

O R E G O N

# COMMENTATOR

NOVEMBER 25, 2002

VOLUME XX, ISSUE III

A JOURNAL OF OPINION

**PROLETARIANS!**  
A SPECTRE IS  
HAUNTING CAMPUS—  
THE SPECTRE OF  
**LIBERALISM!**

THEY  
BRAND US WITH  
THEIR **LOGOS!** THEY  
DEMAND WE REJECT  
THE PHILOSOPHIES  
OF **KUGN!**

**WE**  
**MUST RISE!** **WE**  
**MUST REVOLT!** **WE**  
**MUST HURL THE FOE**  
**BACK INTO THE BOG**  
**OF COMMUNISM!**



## THE MINI ISSUE

*Also: Jews for Jesus, The Book of Revelations and The King Of Pop*



**FOUNDED SEPT. 27, 1983 • MEMBER COLLEGIATE NETWORK**

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# 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.

# COMMENTATOR

**BEHIND THE MASK:** Sho Ikeda reports the UO has yet to change its policy, but legal and ethical concerns persist.

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**DON'T DROP IT!** Pete Hunt dials into the real story behind the protests of local radio station KUGN's syndicated programming.

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**ON A CAMPUS FULL OF LIBERALS, THE ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT PROVIDES A SAFE HAVEN FOR FREE THINKING. BY TIM DREIER**

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November 25, 2002

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Hotel security! ... We've had noise complaints ... Fine then! I can't work like this, I'm gone!

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# Stamping Out Speech

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**In the old days, a cattle brand symbolized property. The University's policy to make student-funded groups carry the school's marketing brand makes for bad symbolism in an institution designed to build an education around diverse ideas.**

It's notable that 237 years and one day after the Stamp Act was introduced by the British crown upon its liege subjects, the COMMENTATOR reported that President Dave Frohnmayer enacted a policy to require the stamp of the University — its new "O" logo — to be carried by all student groups, which are funded by a student tax. But whereas those colonists fought taxation without representation, the problem at hand is completely about the representation of our own ideas.

Some may wonder why the logo issue is so critical. It is simply put that symbols matter. If they didn't, then no one would care if their car was tagged with a swastika or which particular flag their soldiers fought under. But symbols are important because they carry with them powerful endorsements of grand ideas and outshine the small bit of ink or cloth in which they are physically constructed. And because symbols are so important, it is absolutely unacceptable for the University to force student groups to carry its new marketing symbol on all group material.

There are many reasons that the University must change its policy, and those arguments are based on the interests of free expression, the law of the land, and the University's own self-interest.

## **Free expression.**

Government in general should be wary of treading upon speech, but it is particularly important that agents of the state, such as higher education institutions, tread lightly

The simple fact is that the University abandons its mission the moment it tries to prescribe speech. Regardless of any factor, the University should never make it policy to influence the symbols and content that student groups create in the progress of their liberal arts education. The point of a university is to create an environment in which students' ideas percolate until they

reach a boiling point of new notions. So the point of a university is lost when the ideas are force-fed to attending students.

Even if the University chose to forego the process by which student fees are collected and lumped all monies into a fund for student activities, the violation of the First Amendment to publish one's views as one sees fit would still be too gross to ignore.

But the situation at the University, in which students fund their own groups through separate accounts, is clearly a case in which student money is only tangentially linked.

## **Legal concerns.**

Student groups are funded by a tax on all students and are designed to "promote the cultural and physical development" of students, according to the Clark Document. And the Supreme Court suggested in its landmark Southworth case that the use of student tax is predicated on the idea that a system must be based on viewpoint neutrality. That predication suggests the court would be highly likely to make a distinction between those systems that promote student free expression and those that force a particular idea.

The forced use of a marketing symbol does not meet the Clark Document standard of why student fees have been approved by the Oregon Legislature. If student groups were ultimately supposed to act as marketing tool for the institution, then the Human Rights Alliance, which promotes an end to sweatshop labor, would most likely never have received any financial support and the OREGON COMMENTATOR would be marked outlaws.

If one takes a brief inspection, it seems clear that the tone of Southworth also could suggest that future court decisions would be amenable to making clearer distinctions about the type and nature of expression afforded to student groups funded by an incidental fee.



**University self-interest.**

The moral and legal reasons to reverse the logo policy have already been briefly outlined, but there are practical reasons the school should avoid trampling student rights. And those concerns make a lot of sense and are attached to a lot of dollars.

If the purpose of the logo inclusion is indeed to promote a “unified front” image of the University, then part of that image will be the perception that it is likely to seek out monetary concerns above its core mission. That may not seem like a big deal right now, but one can easily think about the popular perception of Florida State University or the University of Miami and examine the respect of education after years of exceptional marketing and questionable academic achievement. Perhaps the “O” will be up there with the Seminole soon.

Another concern should be the monetary and public relations costs of a lawsuit. It is undoubtedly the case that Frohnmayer and General Counsel Melinda Greer think they have found a rational argument to support their ethically questionable policy, but they have been rebuked by the Federal Office of Civil Rights last year and know the tenacity of groups such as the COMMENTATOR, which has sued the University before. The issue shouldn’t be worth the protracted legal bills and news clips of an administration that are bent on controlling student speech, but it’s always hard to tell how much pressure Frohnmayer needs before reviewing important policies.

There is also the issue of alumni who don’t want to be asso-

ciated with another ridiculous school scandal, especially since this one offends groups all over the ideological spectrum and has very little upside. Money tends to slow up when the overall perception of the University is tarnished with scandals and a faltering football team.

Frohnmayer has shown in the past an amazing willingness to ignore student anger until it reaches crescendo pitch. The Worker Rights Consortium debacle of recent years is testament to the fact that he can ignore student concerns until local, state and national media embarrass him into a policy change. And in this case, the University’s media machine replied to requests for a Frohnmayer interview that he wouldn’t be commenting on this issue. Maybe free expression and the University’s role in encouraging it just aren’t important enough topics for Frohnmayer.

It would be nice to think that he would re-examine his decision and make the smart political move to blame an underling (Associate V.P. for University Advancement Harry Battson is the most likely suspect), but the end to this saga may only come after angry students and student groups get the attention of enough of their alumni and community members to pressure a policy change.

Or we all better get used to carrying the University of Oregon stamp on all of our ideas.



# REVELATIONS SAYS:

AND HE CAUSETH ALL, BOTH SMALL AND GREAT, RICH AND POOR, FREE AND BOND, TO RECEIVE A MARK IN THEIR RIGHT HAND, OR IN THEIR FOREHEADS: AND THAT NO MAN MIGHT BUY OR SELL, SAVE HE THAT HAD THE MARK, OR THE NAME OF THE BEAST, OR THE NUMBER OF HIS NAME. (13:16 – 13:17)

**PRESIDENT FROHNMAYER: THE MARK OF THE BEAST SOUNDS LIKE THE “O” POLICY TO US. LORD HELP YOU.**

# STUDENTS EXCITED BY ELECTION RESULTS

## *GOP victory leaves students feeling "suicidal"*

**W**ith the White House and both the House and Senate firmly in the hands of Republicans, students at the University of Oregon are buzzing with excitement.

"Now nobody is safe from Bush's power mongering," said Jeff Barkley, 22, a sociology major. "All he wants to do is get oil so he can please his father, and he doesn't care who stands in his way."

Students in Chuck Hunt's sociology class held a moment of silence for all of the dissidents who would be killed when the Republicans burned the Constitution and enacted martial law.

"Bush wants to see all Muslims burned in the name of Christianity," said Hunt in a moving address before a room full of his fellow Republican faithful. "And it's well-known that he is the lapdog of the Tri-Lateral Commission and the Council on Foreign Affairs."

Many students reported hearing derisive comments from professors.

"Professor [Bill] Baugh said Republicans probably would be going back to isolationist international policies because they hate the mud people. I don't think I like the sound of that," said sophomore Tommy Hernandez.

And those in political science professor Jane Kramer's class had similar encounters. Freshman Billy Oldham, who has been in college for eight weeks, said "Now that Professor Kramer has given me the entire picture of the way in which America has raped foreign lands out of some sort of coldhearted, self-serving national security interest, I'm pissed. This GOP thing has got to go, you know? I think she was being totally fair when she compared the American GOP to Stalin's purging of 20 million of his own people. This blows."

"Americans are unthinking agents of the superrich," said an exuberant Michael Kleckner, Editor-in-Chief of the Oregon Daily Emerald. "The deadly poison of the top one percent has weakened the American mind, leaving it open to all manner of suggestion, most of it right-wing propaganda aired on KUGN. Voice of the Ducks? More like voice of the Third Reich."

ASUO President Rachel Pilliod spoke on behalf of the students to the local media.

"Elections? Oh yeah... I didn't really pay attention. The Democrats won, right? Did you guys see Clinton hug me? He said I was intelligent, a great leader and very flexible."

"The Republicans are engaged in a Jihad against freedom," said Earl Wiley, a homeless man who joined students in burning a flag outside of Johnson Hall in a proud display of patriotism. "They just want oil, power and oil."

"And they want oil," added Wiley, later, after extinguishing a thrice-burned American Spirit unfiltered cigarette.

Some students took to the streets to express their



approval.

"No to Bush, no to war, oil isn't worth fighting for," chanted Erin Hill as she led a victory parade down Broadway which notably stopped momentarily at the well-known head shop Hunkey Dorey. Hill added that GOPers would "probably continue to help the Zionist oppression of completely innocent Palestinians whose only method of expressing their hope for peace is to bomb unsuspecting civilians to incite terror."

"The Republican agenda is to control my womb," said marcher Bonnie Solomon, 23, a self-described intelligent journalism major. "They represent the domineering patriarchy that began with Jesus and has continued through the Pope and down to George Bush II."

The GOP's victory will give the party the power to push forward legislation aimed at giving tax breaks to working Americans, upgrading our national security and improving educational standards.

Junior biology major Max Henderson was looking forward to the coming changes.

"I'm moving to Canada," Max said, tears of joy streaming down his face. "I can't face the prospect of a tyrant destroying our natural resources and running our country into the ground. Do you know Republicans agree with 66% of the public that it's OK to murder those wrongly convicted by a racist judicial system?"

Senior Jamal X sat alone pondering the coming age of prosperity.

"It may come down to violence," he said quietly, twirling a bullet between his fingers. "Some devils will certainly be killed. By any means necessary."

## JEWES FOR JESUS NOT ALL HUNG UP ON THE CROSS

Oy vey! What are you supposed to do if you were born a Jew but gave your heart to Jesus? That's the problem faced by the campus group Jews for Jesus, which will face hard times as the holiday season approaches.

Group co-director Eva Goldman said "This is pretty confusing stuff. My family says Mazeltov but all I think inside is Merry Christmas! It's like knowing you're gay but everyone expecting you to be straight. It's very tough."

Group member Stanley Steinberg, a confused and closeted gay man, agreed. "Shit, that's totally true" Steinberg said when questioned about the similarities. "That's a fabulous analogy. For me, it's 'do I dress fashionably with my silver Star of David or put on a nice little ensemble to match my gold cross?' I just don't know."

Psychologists say self-identity issues can plague young adults as they try to define themselves and their religious beliefs.

Noted adolescent psychologist Stu Rosenblatt said "Young adults are basically not ready to make decisions for themselves,

especially about such important issues as to whether the Lord Christ has already come or if Jews are really the chosen people. Good God, most of those kids today can't even get their pants all the way up over their lazy little asses."

Area psychologist and noted Protestant Helen Bentley agreed, and noted there is enough to worry about when reconciling the two religious beliefs. "You've got to decide if you are part of the mob of thugs that killed Christ, or whether you want to join up with those that worship him. Obviously, it's a tough call."

When all is said and done, the best strategy for students seems to be avoiding the use of any particular religious symbolism.

Goldman said "I just try not to wear the cross. I don't think it's that big of a deal. I mean, if Jesus had died in Scranton, I don't think I'd have to wear a commemorative shithole around my neck."

Steinberg concurred. "I've just got to make it through the holidays without tipping anyone in my family off. If my grandmother ever found out, she'd die on the spot. She's always wanted me to marry a good Jewish girl, so if she knew I'd rather marry a cute Christian boy, that'd be all she wrote for Grandma."

### CAMPUS RUMBLINGS

- The new duck mascot has received an extremely cold reception. Slurs of "Hey, RoboDuck, you're a fag and we hate you" have been heard in the student section of football games. Hard to imagine someone thinking an all-Spandex outfit with a retrofit bike helmet would receive anything less than gleeful admiration.
- We hear ex-President Clinton checked out ASUO president Rachel Pilliod. Congrats, Rachel, you're in some pretty "special" company and no one doubts your intern potential.
- OC stalker/sixty-year-old do-gooder Bruce Miller believes the African Student Association members should all be "deported" for possibly violating ASUO spending rules. They bought bananas and cookies.
- How long will this blasted construction continue? Has entertained the possibility that the construction is just a diversion while the University drills for oil?
- What's the deal with Grape Nuts? There's no grapes, there's no nuts! Kind of like that new mascot. Good God, that thing just has to go.

### UO LOGO DEBACLE To-Do List:

- **Make rational case to students**
- **Make public appeal to local radio, news programming to build public pressure**
- **Character Assassination**
- **Actual Assassination**
- **Protracted Legal Battle**

### Are We The Yin To Your Yang?

(Can We See Your Yang?)

Send Pics To

[ocomment@darkwing.uoregon.edu](mailto:ocomment@darkwing.uoregon.edu)

# A Standstill

The new “O” logo debate continues as student groups and University officials search for a resolution.

By Sho Ikeda

**A**s student representatives search for a solution to the new “O” logo question, there are indications that the University is reconsidering its stance on the restrictive policy.

A number of student groups have opposed the new policy citing the numerous unplanned costs that they would incur. The new Oregon “O” signature policy would require student groups to print new letterheads and paperwork with the signature. Under its mandatory requirements, groups would also have to place the signature on banners, apparel and even vehicles. Publications, such as this magazine and the *Oregon Daily Emerald* sharply criticized the new policy, citing it as an infringement on students’ freedom of expression.

Such vocal objections did not go unnoticed by the administration, as potential changes are under consideration for the policy. Associate Vice President of Strategic Communications Harry Battson stated that the University was “trying to be more flexible.”

“We’ve listened to student complaints,” Battson said. “And we are making distinctions between groups that should be required to use the logo and those that should not.”

ASUO Coordinator Jennifer Creighton-Neiwert explained that a possible adjustment to the signature policy was the creation of distinctions between three categories of University-related organizations.

“These three categories are University departments, contracts and ASUO groups,” Creighton-Neiwert said. According to Creighton-Neiwert, all University departments would be required to use the Oregon “O” signature. These departments range from the School of

Journalism to University Housing. The second group includes contracts, such as the Lane Transit District, which would not need to incorporate the “O” into their businesses. The third category consisted of ASUO groups, which would use the signature on a participatory basis.

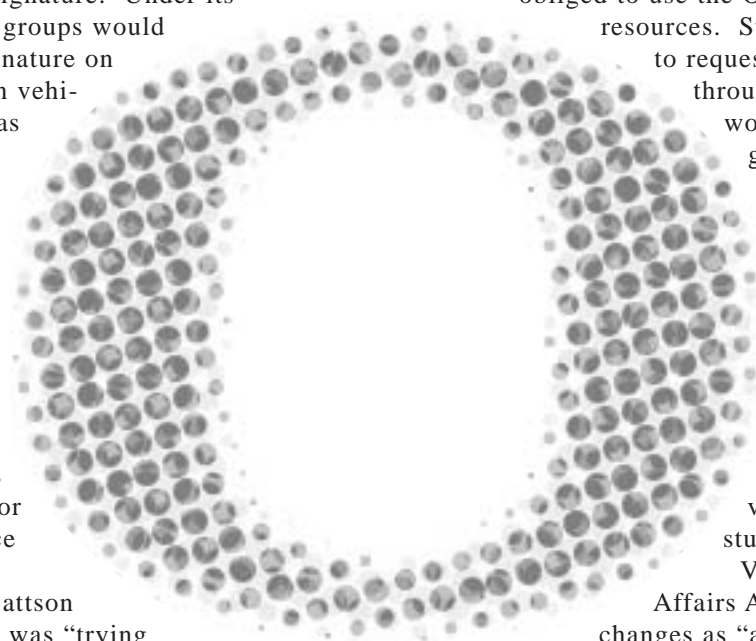
Potentially, ASUO groups such as the Black Student Union and the University Chess Club would not be obliged to use the Oregon “O” signature on their resources. Student groups would be able to request the use of the signature through the ASUO. The ASUO would then assist the student groups in following University’s guidelines on the use of the school symbol.

“This is a possible change to the policy that we are looking at,” Creighton-Neiwert said. “It’s not one hundred percent approved, but we’re definitely heading towards voluntary participation by student groups.”

Vice President of Student Affairs Anne Leavitt saw the possible changes as “a much better situation” than what the signature policy originally required. “This is creating an opportunity for student groups, rather than making it a mandatory process,” Leavitt said. “If you are a student group and you would like to use the logo, then you just need to use it appropriately.”

Leavitt stated that the University and the ASUO would have to comb through over one-hundred student groups in order to determine which groups would definitely be required to use the signature. These special groups, such as the Student Recreation Center, operate on both student and University funds, not just the student incidental fee. Leavitt made clear, however, that student publications were exempt from the policy.

The “O” logo debate began last month at the Oct. 10





Program Council Meeting. Student groups received a surprise when ASUO leaders informed them about the new University policy. The signature policy required that all departments, organizations and student groups associated with the University would have to use the “O” signature on all new materials. These items ranged from t-shirts and banners to publications and even Saferide and DDS vans. The deadline to meet the requirements of the new policy was Jan. 1, 2003. If a student group did not comply with the policy, they could have their funds frozen by the ASUO.

Confusion and criticism quickly arose after the meeting as student groups struggled to calculate the cost of adding the signature to new materials. In the Nov. 4 issue of the *Daily Emerald*, LGBTQA Co-Director Austin Shaw-Phillips was quoted as saying, “We have a tight budget as it is, and I don't want to spend money (on new materials) that I could be spending on programs and events.”

With the proposed changes to the “O” policy, it is possible to see the University curb its drive for the flagrant use of its new symbol. With the participatory nature of the possible changes to the policy, Creighton-Neiwert believes that “once student groups saw the logo being commonly used, they would want also want to use it.”

While endorsing a unified symbol is a positive move by the University, it is a discredit to its own ideals to force its use onto students. By doing so, the University impedes on its students’ right to the exchange of free ideas, a disreputable act that all institutions of education should avoid.

**NOTE:**

Check out [www.oregoncommentator.com](http://www.oregoncommentator.com) for updates on this story.




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*Sho Ikeda, a senior majoring in Journalism, is a staff writer for the OREGON COMMENTATOR*

“It’s not one hundred percent approved,” Creighton-Neiwert said. “But we’re definitely heading towards voluntary participation by student groups.”

# Welcome to the

# uo department of economics

Are you tired of professors trying to force their political beliefs down your gullet? Then the Economics department might be the place to look for some much needed relief.

BY TIMOTHY DREIER

September 2000— A young man enters the University with hope of becoming a journalist; by spring, he was having second thoughts. By fall of 2001, he had changed majors to the “dismal science” and was well on his way to becoming a supporter of the free-market such as the world had never seen. That man was I, and my major is Economics.

On a campus full of liberal professors, left-leaning publications and a drove of throwbacks to the 1960s, the Economics department offers a much needed glimmer of hope for those who do not want to be bombarded with politics in their classes. Having completed the vast majority of my requirements for graduation, I can say that the Economics department has, with little exception, been free of the political ramblings common to other areas of study. My Writing 122 class was an exercise in neo-Marxism, the two Psychology classes I took (202 and 330) were nothing more than man-bashing with a pseudo-scientific face and my experiences with general education requirements in other departments were, on balance, the same. It all began to change Winter Term of the 2000-2001 school year.

**EC 201:** This was the first economics class I took at the University. It was taught by one of my now favorite professors, Ron Davies. 201 covered all the basics of microeconomics. Supply, demand, efficiency, price controls and all of the related things were covered. Of course, being an introduction course, these were covered in no great mathematical depth. The class was, however, a good introduction to all things economic and laid the ground work for all economics classes to follow. My favorite aspect of the class: The Chuck Heston vs. Gandhi situation involving beer, a handgun, and pareto efficiency. My least favorite aspect: The discussion section and having to listen to the folks who didn't understand why Gandhi having a gun was not pareto efficient.

**EC 202:** This class was to macroeconomics what 201 was to micro. 202 introduced the concept of an aggregated economy and outlined the basic tools for analysis of such an economy with no great mathematical depth and a lot of things that just had to be taken for granted. My 202 class was taught over a summer by GTF Mark Stater. I've no idea what's happened to Mark in the last couple of years, but he was a decent enough guy with a good grasp of the material. I didn't really enjoy 202 that much, but I think that was more a function of it being summer and me being

in school than anything else.

**EC 311:** This course is Intermediate Microeconomic Analysis. 311 takes the basic principles that were learned in 201 and expands them to a more cohesive, applicable form. My section was taught by Michael Enz who, as my evaluation stated, was a damn good instructor. I'll make a confession, I never even bought the book. I got a B+. Maybe if I would have purchased the book, it would've been an A, but Michael Enz instructed well enough to allow me to do reasonably well without spending \$100 on the text. This class is only intermediate theory, so you don't have to do any calculus. That aspect was a bit disappointing, because things don't stick as well when you don't have to do them yourself.

**EC 313:** I absolutely hated this class. I hated going to this class, I hated listening to the lectures, I hated reading the book, and I really hated having to go and sit in the same lecture hall as an ex-girlfriend with whom I had a nasty break-up. That last bit was probably the main reason that I hated 313. Also, I wasn't very impressed with Aaron Jackson's teaching. I mean, he knew what he was talking about and all, but I was just not very impressed. Also, I made the mistake of proclaiming him a “pathetic wonk” to a former OC editor while sitting in Rennie's...Aaron was sitting at a table about 10 feet away. I never went to his office after that, and I sort of stopped going to class and tried to learn everything by reading the text. That didn't work.

**EC 420:** This class is Introduction to Econometrics and is the first in a two-part sequence of introduction econometrics courses. This class was probably the easiest 400-level class I have taken at the University. It started out with “this is a coefficient” and moved on from there. I picked up all the basics of how to do Ordinary Least Squares regression. I don't know why so many other undergraduates are afraid of this class, it all made perfect sense as long as I kept up on the homework. My GTF, Bill Galose, was an extremely nice guy (who even wrote me a recommendation letter) who was an attorney before coming back to school to earn a Ph.D. in Economics. His delivery was a little staggered, it seemed that he lacked a little confidence, but overall Bill was a good instructor and 420 (shut it, stoner) was an interesting class.

**EC 421:** The second in the two-part sequence, this was

taught by Assistant Dean Steve Haynes. Professor Haynes was also quite competent, interesting to listen to, and his examples in class all tied in to real-world issues, usually in International Finance. The only disadvantage to this class was that the GTF who was in charge of the lab section didn't speak much English. That aside 421 was pretty interesting and a little bit more difficult than 420 had been. 421 was also the first time that any hint of political bias made itself apparent in the Economics department. As part of the class work toward the end of the term, we began to analyze the voting data for Florida in the 2000 Presidential race, county by county. We looked at votes for Buchanan as a function of votes for Bush and the obvious goal was to make one county seem quite anomalous. Of course, one county did have a large number of votes for Buchanan in proportion to the usual Bush/Buchanan correlation. However, I see the issue as fairly well dead because the courts decided a long time ago. In terms of political bias, this is fairly innocuous and the point, at least, pertained to the material we were studying in class. Irritating? A bit, but it's not like I was being bombarded with rabid Marxism. And, to be fair, Professor Haynes never brought up any political implications other than the data itself and the slight anomaly.

**EC 480:** International Finance, instructed by Professor Jenny Ellis, was the first upper division elective I took in Economics. Looking back, that might not have been the wisest decision I could have made. This class was hard. Very, very hard. I went to class, I studied, I read the textbook. I got a C+. My advice for anyone who is thinking about taking this class is take something else first. Anything, something 300-level and easier would be a good idea. I'd recommend EC 370: Money and Banking. Trying to tackle the ins and outs of exchange rates, purchasing power parity, and all the other sorts of financial issues in the international market place without having prior, in depth, knowledge of the banking system was a bit much.

**EC 370:** Money and Banking. Also taught by Professor Jenny Ellis. Did I mention she's British? That's right, the first British economics instructor I've had was for a 400-level class. This is an in-depth exploration of the financial and banking system in this country. Well, for the most part the US system, but the tools can be applied to any country. Most of the course deals with interest rates, the Federal Reserve, equity and securities markets. It's an all right class, save the lack of participation from students. The only problem, really, is that Professor Ellis' website can be a bit hard to find because she's not listed on the Economics website nor on the Finance department website. It's a conspiracy.

**EC 411:** Advanced microeconomic analysis. This class, instructed by Professor Chris Ellis, is like 311 on PCP. 411 is 10-foot-tall and invincible. Either I've suddenly become quite stu-

pid or this is probably the most difficult class I've taken, ever. For the first time in my life I wish that there was required homework, that way I'd end up doing much more of it and probably scoring better on tests. Professor C. Ellis isn't the problem, he's funny, engaging, obviously excited about the material, and also British. See, only two British people in my entire economics experience. And neither wears an ascot. Econ isn't stuff, okay? Professor C. Ellis' test questions are some of the funniest things I've read in a long time, with questions about a burro named Pequeno Heidi and a llama named after a vegetable, which is a nice consolation as the test proceeds to make a mockery of my microeconomic skills.

**EC 481:** International Trade. Ron Davies is the man. He's young enough to still be pretty hip, and his examples are always entertaining. Plus, the material is all about why nations trade, how nations trade, what the results of trade are, what happens when there are trade protections and all of the other intricacies that make up the international economic market place. There have been two slight hits as to Professor Davies' own political leanings when he talked about the shift in opinions on trade protections between the Democratic and Republican parties and also when he was lecturing about trade wars, but on the whole everything is strictly theorems, numbers and graphs. Good class, all around.

As you can see from my run down of the economics classes I have taken, the department has managed to stay mostly away from the political nonsense of other fields. I've not taken Growth and Development or Labor Economics, so those sorts of political issues might crop up in those classes, but over all the Economics department seems to keep on the issues at hand instead of straying into the no-man's-land of view-point pushing. I prefer to get my political news from the talking heads on CNBC, CNN and FoxNews, not from the professors who I am paying to teach me about non-political issues.

There is a downside to the Economics department, as with all things: You have to either really love the discipline or leave. While it is true that you can take classes relatively free of blatant political pandering, you do have to love Economics in order to survive. It's not like English or Philosophy where one can simply like things a little and bullshit one's way through the rest of it, Economics is a harsh mistress who cannot be tamed easily. Be wary if you are thinking that it might be "fun" to take a couple of courses.



*Ron Davies, Economics Professor and cool guy. Does he look stuffy and British, I think not?*



*Timothy Dreier, a junior majoring in Economics, is Managing Editor of the OREGON COMMENTATOR*

# RADIO FREE EUGENE

## Turn Off, Tune Out, Just Don't Drop the KUGN contract

By Pete R. Hunt

### Diversity?

The issue at hand is whether or not KUGN can bill itself as "The Voice of the Ducks" while broadcasting conservative radio hosts who allegedly undermine the mission of diversity, equal opportunity and individual dignity that the University has dedicated itself to.

"We're not saying these folks shouldn't have the right to voice these opinions on the air," Mandy Melton said in the Register-Guard. "We're saying the message and content of their shows directly violate the mission statement of the university."

Melton's job in the ASUO is described as multicultural advocate, but she has obviously stretched her role to include minister of information. On the one hand, she says that people should have right to say what they please, on the other she says that this goes against the University's mission to further diversity. Huh?

Again, an urgent reminder that free speech at our nation's universities is under attack.

Ideally, the goal of diversity is to further the exchange of varied

opinions, ideas and cultures. Yet for many liberals, diversity is stirred in the same pot as exclusivity. A diverse dialogue should be flavored with liberalism and conservatism alike, and spiced with socialism, anarchy and whatever other opinions season the stew. Campus could be a true melting pot of ideas, where the free market was criticized with the same fervor that questioned universal health care. Alas, this aspiration has been unfilled, the agenda of education high jacked by liberal supremacists.

Free speech, our greatest asset in building a better society, is often deemed too dangerous for students to wield, or even to hear. Exposure to ideas outside of the liberal paradigm could collapse the delicate house of cards that forms the foundation of the ivory tower schoolhouse.

Free speech is great, provided it's p.c. approved. Otherwise, it gets tagged as "hate speech." Liberals are free to call George W. Bush a "murderer," Christians "religious terrorists" and loggers "tree killers." But go out on the line and question America's immigration policy, and suddenly you're a bigot who should be boycotted and removed from public consumption.

The paternalistic nature of liberalism is nothing new. But the recent controversy over KUGN, the official radio broadcaster of Ducks sporting events, should come as a shock to people who thought they were free to program their car radio.

### Fear of A Bronze Planet

The KUGN controversy goes hand in hand with the University's attempts to brand the University "O" insignia onto



Mama said don't touch LL's radio.



student groups, many funded entirely by student fees and only tenuously connected to the University itself. Should we assume that if KUGN can call itself the “Voice of the Ducks” by broadcasting football games, that a student group like MEChA is also a “Voice of the Ducks”? Especially if its newsletter is forced to feature a prominent “O.”

Well, if Michael Savage’s comments about immigration seem outlandish, wait until you hear MEChA’s proposal. MEChA’s motto is “Por La Raza todo. Fuera de La Raza nada.” Or, for our race all, for other races, nothing. Furthermore, their blueprint, entitled “El Plan de Aztlan,” claims that Aztlan “belongs to those of who plant the seeds, water the fields, and gather the crops and not to the foreign Europeans. We do not recognize capricious frontiers on the bronze continent.”

For those that don’t know, Aztlan is comprised of lands that became part of the United States following the Mexican-American War. Students of history are certainly welcome to debate the legitimacy of the United States acquisition of their territories, but the Mexican-American War was over in 1848. The United States isn’t going to be giving the territory back anytime soon.

Regardless, if MEChA wants their own country, then fine. But why is Michael Savage being viciously attacked for his statements on immigration?

Savage’s rhetoric on immigration is based on a plan he has laid out on his website. Essentially, he proposed that we should deport all foreign nationals who have bypassed a criminal background check, deport all foreign nationals from our laboratories who are on watch lists, put our military and/or National Guard units on our borders and require a loyalty oath of all immigrants.

A little rash, sure, but consider the fact that 25% of federal prisoners are here illegally and it seems a little more reasonable.

Again, agree or not, it’s certainly no more an extreme viewpoint than MEChA’s. The fact that it comes from a “conservative” angle is really the inherent problem.

Conservative radio is aggressive, confrontational and inflammatory. In other words, it’s the flip the side of the coin to the campus radicalism we’ve all learned to love.

## Fair and Balanced?

Why is talk radio so conservative? Primarily because unlike the liberal media conglomerates with their long established informal monopoly on opinion and culture, talk radio is subject to the vicissitudes of the free market.

Fox News motto, “fair and balanced,” is a little deceiving. Despite Bill O’Reilly’s heartfelt argument to the contrary, Fox News was constructed as a yang to CNN’s left-leaning yin. Fox News may not admit it, but their motto should be “fair and balancing.”

Conservative radio, then, should be seen as a balancing act to “public radio,” another media institution that operates under the façade of objectivism.

The difference between conservative radio and public radio is that Michael Medved makes his own money, while we’re all forced to pay the salaries of the bleeding heart liberals who use public airwaves to espouse their viewpoints. Conservative talk show hosts are syndicated, meaning radio stations pay to air their shows, collecting a profit from the hefty advertising revenue a Rush Limbaugh brings.

If you’ve attended any journalism classes at this school, you’ve likely heard a professor rant against the lack of diversity on AM radio.

“There are dozens of conservative radio hosts; where are the liberal ones?” he or she has likely cried out in despair.

The answer, of course, is public radio, which is broadcast all across the nation. But these professors would likely argue that public radio is “objective,” not slanted. These professors are wrong.

Witness Bill Moyer’s recent post-election diatribe:

*For the first time in the memory of anyone alive, the entire federal government — the Congress, the Executive, the Judiciary — is united behind a right-wing agenda for which George W. Bush believes he now has a mandate.*

*That mandate includes the power of the state to force pregnant women to give up control over their own lives. It includes using the taxing power to transfer wealth from working people to the rich. It includes giving corporations a free hand to eviscerate the environment*



Michael Medved



Michael Savage



Cheyney Ryan



Bill Moyer

and control the regulatory agencies meant to hold them accountable...

.... So it is a heady time in Washington — a heady time for piety, profits, and military power, all joined at the hip by ideology and money.

Why should anybody, conservative or liberal, have to pay for such open bias? This is ridiculous. You may not like the shows on KUGN, but at least you're not paying for them.

Despite the mutterings of Jeff Cohen and the vast majority of Allen Hall, the media is overwhelmingly liberal. The major TV networks, ABC, NBC, CBS, and CNN; major newspapers, the New York Times, Boston Globe, Washington Post; major periodicals, Time, Newsweek, etc. all come attached with a liberal slant. It's unfair to say "agenda," because in many cases it isn't a vast conspiracy that explains the slant, rather, it's simply a sort of elitism in which moderate democrats are seen as representing the core American voice, and moderate Republicans are extremists.

## Radio Song

This is not to say that critics of commentators like Savage are without options. KUGN is dependent upon advertisers to turn a profit, and unlike the University, these advertisers are attaching their name to a product. Urging companies who advertise with KUGN to withdraw their support is a viable option. St. Vincent de Paul, Fred Meyer, Wells Fargo and Selco Credit Union have already pulled ads from the station.

But it is not the Universities place to storm into the broadcast booth with a list of demands.

"I am not convinced that anyone believes the University has any connection with KUGN programming or that of any station beyond the broadcasts of our athletic programs," President Frohnmayer stated in a letter to ASUO President Rachel Pilliod.

But such logic will fall on deaf ears. Maddy Melton will continue using her position as a "voice of the student body" to insist that students aren't smart enough to distinguish between Keenan Howry and Michael Medved.

This is a mistake. The University should stick to its guns and renew their contract. If administrators cave in to the demands of Melton and her faculty ally, Cheyney Ryan, then diversity will have been compromised.

Send the students to the war protests... I mean teach-ins, but keep them away from a radio. They might hear something dangerous.

*"Hey, I can't find nothing on the radio...*

*hey, yo', turn to that station...."*

-Chuck D on REM's Radio Song



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## ON *FAITHFUL SHEP*

Seems like her neighbors would rather give her a curb job than a blow job — er, block party.

—*Fox News anchor Shepard Smith. Doesn't seem fair to us that "she" gets all the fun. And by the way, our girlfriend is into some pretty kinky shit, but we've NEVER got a curb job. We better look into that.*

Sorry about that slip-up there, it won't happen again. And that's your news.

—*Shep, again. No need to apologize, buddy. Hey, if you can't read the news, you ought to at least make it yourself. And at least it was you who made the inevitable blowjob slip-up. Thank God it wasn't CNN's Candy Crowley. But we're not kidding, what the hell is a curb job and how much does it cost in Whiteaker?*

## ON *STAY AWAY*

I'm not really interested in breaking into America. It's too much hard work, too much of a fight. I've got my money now. Thank you very much.

—*British pop star Robbie Williams. Good to see the Socialist plan keeps motivating people to better themselves. What if Robin Williams had that same attitude? He would've quit after Mork and Mindy and foregone such great work as "What Dreams May Come" and "One Hour Photo." Then we wouldn't have had cool mock titles like "Wet Dreams Make You Come" and "One Hour Of My Life That Little Ritalin-guzzling Freak Owes Me."*

## ON *SOLIDARITY*

At the university level, it's very important for college students (to be involved) because the eyes of the nation turn to universities for guidance on social issues.

—*Levi Storm, student senator and co-founder of Students for Peace. Levi, Levi... you've got it all wrong. The eyes of the nation turn to universities to see our sorority girls featured in the Playboy "Girls of the Pac-10" issue.*

Make restrooms unisex, as is common in other countries. Then, the whole issue of who is entering which restroom would evaporate. (And male predators currently rape women in restrooms, so that specter brought up by councilors is fallacious.)

—*Michael J. Kleckner, we assume, in an Emerald Editorial. Jesus, this is fucking brilliant! Wait... no it's not.*



# THE SOPRANOS



**Dave Frohnmayer**  
Boss



**Man-Drake**  
*Flaming Symbol Of  
New Marketing Push*



**Dan Williams**  
Underboss



**Allan Price**  
Capo



**Harry Battson**  
Soldier

## O-rganized Crime

This syndicate is under investigation for conspiring to subvert the First Amendment in favor of a marketing logo. Considered ethically unarmed and extremely dangerous to free speech.