which one must participate regardless of one’s desires.



Politics as [Un]usual

by Pete R. Hunt

Libertarian Candidate Tom Cox is doing what his opponents are not; offering concrete proposals to turn the State of Oregon around. The OC speaks with the fierce defender of freedom.

Liberals. They trust your judgment when it comes to drugs, sex and freedom of religion, but they think the general public is too irresponsible to handle their own money. Conservatives. Market friendly, but way too invasive into our personal lives. Where does that leave us?

Libertarians. Like a clown at a birthday party, they've got something for everybody. They like guns, drugs, and the market. They think government should exist to protect property and person, but little more. Ideally, they're our kind of people.

And Tom Cox is one of them. Oregon's third party gubernatorial candidate is sick of politics as usual. But unlike Ralph Nader, he's got ideas that actually make sense. Will he get elected? Of course not. Does he know that? Sure.

Tom Cox isn't in it to win it. He's in it to let Oregonians like you and me know that are better ways to run government than the tax-and-spend mentality of Ted Kulongoski. And if Kevin Mannix is your idea of fiscal responsibility, then he's got news for you.

"I'm the only guy talking specifics," said Cox in a phone interview. "Neither of these guys [Mannix and Kulongoski] has a plan at all."

Cox has a plan for everything. He wants to run the State of Oregon like a business, streamlined and polished, every dollar accounted for. He's right when says that Oregon doesn't need any new taxes. Oregon needs less waste, not more. His proposals may seem radical, but they effectively employ market-based solutions.

Cox has two plans to reform Oregon's education system, one for the K-12 level, and one for higher education. Essentially he proposes to take state based subsidies for higher education and turn them into "portable scholarships" for students. It's a plan similar to the highly touted voucher program.

"The state needs to provide children with quality education, empowering parents," Cox said. "The market place is more than adequate."

Cox's emphasis on market-based solutions also applies to the environment. Many critics viewed Oregon's summer wildfire explosion as evidence that the government and state haven't been good stewards of the land. Many, including President Bush, have proposed programs to clear underbrush through forest thinning programs.

"Private owners have an incentive to sustain forests," Cox

said. "The government does not."

Cox proposes long-term leases of state or government forests, or "better yet out right sales." Such deals should have a deed restriction that outline certain environmental guidelines the owner must follow, Cox said.

Two summers ago the federal government and Klamath Falls farmers came into direct conflict when irrigation water was cut off in order to protect endangered suckerfish. Cox was disgusted by Governor Kitzhaber's absence from the proceedings.

"[He] should have shown up in person in with a blowtorch," Cox said. "We didn't give you power so that you can feel good about yourself."

Cox acknowledges that the Klamath Irrigation Project needs to be privatized if it's going to exist. But that doesn't mean that the government had any right to take away water it had already promised to farmers.

"[The farmers] were told that if you come here and farm, you will have water to farm with," Cox said.

Cox believes that water rights should be commodities that can be bought and sold. If groups like the nature conservatory, of which he's a member, want to buy up farmland to turn into wetlands, they should be able to... at the right price.

Recently, Attorney General John Ashcroft has challenged Oregon's Medical Marijuana initiative. Cox is no fan of Ashcroft, calling him "a threat to freedom."

Cox is in favor of an initiative, read public, based solution to the drug war.

"The Drug War has failed, that's obvious," Cox said. "What would work? I don't have the faintest idea. That's why I would turn to the initiative process for solutions."

Cox's amiable and approachable nature makes him a natural politician. Though he may not win the seat of Governor, he will continue to campaign after the elections for the Libertarian party. Iconoclastic students who support third party politics but who are weary of the Stalinist left wing would benefit from taking a closer look at his platform.



Pete R. Hunt, a senior majoring in Journalism, is the Editor-in-Chief of the OREGON COMMENTATOR.

**Just Like
National Review.
*Except Funnier
And
Better Informed.***



OregonCommentator.com

of sense. Personally, I trust a dentist more than a dentist because I'd like to know about the health of all of my teeth, but if you feel okay letting a licensed dentist put in your partials, be my guest. This measure actually opens up more choice. HUR-RAH!

Measure 25: INCREASES OREGON MINIMUM WAGE TO \$6.90 IN 2003; INCREASES FOR INFLATION IN FUTURE YEARS

If you're going to watch two ballot measures this election season, watch 23 and this one. We already have the highest minimum wage in the country. It doesn't need to get any higher. It will just make labor more expensive and thereby increase the unemployment rate. Don't believe me? Take EC 202: Intro to Macroeconomic analysis. On top of raising the minimum wage next year, this measure affords for inflation in coming years by requiring the wage to be adjusted annually. The measure of inflation for the wage adjustment will be the Consumer Price Index for Urban Consumers and All Goods. Sounds good, right? Wrong. The CPI, while about the best approximation we can get, typically contains errors in estimating inflation. The CPI is increasing at about 1-2% per year, but most economists will tell you that actually translates to 0% inflation because of inaccuracies in the CPI. And, while we're on the topic, why did they pick the Urban CPI for All Goods, why not the GDP deflator? The GDP deflator is a measure of inflation in the aggregated economy, not just Urban Consumers. This measure will severely hamper economic growth in the state of Oregon for years to come.

Measure 26: PROHIBITS PAYMENT, RECEIPT OF PAYMENT BASED ON THE NUMBER OF INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM PETITION SIGNATURES OBTAINED.

This measure seems like a good idea, let's make sure that the referendum process isn't tainted by the signature gatherers' lust for money. Sadly, Measure 26 will not accomplish that goal. While it prohibits signature gatherers from receiving payment or bonuses based upon the number of signatures they collect, it does not prohibit them from receiving an hourly wage and having a quota for production. Sadly, because it still allows for quotas, this measure does not accomplish that goal.

Measure 27: REQUIRES LABELING OF GENETICALLY ENGINEERED FOODS (AS DEFINED) SOLD OR DISTRIBUTED IN OR FROM OREGON.

This measure sets a bunch of fairly strict standards for labeling of foods that are genetically engineered. Supporters seem to feel that this measure will allow them more choice in their food buying and cost nothing. This is not really the case. This measure will require foods that are manufactured in other states to be relabeled to comply with the law established by this measure. Most foods that are not genetically engineered are already clearly labeled as "organic" in stores because they appeal to a particular niche market. Those who are concerned can already choose to eat "organic" foods and this labeling system will only add needless red tape to the Oregon food market.



Timothy Dreier, a junior majoring in Economics, is the Managing Editor for the OREGON COMMENTATOR.

Phillipe Cornet's Guide to Local Ballot Measures

20-59: Jail improvements. This project will cost the county \$10.7 million so they can streamline the intake system. This streamlining would basically make it easier for the cops to harass you and your longhaired buddies by increasing the jail capacity by about 200% and could increase costs should the cops decrease citations and loosen arrest parameters. Vote no on more police spending today and save yourself from looking at another bond measure to cover the increased operating cost of a larger facility.

20-60: High-tech radio and data system for cops. This would cost county residents another \$10.4 million so cops can upload and download video feeds and data from remote locations. I don't know about you, but the last thing I want is a cop fiddling with another gadget — especially one that can be easily linked to the net allowing high bandwidth porn feeds. Say no to jackin' on the job. Vote no on 20-60.

20-61: Sprucing up the courthouse. The county wants residents to pony up \$6.4 million to remove the stairs and make the entrance on the first level along with expanding the sheriff's office. This measure is allegedly to help the disabled enter and

exit the building. This is another waste of money, as the county courthouse is perhaps the ugliest building I have ever seen and anything short of tearing it down and erecting a respectable structure is a waste. Besides, there are ramps everywhere and it is completely ADA compliant. This is the fanatical equivalent of city of Seattle dumping money in to the now-defunct Superdome. Vote NO.

20-62: County park improvements. This bond measure would cost \$20.1 million so slack jawed city-slickers can drive their oversized RV 45 minutes outside of town, park it, guzzle Hamms and back their speed boat into the river, thereby scaring away the fish from the peaceful paddlers. I tell you, it makes me vomit with contempt to see the REI outfitted yuppie paving his way to nature. Vote no on well-to-do urbanites and preserve the forest for the people who can enjoy nature without a hot shower and satellite TV.

20-63: County public health building. This nearly-\$30 million bond measure would provide area residents with an affordable primary/urgent care facility that can double as county offices. While this measure will undoubtedly increase county operating costs, money can be saved if residents use this facility instead of the more costly ERs. Since one of the functions of this building would be pregnancy prevention and screening,

Jump to page 18



**“...Iranian Dictator Saddam Hussein...”
-Babs**



**“Americans will conclude that only our own vital interests justify risking a nuclear exchange with a rogue regime. We will give up the American Empire. Fortress America is our future.”
-Pat Buchanan**

Anti-War Über Alles

Now Accepting: Anti-Semites, Homophobes, Religious Fanatics, John Birch-style Isolationists, Pacifists, Cowards, Neo-Nazis, Anarchists, Socialists, Woody Harrelson and other rich Hollywood types, Suicide Bombers, *The New York Times*, Ivory Tower Intellectuals and the French.

And don't forget Kids, when in doubt, blame Big Oil and the Jews.

Continued from page 6

a city like L.A. proud. This came as no surprise to me. If there is one thing this campus can do well (and there is only one thing this campus can do well), it is have decent riots. We have at least one riot a year, so who could be surprised by this one? However, this seemed to pull the underwear into a lot of people's cracks. Frankly, I don't understand it. Come on, you laughed when the Delta house kids crashed the parade and started the riot in the middle of the town in broad daylight. Hell, if you weren't too busy being beaten and/or gassed at the time, you were probably laughing at the crazy drunks throwing bottles and lighting things on fire about a month ago. More than just a repercussion of Animal House, riots have a deep-seated history in this town. Civil disobedience is as much a part of this city's culture as the drunken homeless people who wander aimlessly through it. Most of this comes in the form of protests, which can be fun, I guess... If you give a shit about something. But for the majority who don't care if the US was bombing every foreign country and burning forests just for sport, a riot is an even more interesting alternative. More than anything, it's a way for upper-middle class, white, suburban, brain hemorrhages to "stick it to da man!" Because, as we all know, "da man" has been oppressing their white asses since they were born in that 5 bedroom house in Orange County. And you know what? Good for them! There are few things in life as entertaining as a live riot.

Then there came the recourse of public outcry on this particular Eugene ritual. Now, of course the current notion on the table of there being consequences for things done off campus. The fact that this is even being considered is frightening. And to whatever jack-off compared being punished by the University for crimes committed off campus and not doing your home-

work...well, I don't have enough time or paper to express the anger that made me feel, so how about we have a hearty "You are a God-damned idiot" and leave it at that.

Folks, my point is this: You can't boast the filming of a movie like Animal House and then discourage the actions portrayed therein. Want to have an image of anal-retentive unhappiness? Fine, but I better stop hearing the LBGTA poster boy and the Frohn hype "Animal House" as one of the great things to happen to this campus. Otherwise, just sit back and watch the drunks destroy themselves. As for me, I vote for the latter. "Animal House" was more than a movie; it was an image of what college life should be. This atmosphere is nature's way of weeding out the truly stupid before they waste all their money and find out that their brain is barely capable of keeping them from shitting themselves, much less holding a job that doesn't require a broom. Let these people get drunk and destroy things, and get rid of them before they wear out their entertainment value. They say that one in every three freshmen leave before the first spring term. The only reason I knew they were gone was because I hadn't had to pull some guys face out of the toilet before I took a piss.



Jeremy Jones, a man whose idea of a religious experience is a bottle of NyQuil and an automatic weapon, is Art Director for the OREGON COMMENTATOR.

Continued from page 16

money could be saved in the long run by decreasing child health care costs, social service costs (like WIC and welfare) and education costs, especially since lower income people will be using these services. Remember, Sudsy says, "Fornicate, don't populate! Vote YES on 20-63."

20-65: Lane county Planetarium. This \$10 million bond measure would raise money for the construction of a planetarium at the fairgrounds. In principle I agree with science/technology museums because they generate a lot of capital from out-of-town visitors and also pump money in to the restaurant and hospitality sector of the economy. However, I really have my doubts about this venture in light of what is going on with the Oregon Coast Aquarium and the general downturn in tourism. As part of a larger scientific venue this project would be keen, as it is sharing space with an ice rink and barn. I would have to say NAY.



Philippe Cornet, the secret ingredient in Russian knockout gas, is a staff writer for the OREGON COMMENTATOR.

If you're always thinking of Victoria's Box and Pandora's Secret, we're thinking of you. If your idea of smut is a good journal of opinion, then come be a porn star.

OREGON COMMENTATOR.

Come on up and see us sometime. 205 EMU.

OREGON COMMENTATOR,

The riot goes on; the same sloppy, thoughtless, just-havin-fun mentality breaking out in the Oct. 8 Commentator, page 15 where selected denizens of 13th and Kincaid are trashed. After muted grumbling about profs and Masons and snotty clerks a target is found and Tim, the Hot Dog Guy, comes in for special abuse. Why, I ask — much like stunned 14th and Ferry residents seek explanations for the riot - why pick on a guy for meeting friends at a bar after work? A guy, who represents "free enterprise...at the local level," virtues right out of the conservative playbook extolled in the Commentator's Mission Statement. That I was not reading a journal of consrvative {sic} thought but a sleazo-tabloid was confirmed when I got to the "water-soaked hand" bit and the clunky bun pun. All fun and games, the editor can shrug, and what do you want? Responsible adults? Ever hear of free speech? We are reminded that when such a one diapers himself in the American flag soiling is inevitable. Nothing amusing about that. This stuff would be insulting if it were not so ludicrously off the mark. I have spoken with Tim, the Hot Dog Guy, several times and -as anyone who has done same will attest - he is a man of quiet charm, the soul of propriety and civility. Traits, editor, that can be taught, learned and it's never too late to start.

There is some thread of consrvative {sic} thought amidst the dreary, feigned world-weariness in Commentator. The dominant tone, anyone familiar with the babble of radio sport's talk nerds, recognizes: awkward, often little guys, frustrated, angry because they're not good at anything until they discover they have a genius for sneering and it is their salvation. Drop a pass, miss the game-winning free throw and a voice from the mob shouts "dog pile!" and the orgy of slamming begins. And it is SO empowering.

Whether you're drunk and ripping up street signs or carving out a career in neo-gonzo journalism [conservative or expose desk] what the hell, it's all for laughs and there's no price to pay. Hunter Thompson, P.J. O'Rourke {sic}, you have a lot to answer for come Judgement Day.

— Jim Brady

Jim,

Of all the merchants, derelicts, and transients who frequent 13th street, we chose to give Tim ink because we actually like his hot dog stand. I'm sorry if you found the "buns" joke tasteless, but it was only a pun. We can assure you that nobody who read that drew the conclusion that Tim is a sex offender. We also mentioned that Jim from the Red Rooster Barber Shop cut the breaks on his girlfriend's car. Did you take that literally as well? I think you've made the mistake of taking a joke WAY too seriously. After all, if having drinks at Taylor's is a crime, then the entire OC staff is looking at a long prison bid.

If Tim was offended, then we're truly sorry, because we too have spoken with him and found him be nothing but amiable. But I doubt our joke is going to hurt his business. More often than not, an OC reference is a free advertisement. We've been told that our magazine is responsible for 40 percent of the clientele at Serenity Lane.

OREGON COMMENTATOR,

You Preppie Punk!!

Where do you find the unmitigated Gall to caste espursions {sic} on the Dog Man??

Your humor and journalistic style is so off course, so unbelievably {sic} crass--

Why dont {sic} you dive into your deep abys {sic} of self loathing and sickening humor and drown down there?

In another article, your statement, with regard to your having aids, in a Telegram to a friend,---is not funny. I believe you deserve to take a serious reconsideration of your writing ability and do all you can to keep your sick thoughts to yourself.

You are not humorous {sic} enlightened or informative, — in short —YOU SUCK!!

The accusation you put to Tim, to quote " But if you are a girl, watch your ass, or you'll find a dirty water soaked hand stuck to your buns" Is

nothing less than "Obscene, libelous, inappropriate" and unfounded.

You deserve to be held accountable for not only this statement, but for everything you publish. You have to learn responsibility.

I have known this man for 15 years and know for certain this statement is untrue in every sense.

Your making such atrocious accusations, {sic} deserves a major retraction and printed apology on your part.

You don't realize how your loose word and limp opinion has cut into the core of all who know him.

You are wrong, stand up, be accountable and GROVEL.

— James Kramer.

James,

First, Let this be a lesson to all potential letter writers. Do not, we repeat, DO NOT take cold medicine before composing an e-mail.

Second, isn't it interesting that we got two e-mails responding to our joke about Tim the Hot Dog Guy, but no e-mails responding to any serious articles we published? This must mean that either a.) Our jokes are tasteless, or b.) our readers skip serious commentary pieces to read tasteless jokes. Chicken or the egg, eh?

OREGON COMMENTATOR,

You guys have the only web site that actually f***ing works at the entire UO. Kick ass.

— Zeb Cooley

Thank you, sir. Remember kids:
www.oregoncommentator.com.





My Search for Beaver

BY ZACH EVENSON

To me, the word “mascot” conjures up in my mind all sorts of words, terms, places, faces and one horribly repressed memory of my father beating the shit out of the Canyonville Christian Academy Pilot after an intense high school basketball game. Mascots are incredibly important to sports teams and to their morale. When I think of mascots, I am reminded of some of the greats: The Cleveland Indian, The Atlanta Brave and That Drunk Little Notre Dame Fighting Irish Guy. One word of warning though: that guy in the trench coat at the Montreal Expos game is not the Official Montreal “Expose”...don’t believe his lies. Loyalty, compassion, camaraderie and spirit, a good mascot embodies all these qualities. But where would a mascot be without these essential traits? I’ll tell you where.

At first glance, Oregon State’s Benny the Beaver seems like no more than a giant, anthropomorphic beaver with an attitude problem. As it were, most the students I have met on the OSU campus seem to agree that the drunken guy wearing the beaver hat and cussing at the opposing team’s coach at every Beaver game seems to do a better job at boosting team morale than our beloved Benny. I then took it upon myself to hunt down the beaver in question and put his name back in the papers.

For my interview, the first thing I needed was a pencil. After that, I realized that I needed some sort of paper as well. After procuring these basic utensils, I decided to ask some questions and do some reading as to where one would go about finding a beaver. According to National Geographic, I am able to find beavers inhabiting rivers and streams in the forests of the Pacific Northwest. I started my search with the obvious choice, The Willamette River. But after two days of searching, I came home with nothing more than a sack of syringes and bad case of diarrhea. I then asked my father, but I don’t think I heard him right; how the hell was I supposed to find any beaver at the Women’s

Gym? Silly guy. Finally, the cure to my Beaver Fever came in the form of a very painful injection. After which, I picked up the student directory and sure enough, it was there that I found Benny. To my surprise, he was not listed to reside in a stream or by any type of oversized dam built out of twigs. I found Benny living in the basement of a house on 8th street.

According to Kenny, J.T., Chad and Darren, Benny’s roommates, Benny had been holed up in his room for about three days and was not talking to anyone. I waited in the bushes for hours in a futile attempt to catch him on the way to the market or something. My breakthrough finally came when I ambushed him on the way to pay the pizza guy. After some coaxing, pleading and eventual bribing, Benny gave me an exclusive one-on-one.

ZE: So Benny, you’ve been out of the public eye for the last few days. Are the Beavers’ games really getting so bad that you have to remain hiding in fear of public rejection?

BB: What the hell are you taking about kid? I’ve been laying low because I owe Darren some money. Shit, he’s not up there now is he?

ZE: Tell me Benny, you seem different than all the other walking, talking beavers I’ve met. What was it like growing up?

BB: Life was quite simple. I’d paddle around in the water, gnaw on some wood and maybe build a dam once and a while. Then once I got too big for the pond, I had to leave home and join the real world. I miss it sometimes.

ZE: I hear you.

BB: Did you grow up in a pond?

The views expressed in this column are those of Zach Evenson, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the OREGON COMMENTATOR.

ZE: Wha...uh yeah sure, whatever. Tell me about your parents.

BB: Who the f*** are you, Larry King? Listen, you got a cigarette or anything on you kid?

ZE: Not really.

BB: (sigh) Alright, my father joined the fur industry when I was very little.

ZE: Was he trapped?

BB: No, he took a job with some French clothing firm. I haven't seen him a while. My mother still lives at the pond and I try to visit her whenever I can.

ZE: Let's shift gears here Benny. Although the Beavers are now at 5-3, they still lost three games in a row. How has this recent losing streak affected you and the team?

BB: I got no idea what you're talking about. When I'm out there on the field, they keep me as doped up as a Russian circus bear. All I can do is dance and clap.

ZE: So do you ever socialize with the players on any level?

BB: I'm not allowed to talk to the players. It's a breach of contract. But Ken Simonton did once kick me in head for forgetting to open his Gatorade for him. I thought that was kind of cool.

ZE: What about other mascots? How are you and the U of O duck getting along these days? Do you ever talk to him?

BB: What? Ducks can't talk.

ZE: How are you keeping up with recent university news?

BB: I try to stay pretty informed. I never really learned to read so I end up getting all of my news from the student newspaper (*The Barometer*).

ZE: I've noticed that over the past couple of years during which I've been here, the religious awareness element has been steadily increasing. It started harmlessly with Campus Crusade, but now I can't even go to class without someone telling me I'm going to hell.

BB: Yeah, I know what you're talking about. Sometimes

it's kind of tame, like the guy on the street corner handing out bibles. But other times it's crazy. Like the other day, I even saw one guy punch a demonstrator in the ribs and then spit on him.

ZE: Actually, he wasn't a demonstrator. He was soliciting donations for the Salvation Army but you can never be too careful. I know it's still early in the season, but what are your thoughts on the Civil War this year?

BB: Civil War is a sham. There really isn't any difference between Civil War and any other Beaver's game, except for the fact that I'm tranquilized up twice as long and there's more yelling assholes out there wearing the Beaver hats. I can't understand all the fuss over the Beavers.

ZE: You mean you don't like the Beavs?

BB: It's not that I don't like them, it's more like...

ZE: GO BEAVS!!

BB: ...uhhh...it's more like I don't...

ZE: MAY CHRIST BLESS THE BEAVERS WITH PLENIFUL BREW AND WANTON WENCHES!!!

BB: Please stop that.

ZE: Sorry. Tell me about your social life. What do you do for fun?

Page 22... hurry...



Jump from 21

BB: I like to party every now and then. Just last week I was at a kegger over on Harrison.

ZE: Stan's party? I was there too. I don't think I saw you though.

BB: Really, I was the giant f***ing beaver standing in the corner drinking a cup of beer.

ZE: Oh yeah, now I remember you. So tell me, how is the love life treating Benny Beaver?

BB: I've never really been any good at that type of thing. I did a muskrat once.

ZE: We've all been there. What about kids and old people? Do they like you?

BB: I can't really say. I've had kids vomit on me before.

ZE: On purpose?

BB: Nah, it usually just happens. I think they might be allergic to my soft, slick pelt.

ZE: Can you tell me any good beaver jokes?



BB: I knew this one was coming. I'm not really a big joke person.

ZE: Come on, I bet you know a few.

BB: Ok...uhhh...what did the prostitute say to the beaver?

ZE: What?

BB: I will trade you sexual favors in exchange for money.

ZE: That's not too funny.

BB: It wasn't supposed to be. I told you I'm not a good joke-teller.

ZE: I'm about to wrap this up Benny, any parting words you'd like to give our readers?

BB: You have readers? Uhhhh....well, I don't really have any words of wisdom. I'd probably just like to say...

ZE: OHHH! OHHH!!! I got another question. This is a good one!

BB: (sigh) ok.

ZE: How do you go to the bathroom? Do you do it like us?

BB: I usually just go on the fence between quarters....yeah, a lot like you guys.

ZE: Thanks a lot for doing this Benny. I appreciate it.

BB: Thank you for taking the time out of your schedule to talk to me. No one really ever wants to really talk with me. I'm glad that you did. Do you wanna hang out sometime or...

ZE: Nah....we're not gonna be doing that anytime soon. Later!



Zach Evenson is the AP columnist for the OREGON COMMENTATOR. In case you haven't figured it out yet, he goes to Oregon State. Jesus, do you need a map?

ON CREDIBILITY

This is bullshit. You guys lose all credibility when you run stuff like this

—*Journalism school professor Kellee Weinhold to OC staff writer regarding a Pat Payne joke in Back to the Booze issue. Since when did the J-School see fit to extol our credibility?*

We didn't expect to exceed \$20 million for a film called 'Jackass.' Especially a film with no plot, no Oscar-caliber performances and no real writing.

—*Van Toffler, MTV president. No Oscar-caliber performances? A toy car up the butt? A midget kicking himself in the head? We'll take this high art over "A Beautiful Mind" any day.*

ON THE THIRD TYPE

The New Roman letters are like the Nazi letters. They have very thin Sarifs... Und ze are like zat all ze time!

—*Visual Communication Professor and former SS agent Bill Ryan.*

Look again, when we get the Modern Roman...Sieg Hiel!

—*Ryan, again.*

ON SMOKING!

Why do we trade computers for opium?

—*ECON 481 Prof Ron Davies. Who knows? Why do we trade oral sex for Tivo?*

Want to go smoke a fatty? I'm parked in the security lot.

—*Stoner/ possible security guard to an OC Editor outside of Autzen. Thanks but no, amigo.*

ON AMERICANA

Oh, you're not American? That's too bad!

—*ASUO Executive President Rachel Pilliod to a prospective voter.*

By God, one day we'll get those Albanians the right to vote in a state election.

ON ????

Just write down 'rotting dead guy.'

—*ECON 411 Prof Chris Ellis. It's nice that the econ department is finally giving us the real story behind micro theory.*

I've just stumbled upon this great magazine... THE OREGON COMMENTATOR. It's written by some kids at the University of Oregon. You guys should really check it out. Some of the best, most insightful writing I've read in years.

—*Kurt Vonnegut, Jr. Are you guys really buying this?*

and the
Canadian
Armed Forces



The University of Oregon officially presents...



OREGON
COMMENTATOR
October 15, 2012 Volume 31, Issue 11 A Journal of Law and
O
BRANDED!
The University Is Forcing Student Groups To Feature Its New
Logo As It Tramples Speech To Boost The School's Marketing



An Official University of Oregon Presentation