

O R E G O N

COMMENTATOR

Volume 24, Issue 8

May, 2007

A Journal of Opinion

THE



ISSUE

INSIDE: Our Sordid Past, President-elect McLain, Crazyies

Still paid for by YOUR Incidental Fee, Sucker!



Founded Sept. 27th, 1983 Member Collegiate Network

Editor-In-Chief
Edward Niedermeyer

Managing Editor
Andrea Blaser

Publisher
Andy Dolberg

Editor Emeritus
Ian Spencer

Contributors
Eric Leeper
Guy Simmons
Sho Ikeda
Johnny Baggs
Greg Campbell
Jake Speicher
Drew Cattermole
Nicole Delancie
Mike Shanefelter

Board of Directors
Edward Niedermeyer, Chairman
Andrea Blaser, Director
Andy Dolberg, 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
Mark Hemingway '98, Andrew Oberriter '98, Tamir Kriegel '00,
William Beutler '02, Tim Dreier '04, Olly Ruff '05

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 the 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 either the CIA or the 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 319 EMU or placed in our mailbox in Suite 4 EMU; phoned in to (541) 346-3721, or e-mailed to ocomment@uoregon.edu.

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. E-mails sent to individual authors that are directly related to the Oregon Commentator may be reused by the Commentator as it sees fit.

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 on September 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 twenty-three 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.

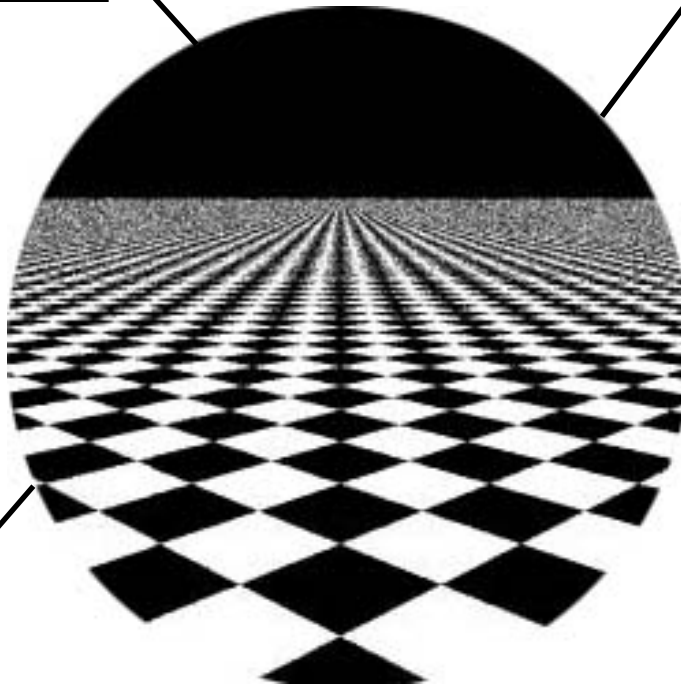
The Oregon Commentator is operated as a program of the Associated Students of the University of Oregon (ASUO) and is staffed solely by volunteer editors and writers. The paper is funded through student incidental fees, advertising revenue and private donations. We print a wide variety of material, but 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.

OREGON
COMMENTATOR

RETRO	8
Brennan Rounds	8
Kriegel	9
Beutler	9
Cohen	10
Drier	10
Graf	11

An interview with ASUO President-elect Emily McLain	14
--	----



An OC Look at Neo-Nazis and Cultists	20
---	----



DEPARTMENTS	
EDITORIAL	4
NOBODY ASKED US, BUT...	6
SPEW	22

This Is Not The Greatest Issue in the World.

This Is Just a Tribute.

For nearly 25 years now, the mere presence of the Commentator on this campus has inspired fear, loathing and hyperbole among several generations of misguided idealists. So strong is the opposition that we engender, that we have been called “the closest thing to the American Nazi Party on this campus by the ASUO President, back in ‘91, and in ‘99 we were accused of being funded by “a group that funds white supremacist groups.” These accusations sound remarkably similar to some of the feedback we have received this year, raising a troubling question: “What is it about this campus that so inspires fear and loathing for honest, well-reasoned commentary?” Reading through our back issues, the war of ideas on this campus unfolds through 24 years worth of sober analysis and pointed satire, but with the benefit of hindsight, only one major conclusion is inescapable: the more things change, the more they stay the same.

The issues and controversies which most divide this campus today have been with us since at least this publication’s inception in 1983. From ASUO incompetence and downright criminality, to race-baiting and multiculturalist blackmail, from nanny-state infringement of freedoms on campus to censorship in the name of political correctness, the debates which this magazine has confronted in its quarter-century of publication are alive and well today. Could our founders have ever imagined that the ideas and agendas which they sought to oppose would prove so resilient that they could survive, and even flourish in the year 2007? Has the incessant turnover which is part and parcel of campus history robbed us of our ability to look back, recognize progress and move on? As Michael Rust presciently wrote in our inaugural editorial, “Radical Moderation” (see back cover), “(The) pestilence of historical illiteracy sometimes seems uncontrollable.”

This critique does not simply end with those who carry on the legacy of failed ideologies. We at the Commentator are by no means immune to the historical illiteracy which we are admonished to confront, because of our desire to communicate our proudly-out-of-the-campus-mainstream views in increasingly relevant, accessible ways. The dense, meticulously argued, viciously funny yet deadly serious prose of our greatest writers will forever be the ideal of this magazine, and yet, as time marches on, we have become vulnerable to the now-cliche criticism that we “have forgotten where we come from.”

This accusation carries a special sting for those who see themselves as carrying on an underrepresented legacy in the face of widespread disdain and rejection. Our mission statement is as relevant today as it ever was, directly addressing real shortcomings in current campus discourse, while remaining open-ended enough to embrace the passion and talents of almost any student on this campus. As such, we have at our institutional heart, a set of principles that has survived the recent death on the national level of libertarian and traditional conservative values, and continues to inform earnest, confrontational criticism of unbridled statism, idealistic extremism, the moral and intellectual quagmire of postmodernity, and good old-fashioned ignorance.

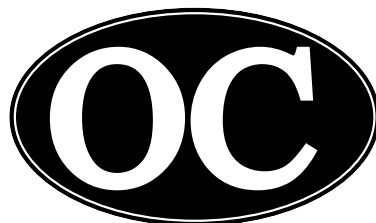
Despite --or, perhaps because of-- the perennial need for our counterbalancing influence on campus extremism, our position on this campus has always been a tenuous one. Through the several defunding attempts, countless issue dumpings and constant abuse which define our institutional history, different generations of commentators have reacted to these slings and arrows of outrageous fortune in different ways. Some became more aggressive, others retreated into cynicism, while still more simply continued to stand by their positions, confident in the knowledge that these debates that we engage in are about more than abstract debate. As our mission statement says, “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 the campuses of today.” Had our predecessors lacked the courage of their convictions, had they not stood up against the follies of their times, we might not have the opportunity today to refine their struggle and adapt it to our own confused and maladjusted era. The staff of this magazine, and the students of this campus owe them their thanks.



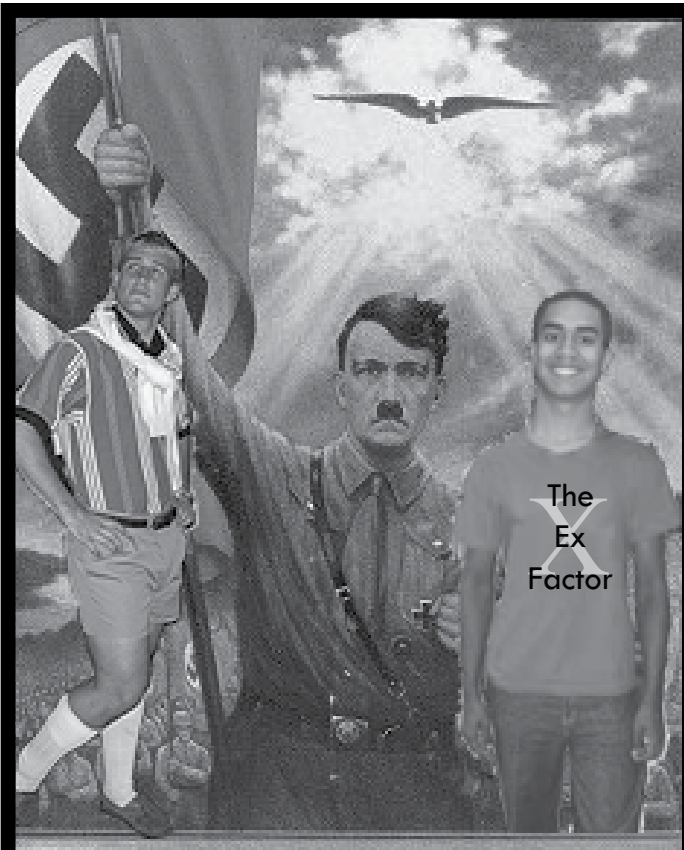
Get Ready for Summer



The Sudsy Tank: Coming Soon to a Rack Near You



oregoncommentator.com



You Spot the Racist!

Senator Kyle McKenzie: "By all means I support going into Iran and killing them all." 4/26/06

Former ODC Columnist Ty Schwoeffermann: "My initial reaction to any interracial couple holding hands is that 'something isn't right.'" 11/15/06

Adolf Hitler: "Screw these nappy headed hos. What we need is a final solution to the 'Photoshop Problem.'" 4/4/07

News Briefs:

- Protesters Take Back Night, Receive In-Store Credit
- You Have Been Tagged In 3 Photos

Things You Should Know By Now

- The first week--scratch that--the first TWO weeks of class are optional.
- The guy in your class that looks like an extra from Schindler's List is either a tweaker or a vegan.
- You in the front, stop asking stupid questions. I'm trying to sleep/drink/sudoku.
 - Theta Chi is greek for 'GHB.'
- Looking at porn in the library will not necessarily get you arrested, however masturbating does marginally increases the chance.
- Tattoos are forever--drink before you ink to preserve your college years with the best possible imagery.
- Electronic amplification of your inane political ramblings only make them more annoying. You know who you are.



"The evils of government are directly proportional to the tolerance of the people."



Their eyes aren't bloodshot, their pupils aren't dilated, they don't like Aqua Teen Hunger Force.

**Potheads of the UO,
it's time to face facts:**

***Ari And Phil Don't
Even Smoke Weed!***

Vote NO to sobriety
Vote NO to Ari & Phil

This message brought to you by Sudents for a Stoned Government

Sudsy Says:



**“Once you
go retro,
you never
go back!”**

The **OC** Asks:

What is your greatest regret?



Al Gore

“That I lack the scientific expertise to convert guilt into a renewable energy source.”



Emily McLain

“That pre-fiat critique impacts were outweighed by a non-unique alternative. Oh, and the fact that I couldn't get anyone elected to Senate.”



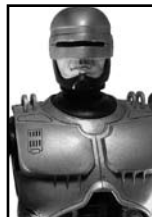
George Tenet

“I dunno, maybe I should have worn a red tie for this?”



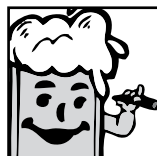
Senator Gulley

“Forgetting ‘guero-where’ I left my dignity.”



Robocop

“I wish I was a little bit taller, I wish I was a baller, I wish I had a girl who looked good, I would call her.”



Sudsy

“This whole issue. Was that just a Skee-Lo reference?”

THE RETRO ISSUE

Deep in the bowels of the OC office, past the smoking lounge, the shooting range and the scrunt corral, there is a small, windowless room where staffers meet every week. They mostly come to play computer games and read back issues, but every once in a while, they talk wildly of someday putting out an issue themselves. It was on one such occasion when the debate over whether to go with an Impressionist-Situationist or Diego Rivera theme boiled over, and physical violence broke out. When the dust settled, one of the antique couches in the room had been destroyed, revealing a small metal box covered in ancient writings. Inside were lost treasures of Commentator heritage: unprinted content from the heroes of lost and legendary times. These musings now appear for the first time in these pages, as stern reminders of our past glory. Enjoy!

EDITORIAL

Culture of Retards

or, how I tried to have fun and failed

by Owen Brennan Rounds

I had certainly heard of “fun” before I set out in its pursuit. I had seen people under its influence before, and I knew from this brief exposure that it generally makes people stupid, passive and trite. It was then, with some trepidation that I embarked on my journey into the heart of darkness, in pursuit of the that mythical self-delusion that inspires the masses to run, screaming past my window at all hours of the night.

My first stop on my quest for fun was a private party of a few friends. I actually knew everybody who was there, but the feeling of safety I felt was overshadowed by the happiness of realizing I wouldn’t end up offending anybody I did not know. My arrival must have been an uplifting moment for all; they immediately sat down and watched “Evil Dead II.” Although I was drinking vodka and kool-aid faster than my liver could process it, all I felt was a vague sensation of ennui and dehydration. I should have known that my friends knew nothing about fun, and I soon left in search of a scene where people weren’t falling asleep in their cheap plastic cups. I had to find some fun before my bedtime... I would have to trek to Taylors.

Through the doors of Taylors lies a world like no other, the spinning disco ball bounced light off of bumping butts and bopping heads. Mirrors reflected the strobe-lit faces of the comfortably numb. Everybody was propositioning, being propositioned, spilling beer or having beer spilled on them. It took me twenty minutes to get a drink, and five minutes to finish it, necessitating a swift decision as to whether or not to continue this folly. Monotonous gyration and long waits for drinks are not this scribbler’s formula for fun, and I moved to vacate.

I wandered the lonely streets of Eugene for about 4 hours, in solitary pursuit of my worthy adversary. At that moment I despaired that I might well spend eternity as the Ahab to this Moby Dick named “fun.” Defeated, if only for the moment, I stopped at 7-11 for a microwaveable burrito and headed for home. Parking my ass in front of the boob tube, I munched my burrito and submitted to the flashing display of consumerist vacuity that is Music Television (MTV). Apparently it was spring break, or somesuch, because rather than showing shallow, mindless music videos, it showed shallow, mindless people gyrating at some sunny locale interspersed with shallow, mindless music videos. Is this what it’s all coming to? Is the John Stuart Mill of our generation shaking her ass to Quiet Riot in a bikini in Cancun? Is getting drunk and masturbating to said John Stuart Mill our cultural equivalent of symphony? I seems so... it seems so.



Owen Brennan-Rounds is lives in New York City, and is way more powerful than you. He has still never actually had fun.

Commentary

What are you doing? Why am I here? I was in New York, enjoying my relative anonymity and my nightly tumbler of Laphroaig when you kids decided to do this “Retro Issue” and have some old Commentator staffer, whom I barely knew in my senior year of undergrad, write in my voice. Seriously? You’re trying to get this gentile, whom I mostly talked to while I was drunk at staff meetings, write in the style of a Jew from Los Angeles? Wait, am I from Los Angeles? See, Sho barely remembers me and can’t seem to recall if I was from LA, but he does seem to recall that I liked the Lakers. I mean, I was the only managing editor of the Oregon Commentator to graduate as nothing greater than a managing editor. Even that hack Tyler Graf became an editor-in-chief. Me, I got nothing to show for my years at the Commentator except for memories of vomiting in toilets and running for the ASUO executive, and yet you consider me one of the greats?

OK. I get it. You just want me to spout off some words of wisdom, as channeled through someone who is actually not me. Fine, here goes.

Words of Wisdom

**Yesterday upon the stair, I
meta man who wasn’t there.**

By Tamir Kriegel

Listen up kids. The. ASUO. Is. A. Farce. Got it? The whole thing is puppet show set up for you to think it that you have some control over your money and your destiny. The whole system could work if everyone didn’t have their noses jammed up each others’ asses, but unfortunately when you get more than three student government types in the same room, all you have is an orgy of incompetence, self-importance, cellulite and bad haircuts.

This won’t matter a whit once you graduate. The foul taste of student politics will be washed away by real world concerns such as your next paycheck or your next lay. It’s better this way, understanding that all your late night senate meetings, and all your campaign photo opportunities with you wearing that shit-eating grin, were like one too many awkward and clumsy one-night stands. Just chalk it up to experience, have a swig of whatever’s handy, and move on. Stop dwelling on it because those who do will only repeat those same mistakes time and time again.

That’s all I’ve got to say. Now, let me get back to my whiskey.



Tamir Kriegel, who now disavows any involvement in the Commentator, has secretly played quarterback for the Ducks for the last six seasons.

Why New Media Is The Future Of Journalism

By: William W. Beutler

Seriously guys, just trust me on this one...



William W. Beutler is one of the most prolific writers, and by far the most prolific blogger ever to emerge from the Oregon Commentator. He has become a B-list celebrity of blogosphere (the sky would be the limit if he had his own Deb Frisch), for his many insightful musings on politics, culture, blogs, new media and baseball. A “New Media Strategy Consultant” living in Washington D.C., Beutlers work can be found at the following urls: <http://www.blogpi.net>; <http://www.washingtoncanard.com/>; <http://blogometer.nationaljournal.com>; <http://hotlineblog.nationaljournal.com>; <http://armedprophet.blogspot.com/>; <http://technorati.com/search/William+Beutler>; <http://www.mydd.com/story/2006/2/20/104852/290>; <http://politicalmavens.com/index.php/author/williambeutler/>; <http://www.affbrainwash.com/archives/021543.php>; <http://www.washingtonmonthly.com/features/2005/0504.beutler.html>; http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m1316/is_4_37/ai_n13774428; http://www.dcist.com/authors.php?author=dcist_beutler; <http://hemartin.blogspot.com/2006/12/does-william-beutler-work-for-time.html>; <http://twitter.com/williambeutler>; <http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=william+beutler&btnG=Google+Search>

Governor Pete R. Hunt's Gubernatorial Inauguration Speech, January 16, 2042

Ladies, gentlemen and fellow mutants, it is an honor to stand before you today on a very momentous occasion in the history of the United States of America, and indeed the world. I come not before you as the new governor of this, the 52nd state of our glorious Union, but as a fellow citizen and resident of the State of Jefferson.¹

It was nearly 200 years ago when our proud ancestors arrived in this beautiful country, massacred a bunch of Native Americans, and proposed in the California state legislature the creation of a new "State of Shasta," which encompassed our own Jefferson. Of course, we had no idea why our ancestors would name a geographic region and our tallest peak after a third-rate supermarket soda, but of course, recent events have revealed the circumstances behind those reasons.²

It was more than 100 years ago, in October of 1941, when Gilbert Gable, the mayor of Port Orford, announced that several Oregon counties would join with many counties of northern California in order to form a new and better state. Gable and his fellow southern Oregonians and northern Californians wanted to draw attention to the sad condition of state roads along the border, which were nothing more than dirt and oil and made it impossible for our gun-running and narcotic-based economy to function in the wet seasons. When county representatives met in Yreka, the proposed capital of the time, they proposed to name the new state Jefferson, in honor of our nation's third president--a great man who was a defender of states' rights, and who, along with President Washington, grew hemp.

In November of that same year, a group of young, brave men invoked their right to bear arms, stopped traffic on Highway 99 just south of Yreka, and announced our intent to break off from Oregon and California. They handed out a Proclamation of Independence, stating that the state of Jefferson was in "patriotic rebellion against the States of California and Oregon" and would continue to "secede every Thursday until further notice." Personally, I would have voted for Tuesday because that's when they we could have enjoyed beers and 50 cent tacos down at Scoop's Sports Bar, but I digress.

It was only with the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, that our nation shifted its attention to a much more dire situation. Our citizens joined the armed forces in droves to protect our freedom and democracy from our enemies. Of course, as we all know, the threat of invasion from our brothers and sisters of the Land of the Rising Sun is ancient history, and in fact, rather impossible today.³

The issue of Jefferson's independence remained quiet, but boiled, for the next 100 years. When Skynet malfunctioned and

1. Puerto Rico became the 51st state in 2033, soon after the election of President Freddie Prinze, Jr.

2. In violation of the federal Bradbury Act of 2035, the board of directors of the Shasta soda brand had constructed a time machine. After the CEO and numerous collaborators were sentenced to life imprisonment in the prison colony on Europa, Mt. Shasta was renamed "Mt. The Dude, His Dudeness, Or Uh, Duder, Or El Duderino If You're Not Into The Whole Brevity Thing," under the recommendation of Governor Hunt in 2043.

3. Godzilla, what else?

rebelled ten years ago--well I know I don't need to bring up those painful memories, but Sacramento was destroyed by satellite plasma beams, Portland suffocated in ash with the super-explosion of Mt. Hood, San Francisco initiated the Long Strange Trip Space Relocation program and disappeared into the heavens, and Salem, well, we all know what happened to those poor bastards Salem. With many of major cities of California and Oregon gone or devastated by the war, Jefferson was the best, and last hope, for the West Coast.

But, my friends, we have now found ourselves on the cusp of a glorious day in the history of the United States, the founding of the State of Jefferson. From the rolling green fields of Humboldt County to the Seven Feathers Casino of Canyonville, from Lakeview, formerly the "tallest town in Oregon," but now the "highest town in Jefferson," to majestic sands of Gold Beach, we now stand in Jefferson.

All of you here understand what I have proposed for our new state. With the recent relaxation of federal drug laws, states have been allowed to decriminalize most previously illegal drugs. Thanks to our wonderful climate and the collective experience of the majority of our citizens, the entrepreneurs of Jefferson have cultivated a very "green" economy. From Humboldt's classic "Heavy Duty Fruity" to my home town's own beloved and despised "Killer Tiller," we have the potential to corner the national market in marijuana cultivation.⁴ In fact, I have nominated Cannabis sativa as our new state grass and which will hopefully join the lofty ranks of such state grasses as the western wheatgrass and wild rice.

My fellow Jeffersonians, you understand my love of Thailand and Thai culture. Obviously, I would not be standing by my lovely wife Sumalee if I did not travel to Thailand during my youthful days of adventure. That is why I am proposing the relaxing of state immigration laws to encourage the immigration of Thais to the beautiful beaches of Jefferson. This will not only encourage tourism to Jefferson due to our high culture but also the creation of some awesome Thai restaurants. In fact, after this speech I'm getting me some shrimp tom kha gai. I will also support a new sister-city relationship between Bangkok and our beautiful capital of Medford-Ashland. We will be Thailand to Oregon's Laos and California's Indonesia. We will also be Thailand to Nevada's Cambodia, so you can go suck on that Carson City.

So, in summation, I thank you, citizens of Jefferson for choosing me as the first governor of this great state. I know that with your support and effort, we can bring Jefferson into a new age of peace, prosperity and getting really fucking high. As your governor, I know I cannot promise you the world, but I can promise you Jefferson.



Pete Hunt went on to serve six consecutive terms as Governor of Jefferson, before being impeached in 2066 for embezzling millions from the UN "Chainsaw Art For Food" program. He now resides in the back of a broken-down '95 Ford Taurus.

Get Off The Damn Fence!

Bret Jacobson sets the conservative record straight.

Many people when they come to this campus are politically ambiguous. I understand; I was in high school once too. All I wanted to do was get drunk, laid and high--all at the same time if possible. But somewhere along the line, freshmen lose track of the real reasons for going to college and want to get all politically motivated. That's fine I guess, but too often these fresh-faced, politically-aware teenagers fall in to the trap of self-righteous liberalism. They get those cards promoting OSPIRG internships in their 300-person, 100-level classes, and they sign up without hesitation. Trust me kids, the only good that will come from an OSPIRG internship is you'll meet some "free-spirited" girl with low enough self-esteem that she'll blow you in the alley behind the soy hut.

I have often wondered why so many of these "youngins" choose liberalism, and I have decided it is because they don't know their history. High School history classes are a joke. A diorama, a skit about prohibition and a viewing of Forrest Gump do not qualify as history. So I am going to set the record straight.

First off, our liberal presidents have had more problems than an Asian orphan at Woody Allen's house. Jefferson had sex with his slaves; FDR had polio; JFK needed Marilyn Monroe like he needed a hole in his head, and Bill Clinton couldn't even pay for Monica's dry cleaning. Jimmy Carter let the terrorists win, and Truman introduced the world to nuclear war. What is the one crowning achievement of liberals in the 20th Century? The socialist policies of the New Deal? The Bay of Pigs? Vietnam? Once the history is laid out so clearly like this, it becomes impossible to comprehend why so many students fall so head-over-heels into the dark side of liberalism.

So let's start at the beginning. The first republican president was Abraham Lincoln. That's a fact; you can check it. This is the man who freed the slaves but more importantly became the first president to suspend habeas corpus. He was a true patriot. He wasn't afraid to fire people and make changes either. He went through more generals than Charlie Sheen goes through prostitutes. In the end he was shot. A martyr for conservatism, Lincoln was the man who held this country together in its darkest hour.

Another man who held this country together in one of its darkest hours was Senator Joseph McCarthy. When he announced that he had the names of 57 members of the Communist Party, he was accused of starting a witch hunt. But seriously, what's wrong with hunting witches. Not only are they ugly and poorly groomed, they have magical powers with which they could rule the world. McCarthy realized this, and decided he would smoke out the "witches" hiding in the depths of the U.S. government. People claim that blacklisting ruined numerous careers. I say it was worth it to have a communist free government.

The next stop on our march to conservative greatness is Watergate. People fail to understand that George McGovern left Nixon no choice but to break in to the democratic headquarters. McGovern was a sick man. He could be seen daily with the likes of hippies, black panthers and Hunter S. Thompson. His entourage was surrounded in a perpetual cloud of body odor and pot smoke. If McGovern had been elected, Friday nights at the White House would have consisted of Dark Side of the Moon playing on the loudspeaker while the cabinet ran train on Jane Fonda. Nixon couldn't let this happen. Historians argue that Watergate weakened the credibility held by any president. I say it strengthened it. Because of Watergate, because of Nixon, the Communists didn't win.

The final, and quite possibly the greatest of the Communist fighters, is Ronald Regan. This is the man that brought us the war on drugs, trickle down economics and the fall of the Berlin wall. But probably his greatest achievement was the Iran-Contra affair. Not only did he sell weapons to Iran who was fighting a war against Iraq at the time, but he used the proceeds to fund the Contras who were the right-wing opposition to the leftist Sandistas in Nicaragua. In the same move, Regan stuck it to the Iraqis and the Communists at the same time. The two greatest threats to ever face the American people were struck down by the "Great Communicator" in a single back door deal. Not since the Kennedy assassination has the CIA worked so efficiently.

So there you go. I have given numerous examples of why conservatism is far better than liberalism. To put it plain and simple, the United States would not exist without the Republican Party. Democrats would have let the South secede because it "was their individual right to." Without McCarthy, the State Department would still be overrun by witches. Watergate stopped the hippy values of free love and understanding from taking hold, and Ronald Regan single handedly stopped both the Iraqi and Nicaraguan threats to our borders. So the next time you want to join OSPIRG or protest a war or some other damn thing to piss me off, remember, the ground you walk upon is there because of conservatives. It's there because right-minded people like Anne Coulter and Rush Limbaugh fight for your rights everyday. It's there because we cannot let the Communists win.



Bret Jacobson became the driving force behind the election of President Freddie Prinze Jr in 2032, and was later charged with high crimes and misdemeanors for his involvement in the Al Sadr/FEMA/American Idol/Jeff Gannon scandal of 2035. He currently resides at the UN's World Government Prison in Antichrist, Canada, where he is forced to read back issues of the Student Insurgent for the remainder of his 537 year sentence.

Your guide to the little shithead
who mocked your writing style
--direct your emails accordingly--

Owen Brennan Rounds: Ted Niedermeyer

Tamir Kriegel: Sho Ikeda

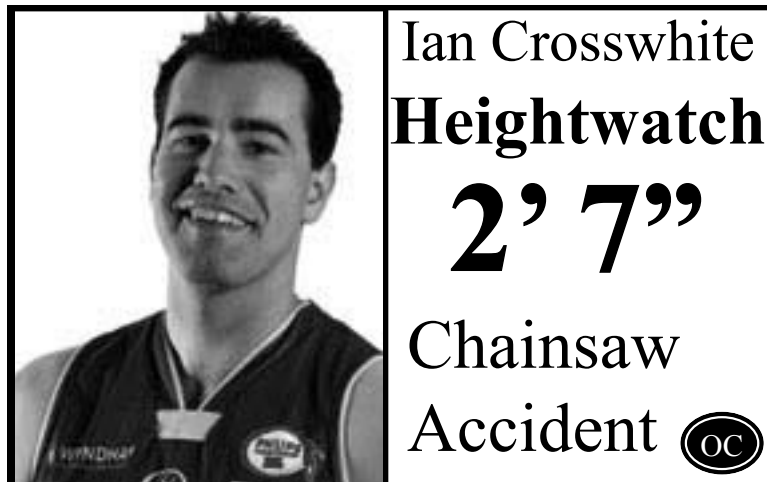
Bill Beutler: Ted Niedermeyer

Pete Hunt: Sho Ikeda

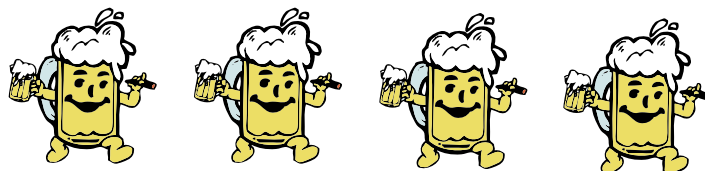
Bret Jacobson: Jake Speicher

Will Cohen: No one had the balls to put their
name on it ... fucking Google search!

Tyler Graf: "Oh, I'm trying to get this job
so don't put my name on it, even though
I wrote about 'Scrunt Rustlin' earlier this
year."



*Apparently this passed for humor back when Tim Dreier was the boss
around here. Dreier currently works as a pocket calculator in Austin,
Texas.*



Sexytime with Will Cohen

It was another cold morning in the Russian tundra, but I had Svetlana to keep me warm. She wasn't the classiest girl that I'd taken home after a long night of pounding hard cider, but she sure was the easiest. Most of the girls here require some cash or drinks before fucking a complete stranger, but Svetlana, the lovely sagging whore that she is, felt sorry for my fat American ass and decided to show me a good time pro bono.

We had met at the disco down the street the night before. After an afternoon of watching barely discernible porn in broken English, I decided to numb the boredom with some much needed alcohol. Arriving at the first sufficiently sleazy dance club where I knew there would be plenty of Russian teenagers dry humping on the dance floor, I got comfortable at a table with a direct view of Svetlana. While I am usually drawn to the younger girls who have not quite mastered the phrases "Fuck you" and "Stop now", there was something about the older Svetlana that caused me to stalk her like a psychotic, drunken sex criminal. Even the fact that she was of legal age couldn't turn me off.

While fantasizing about all of the things I would like to suck off of her withered rack, she caught my gaze, smiled, chugged the rest of her vodka, and strolled over to my table. In a way she reminded me of Paris Hilton: she may be a nasty, uninteresting cum bucket, but come on, how could you say no?

Without saying a word, I immediately began to finger bang her under the table, as she kindly lifted up her neon green mini skirt, which had left nothing, including her flabby, stretch-marked

skin, to the imagination. While I simultaneously pleased her with my left hand and chugged the rest of my cider with the right, I began to wonder what the hell I was doing. There were other women in the club who were much more attractive, and would still put out after a few well-earned drinks, and yet there I was, finger banging an over-the-hill whore who couldn't get a paying customer if she stripped off all of her clothes and assumed the position in a prison cell full of rapists.

Suddenly, I realized that there was blood all over my left hand. I couldn't decide if I wanted to cum or vomit. Eventually, the flabby, bleeding bitch managed to drag my drunk ass back to her place. All I remember was waking up to a screaming baby, a bloody maxi pad stuck to the wall and a deep chill in my soul which caused me to projectile vomit all over Svetlana and the bloody sheets that we had been sleeping in for God knows how long.

It was clear to me that I had to stop doing this to myself. How had I let myself go home with her, and why hadn't my penis, who had come through for me so many times before, not shriveled up and protected me from the diseased Svetlana?

From now on, I'm sticking to the twelve year olds.

Nobody has any idea what Will Cohen is up to these days. The mind boggles.

A Tour of Campus with Tyler Graf

The University of Oregon is a tough place to encapsulate. Walking down 13th, only the vocabulary of fear, loathing, and esophagus-melting rage seem appropriate. What follows is my gloss. My interpretation. It's like Christmas for the homeless—it doesn't come. But it does, because sometimes hope is enough. Renee Descartes was an asshole... I drink, therefore I am.

My journey begins at Max's at the bottom of a pitcher of Pabst. I don't even know what day it is. Max's has its own appeal, to those who, for lack of a better word, are disproportionately allured by the siren call of alcoholism. Or peanuts, chess, and murmured profundities. But I digress. These are my oases, these "everybody knows your name" haunts of iniquity and alcoholic absolution. Again, I digress.

I stride purposefully to the very edge of campus, where I pause to light a lite cigarette. Then it hits me, the distinct pungence of a Thursday afternoon in full swing at Taylors. The hairs on the back of my neck stand upright as the odors of dollar wells, cheap cologne, hornyness and stupidity mingle in my olfactory. But hey, it's dollar wells.

Lillis peers at me through the big-leaf maple leaves as I step onto official campus property. 13th is packed, and I distinctly hear someone says something about underage Vietnamese trannies. I crane my ears to listen, but further insight is washed out by 17 freshman in flip flops who stroll past me in effervescent gait. I curse their blissful ignorance. Lillis serves only one purpose on campus, and that is production. Not production in the Adam Smith sense, but more akin to Winston cigarette production. I digress.

As the EMU comes into sight, I reflect on the myriad nights spent researching the institutionally ambivalent policy decisions of the student government. Nothing has changed, nothing ever changes; they just alter the vernacular and ship it in new packaging under the guise of change. They yearn for the sheep to remain sheep. It's not that any of that is wrong, per se, it's just kind of a dickish thing to do. Political speech is protected speech, after all.

Sadly, the amphitheater is currently the stage for an all-out assault on the very concept of protected speech. My skin crawls, and I break a sweat, as I hear hippies applauding the stomach-turning platitudes of some run-of-the-mill socialist hack. It's more of the same crap that I've spent 6 years here trying to escape. The loathing overwhelms me and I turn heel and run for Rennie's.



Tyler Graf was a student at the University of Oregon for 26 years, before winning the lottery in 2027. He currently owns the Gateway Mall, is married to Melissa Hanks, and is the manager of TILT!

The Oregon Commentator A Conservative Journal of Opinion

SUDSY WANTS
YOU



TO JOIN THE
OREGON
COMMENTATOR

Five Responses to "Retro Issue Released To Rave Reviews"

T Says:

May 10th, 2007 at 12:40 pm

My piece sounds nothing like me

Timothy Says:

May 10th, 2007 at 1:05 am

Worst issue ever.

WWB Says:

May 10th, 2007 at 2:20 am

I didn't even know anyone was still putting out issues.

Olly Says:

May 10th, 2007 at 3:02 am

It's not just that it's bad, it's a vacuous exercise in self-congratulation and meta-excess. Did you seriously depict us discussing the issue on the blog in the issue? For shame, sir, for shame.

Danimal:

May 11th, 2007 at 3:35 am

In the War On Douchebaggery, this was Abu Ghraib. At least they kept me out of it.

Niedermeyer Says:

May 10th, 2007 at 3:50 am

Bunch of fucking naysayers...

Leave a Reply:

Logged in as [Das Frohn](#). [Logout](#)

Submit Comment



Executive Session:

An interview
with ASUO
President-elect,
Emily McLain.

Emily McLain and Chii-san Sun Owen may not have been quite underdogs going into the the general elections, but they used that mentality after their second-place finish in the primaries to take them to the winner's circle. Receiving strong support from many of their freshly-defeated primary opponents, and 900 more votes than their primary numbers, McLain's "Working for You" campaign won her the top spot in the ASUO, despite a clean sweep of Senate by her opponents from the "Campaign For Change."

On Wednesday May 2nd, fresh off of her week and a half old victory, the Commentator sat down with president-elect Emily McLain to talk about the race, the current heated issues on campus, and her hopes and goals for next year.

OC: So I wanted to ask you about the race and why you think you won.

McLain: I think we won because we never stopped talking to students. The one consistent message I got when talking to students was 'you already talked to me' and I'm like 'I know I did but I wanna know if you actually voted and like if you have more questions or anything like that.' And it was just kinda this on going thing that Sun and I really committed ourselves to being out on the street talking to people, to being at every meeting we could, every group event, to really go and talk to people, to answer questions, to ask them what they wanted to see out of an executive. And I think it was that message that we kept sending the students and really just what they wanted to tell us.

OC: It definitely is difficult to keep up that level of communication when you also have to administer the whole ASUO. What ideas do you have for keeping up that level of communication? It definitely is one of the things that the ASUO is lacking ...

McLain: Yeah. Yeah, it really is. And that's one of the things we ran on, too was saying that we wanted to keep communicating with you and we want you to be talking to us all the time, and it was something that we identified as a problem this year was that so many students felt that they weren't communicated with or that they didn't have the knowledge or understanding or education around even just the basic process of the ASUO. And so one of the things that was criticized about this years administration was that they didn't keep going to the groups or they didn't attend the groups that they came from. So after we have seen that, we have identified it, we have acknowledged it as something that can't continue. A priority of ours is going to continue going to like student groups and then also something we've been talking about is wanting to have like a monthly or biweekly communication with the student body. It might take a little cooperation with the press, maybe yourselves. But really, literally just like either interviews or at least a letter that says 'This is what we've been up to. How did you feel about it?' You know, 'This is what we've been successful at this is what we're still working at. Do you want to see something else?' And so I think the fact people have identified the problem is very good 'cause sometimes you're not even able to do that.

OC: Did NETMA die this year? You know, the "Nobody Ever Tells Me Anything" ASUO news letter?

McLain: In all honesty, I have no idea. And I sit on the executive staff. I don't know.

OC: You could bring it back, or start an ASUO blog.

McLain: That would be cool. That would be something that would get people on the level we are all at sitting on our com-

puters or Facebook and stuff. Yeah that would be a good idea.

OC: What effect do you think, if any, has negative advertising had on this race?

McLain: I don't know because I never got to see it. I heard about the negative ads but I never even saw them. I heard that you posted a copy of them on the (*Commentator*) blog, but I don't know. I hope that it didn't have much of an effect. I hope that any negative either verbal campaigning or negative print campaigning didn't get anybody votes. I really hoped that that's the effect that is had because I don't like it, and so my hope is that it didn't do anything for anyone, negative or positive. I just hope that people were kinda like, 'Why don't you just get on the street and talk to people,' 'cause that was my tactic.

OC: There has been discussion about "Fight Club". Is there any comment you have about the rumors?

McLain: I haven't even heard all the rumors that have been said or written, so I have no idea. I don't get what people mean either, so if you want to tell me what what people have said, otherwise its an unformed comment.

OC: Are you familiar with something called "Fight Club"?

McLain: I have heard people talk about it, and I understand that there are people trying to get people elected. Is that your point?

OC: My information about it has been given to me anonymously, so I don't know that much about it. I haven't necessarily heard anything negative about it, just that it exists and it's there.

McLain: Do I have people that I call and get advice from? Yeah. I mean if thats what people are talking about. I have worked at the Bus Project for a long time and know a lot of people, and I think that is what people were getting at is that there is some sort of machine that is trying to get people elected. Uhh, No! Not in any way. I mean I have worked in progressive politic for the past few years and I have the privilege of having experienced campaigners that I can call and say 'What are some of the tactics that I can take,' which was, you know, pretty basic. I am gonna tell you it was hard to talk to as many people as you can. Stand on the street and go to meetings. So yeah, I definitely had the mentors and I definitely had people I worked with. I mean, where's the writing on it? Is there a post on your blog?

OC: Yeah there was a post on the blog, but again, it was from something slipped under our door. There is not a lot of credibility to it, but it doesn't seem like something people should be scared of publicizing. I'm just curious - is there something called 'Fight Club', and if there are rumors about it and it doesn't seem to be sinister, why not clarify it?

McLain: I mean, I dunno. I really have no idea. I've never been to anything called 'Fight Club': I can honestly tell you that.

OC: I want to talk about the results of the election. Describe your feelings after primary results came out. What was going through your head? It must have been an intense time for you, but I am curious because things really changed from primaries to generals. What was your reaction to the primary results, and why do you think you were able to swing those results in generals?

McLain: I breathed a sigh of relief like when I say the primary results. We didn't know where we were; nobody did. At about 9:00 AM that morning we had heard three numbers of the top three campaigns. It was like 720, 960, an 1100, and so our campaign manager, Jen Lleras, showed us the numbers and didn't know what to think. We had a very short conversation and the conclusion was we were in third, so that was how we were working that day, as if we were third and hadn't made it on to generals. And that's how, for me, I had to handle it so I would be prepared either way. We had to get a couple hundred more votes, and so we went out and did everything we could to communicate with people. We used all of our resources from Facebook to cell phones. On both Fridays we were out until 5:00. So my reaction when we got in was 'I really hope that was because of today' because I was so tired. I hope that was because of hard work. Working from third was the best way to do it psychologically for me.

OC: How big of an impact do you think the endorsements you picked up after primaries were?

McLain: I think they were helpful but at the same time, if you were to look at the numbers from primaries, we didn't turn those voters out. Sara and Athan and Sun and I, we all turned out more people to vote. I mean it was 1700 and 1800, so we obviously turned out all those extra thousand people. But if you looked at the endorsement numbers, we should have won by a landslide. But that shows that it was closer, that it was a very close race, that people were really deciding between two good tickets. And so, I am sure they were helpful. We appreciated them and were honored by them, like the fact that Phil and Ari came out and helped us out. We agree with them a lot about the environment and so it always feels good to have people say, 'You know we agree with you we wanna work to get you into office'. That was really cool. I appreciated it. But it is tough to activate people to vote who voted for their friends or for one specific issue to get them to vote a second time for you instead.

OC: You have worked with a lot of campaigns on the National and State levels. What makes ASUO elections unique? What stands out to you about ASUO elections in terms of what is effective and how you measure your support?

McLain: The main thing that stands out is that there are no polls. I hate that. I am a political hack and I like to read everything I can and pay attention to national politics. I was thinking about last night at a Bus Project Presents event where they get people together at like a bar or something and talk politics about an issue or an election, and there is an election going on right now on May 13th. You and I might be .1% of people who actually know what's going on right now, and it's kinda similar. Local politics, they start to effect you more if you are paying more taxes, as you're out in the workforce, and student elections are slightly different. We do have a tax, people just don't know a lot about it. I think what makes the ASUO elections different is that the U of O is this little microcosm of the rest of the world, and voter turnout isn't that great in other places during other elections. I looked up the presidential elections and it's something like 40% turnout sometimes. And what did we get, 20%? I mean we are not that far behind. This is a great comment on Americans and if we vote. I am a very big Bus Project person and that is what we are dedicated to. Not only are we trying to get people to turn out for student elections, but there is a greater thing there. We are trying to get them to vote, to care about what's going on and effecting them immediately on campus. But we are also trying to get them to vote in general, like after we leave this university. I would hope that we were developing habits, and it really is an achievement and one of the greatest things the executive did this year was to come in second as the university to register the most people to vote.

OC: I want to talk about the protest at senate on the 18th. You were there. Do you think that played into the election at all?

McLain: I don't think that it did because the real article about the senate meeting didn't even come out until this week, and the picture they had was amazing. It showed a lot of the tension at the table. It looks so quiet, but so intense. That probably got more attention than the article that came out during the elections. I don't think it had a direct effect on the elections, especially when the people that were protesting tried to clarify that they were there for Senator Gulley. That's a discussion that has been going on long before I even knew I was running, and them wanting to support Senator Gulley, that's been around longer than the election has been, all of his issues. So I don't really think it did because the most effective reporting on it was done after the fact.

OC: This protest and the idea of institutional racism are difficult for a lot of people to talk about. What is your comment about the whole thing? What's your take?

McLain: That's a broad question. I think that there is institutional racism at this university, and I think that it is cyclical in that it's obviously existed in our country, in our workforce, and in our

universities and our schools, everywhere, for so long. Its cyclical in the way that people talk about it and that they fight about it and that brings it to life. It will always be one of those issues that people take baby steps with. Like three steps forward, two steps back, four steps forward, three steps back, and my hope is that we are doing a lot of the forward right now and that maybe we can stop the regression. And I don't even think its regression but its that issues get dropped for a while, because a little something gets fixed and people feel kinda happy about it. But thats not a full victory, but a very small battle often. I think that it exists, and I think that it is tough for student leaders on campus to acknowledge it because the tension in the room was that this might be an attack individually and I wasn't part of the protest, so I can't tell you what the sentiment was before everyone came into the senate and before they were getting ready. I don't know what the discussion was. It would have been interesting to be there, but I was busy doing other things. In hindsight it would have been nice to be in that room, in the Senate, to see all of those different sides, like, what was the intention. I error on the side that the intention was not to attack individuals but to bring to light a very big issue. The Senate kept saying 'This isn't what the issue is, the issue is Senator Gully,' and the people around the room were saying, 'No our criticism is much larger; our argument is much larger.' This comes very much before the Nate issue. It's a pre-fiat argument, and I just wished people understood that. It's not about this small issue, it's not about when somebody laughed at me, it's not about if my group got money. It's about if we are feeling put down, if we are feeling under-represented, if we are feeling attacked when we come into this environment.

OC: At the second Presidential debates you said that you do support ethics reform of the Senate. I also know that Nate Gully has been working on your campaign. Do you think that Senator Gully's actions this year deserve a debate in and of themselves? I ask because I think a critique can be legitimate, but that doesn't mean that the bigger issue should be ignored.

McLain: I don't know if there should be a debate. I mean if people want a debate then there should be a debate about the issue. If people wanted a town hall forum about Nate in particular, I mean have it, but to me that doesn't really address the problem 'cause I thought the problem was that we had, like, some senators you know saying things that were offensive to other people, and other people being, like, 'Don't say that,' but then they would do things that broke the rules, too. And so I thought that the issue was more about 'Are we gonna follow Robert's Rules of Order and parliamentary procedure, or not,' 'cause nobody at this table, as far as I can tell, and I've sat outside of that table all year in so many different capacities. Like I was there for so many of the meetings that became big deals this year, you know, cause I was interested in it in the fall because it

was a foreign place for me. I went to a lot of budget hearings in the winter. I mean I just watched it progress. And sitting on the outside is interesting because I just see all these contradictions and so I feel like the debate should be about professionalism and ethics. Not just ethics, but just basic professionalism around the table. If you moderate your table and you say literally we are not excepting anything that is not Robert's Rules or Parliamentary Procedure, then the expectation has been laid out and people will follow. But I think that there is a little bit of contradiction happening on the Senate, and I think that the reason why contradiction happens is not necessarily because its conscious. I think that people are unaware of it because they get in the heat of the moment. But that to me says that the heat of the moment shouldn't exist. It should be calm in that senate meeting. I think that to fix that it might be a long process but it also needs to start now with the new Senate. And I don't know who it is that's going to be telling the Senate that, because it's not like we should be pointing our fingers at them, saying 'behave.' I mean, thats not the point. These are adults that are representatives of students. But maybe some kind of training saying, 'This might be one of the most heated places you've been in and its your job to make it not heated. Its your job to go to students before, to go to students after, to be there for the people you are representing during the meetings, in the most calm, respectable, professional, ethical, manner you can be there in.' And maybe it's a little rigid, but they're getting stuff done, and it makes it so people aren't alienated - it makes it so people don't get into fights in meetings. Sometimes I am a confrontational person so I have to pull myself back and be like 'That's not going to get me anywhere'. I've been in meetings that have been intense and it never felt as good as when there was just calm and we had been talking about things at a good pace and a good level leading up to the meeting.

OC: In order to be efficient and to get things done efficiently you do have to break the rules. I mean, rules are great, but Robert's Rules of Order do not allow for debate, as they are not intended to foster debate, but instead are intended to keep order.

McLain: A couple of the really constructive meetings I saw was when they suspended Robert's Rules of Order. But what they did in that meeting was very respectful. None of them got out of line because they felt a sigh of relief also. You know in the sense that, 'Ok at least I am allowed to talk now. I will just raise my hand.' That's totally constructive. I think for business, getting through things, Robert's Rules of Order is conducive to passing a motion or building a bill. I'm ok with people suspending Robert's Rules of Order, but I think that my point before is even more relevant to this point because that means that you've set the pace of thinking to one of 'We can have good discussions and just not take things personally and understand that the reason we disagree doesn't matter, it's just good that we do, and

that we are going to have a good constructive debate'. I think that that is good in student government. I think that those kind of debates should happen more in other forms of government like outside the university. Those are the kind of debates that, you're right, are somewhat stifled by Robert's Rules of Order. So in that sense there are some rules that need to be set aside.

OC: When Senator Gulley accused ten senators of making a racist attack against programs, those ten senators were the ten senators that voted for a 2.5% benchmark. What are your thoughts on the correlation between funding levels and institutional racism?

McLain: I think that the picture that gets painted is unfortunate. For the senators who voted for a 2.5% increase, to me they have yet to articulate why it wasn't a direct attack on programs. In a way this addresses the institutional racism. So far they have been, like, 'It's just about the money, it's just about where we thought we could make the cuts'. But I've seen the transcripts and there were some senators that were saying things like 'I don't see value in the student programs,' And that's when the attack verbally began because it was a value based decision on budgeting, which happens. I mean, jeez; that's the point. People go and advocate for themselves and it's all about their values and their concerns or their beliefs, and that's what it should be. But at the same time, when you are doing budgeting, and programs are such a small part of the overall budget, which they are and I will continue to make that argument, why then is it the smartest budgeting to make the cuts there? I just feel as if it's lazy and I think that's where some of Senator Gulley's frustration comes from, that Senate goes through and passes these high budgets for the other two, ADFC and EMU, and everything like that. And then you wait and make the biggest cut in the place that has the most activity and people. I just really sit on that side where it looks like institutional racism when the groups that are being affected are underrepresented students of color and programs that promote Multicultural Center events and really great learning activities. If it was an attack, if it was not an attack; it needs to be clarified more. It keeps getting muddled, and to me it's an issue of lazy budgeting; that's where the attack comes. If you're going to be lazy and you err on the side of cutting programs, it just looks like an attack, and it looks to me like a pushing down of the underrepresented groups that are also the same groups that are coming to you saying, 'We don't understand the process, we don't understand how to advocate for ourselves. We didn't know you were going to pass a 2.5% increase. Could you have at least told us? Could we have at least had a debate?'

OC: Over realized funds. The process set forth in Senate Bill 23 is dead. It seems like the debate we were just talking about is spilling into that area. How do you feel about the fact that we have over \$800,000 in over realized funds, and what is your evaluation of the process that's been put in place to spend it this year?

McLain: This is hard for to answer because when a lot of these discussions started ... see, I don't sit on the senate, so its hard

for me to say 'This is how I feel about it,' 'cause I don't have as much knowledge or background or even just listening time as someone on the Senate has, which is maybe a reason why I will tell Sun you asked this question. Maybe she has something to say that should be represented from the two of us. But I was there for the fiscal responsibility talk you held. That was educational to me because there are legal ramifications for using certain pots of money, and so I thought that was interesting. We were trying to figure out what we should do, and should is an interesting word in and of itself. I have heard that there are heated debates between very different groups on campus that have different mission statements. So there are sports teams and the Multicultural Center and recycling. I know that the first question was to give a lot of money to a few groups or a little money to many groups.

OC: What will be the greatest challenges that will be faced your executive will face next year?

McLain: The tension in the Senate. I mean, there are so many new senators. There are still going to be a lot of the same people in the ASUO programs and then there is going to be a new Senate. I think both sides will feel defeated immediately. Like, 'Oh my gosh, we heard about all this, how are we going to deal with it?' I think that it has become this hot spot, and if we can actually address the issues and calm it down a little bit to a point where we're working on some of the things we ran on which was educating students on the process, which I think everyone wants to see happen, that's a huge challenge because that means us going and trying to be educated in whatever way people want to be educated. Whether it be us giving a power point presentation or a lecture, or just them asking us questions. That's a huge challenge because they are coming off of this death sprint right now and its gonna feel weird to start over for a lot of them. So I think the discussion of institutional racism, the discussion of groups that are underrepresented in a lot of ways, that's going to be a big issue of how to deal with that, and at the same time transitioning into this job - those are some basic challenges. Like, we are in the process of hiring people right now; that's a huge thing. I had no idea. Even just coming up with the positions has been like a week of discussion. And it's hard to change once a previous administration has done something. You don't want to take a position away because now there are constituents. There are a lot of challenges that are basic administrative stuff. And then also talking about some of our issues like basic services provided here on campus and how we want to protect them. Which will necessarily hit up against a new Senate.

OC: What are the opportunities? And how do you see your work with the State fitting in?

McLain: Well it's an opportunity that I have been working on the issues and it's good that I get to continue that work in this capacity. The legislature is going to be in session until July, mid-June at least, and that means we need to have people there. After we finish this I will be spending most of the day getting students to go to Salem with me, or at the least getting them to sign

postcards saying they support the U of O getting funding. Our biggest challenge is that we need to be packing rooms in Salem if we have any hope of getting a budget this next year. The budget that is coming from the Ways and Means committee is \$35 million less for the University System than the Governor's recommended budget was. And the Governor's budget was the first increase the University System has seen since 1991. That's a huge deal especially when I walk into McKenzie hall and I see 10 garbage cans catching rain water. I mean, there are problems that no matter what side of the political spectrum you sit on, nobody is being good on education right now. We need to figure out how our schools can stop getting F's. We are 46th in the nation for funding per student. We used to be 48th, and the reason we moved up two spaces is because of Hurricane Katrina. I mean, we have states in this union that have to face natural disasters for us to move up in our support. There are problems with that.

OC: How are you going to make a relationship with senate with ten Campaign for Change members?

McLain: I think other people might make this more contentious than it is. I am not scared or nervous; I am excited because I think there are some good people on Campaign for Change. They all entered this election with the intention of making the University better. I believe that. I said that at the debates, and I still believe it. I think that there will be disagreements, I'm sure, there always are. And there were some unexpected disagreements this year. Who knows whose going to be on what side of an issue. Often they are not politically charged in the sense that, like, left or right, you know, but often they are just issues that you can't really predict where any one is going to fall on, and

I think that the relationship will be good. I have worked with some of the people before. Like Neil Brown is in the college democrats with me, and that's great. I am excited about that. Like Noor. I have taken classes, Ken (DeBevoise) classes, with her before. There's just, like, good people, and I think that they will be thoughtful Senators, and I think we will be a thoughtful executive in the sense that we will walk right up to an issue and address it and identify whatever problem or concerns that are with it and then I think work together for solutions. I hope that the relationship between Executive and the Senate will be one of open dialogue. What I hate seeing, and Sun and I agree on this, is that I can't stand the closed door discussions that are very obviously trying to create conflict. I don't think people mean to create it, and I think it is necessary to have discussions outside of Senate. But it just seems that we need to make sure everybody knows that it's not a game or a competition, but that the overall goal is to come up with a solution and to come up with a conclusion at least, and it's not going to happen if we're not all talking to each other about the issues. I just don't want to see next year be like the 2.5% incident. Nobody knew what was happening. Maybe there should discussion and debate before, so that we don't face a lot of problems later. Like if we actually take the steps necessary, like of discussion and of research. I mean, let's research issues. So many times we have debates and it's obvious that we are all talking from at least less informed positions then we should be talking from. We should be the most well read and up to date people about these issues on campus, so I hope the relationship will be good.



N O ONE IS GOING TO
HIRE YOU.

YOUR RESUME NEEDS US...

WRITE, DESIGN, ADVERTISE **OC**



Neo-Nazis: Less Punctual than the Normal Kind

By D.D. Holtzman

“Welcome to Mighty Mart.” The gas station cashier spoke with the malaise of overworked, underpaid, underappreciated employees worldwide.

“Well hello there, miss. An’ good day to ya. A pack of Marlboro Reds, please. Oh, an’ I got ten dollars on four,” said a white male at the counter.

The mid-20s alpha male trotted through the doors and furnished this southern-style greeting. The archetypal Eastern-Oregonian except—giving Eastern-Oregonians the benefit of the doubt here—in one respect: he sported a bright-red tank top (archetypal) with a Swastika blazed across the front (non-archetypal).

Brooding outside over the restrictive spirit of Eugene City Council’s latest smoking ban, I lit a cigarette and observed him. He preferred to remain nameless; we’ll call him Billbob.

“Hey brother, couldn’t trouble ya for a light, could I?” said Billbob.

Despite my generally reactive tendencies in the face of bigots, it is democratic axiom that dialogue can be an educative tool.

Another Swastika-sporting Nazi of the New World shifted in the passenger seat of a camouflage Bronco.

“So, I-uh, you... do you guys got group er, a-um... like-a um...” I said.

“You tryin’ ask if we got a crew of Neo-Nazis ‘round these parts?” A string of live (i.e. unused) shotgun shells supported his trousers.

“Well, jeesh. You stole the words right out of my brain.”

“Yeah, we gotta a group that meets up once or twice a month at a little Ranch outside town.” A ranch. Of course. The single most emblematic facet of what Billbob calls “merica.”

“I’ll give it to you straight,” said I, masquerading as a good ol’ boy, “I’m curious as hell: what exactly are you guys all about?”

“Well, we ain’t stupid enough to just go around harassing n*****s an’ k*****s. That’s suicide these days. Generally, we just—uh—support our causes, or react with-er—react appropriately when one o’ them f*** up.” Hm. Dubious.

He later deemed “these parts” the land of “lackeys, lib’rals and assholes,” and then guffawed. Though painful, I chuckled politely. This seemed a friendly segue into what would become my major editorial success.

“Hey, I’d like to do an article on you guys for a U of O magazine, *The Oregon Commentator*. It’s more conservative, and I think it’s readers deserve to hear what you’re all about. And hear about it from you, not some partial third party.”

“Absolutely,” he said, “We’ve got some good kids there.” I passed off convulsion as excitement.

The Neo-Nazi agreed to meet me the at the public library the following day, at 4:00pm. We planned a meetingplace. He would

bring some of his friends, if they wished to comment. Hooked and reeled: repugnant and obscene minority groups are unremittingly bloodthirsty for media coverage.

Just as we were finalizing details, his buddy fidgeted and sang what sounded like “Jew-ba-do-ba-do,” in shoo-bop style. The face of my ‘brother’ went blank, eyes like the darkened windows of a house in the midst of a thunderstorm, breakers tripped. He sharpened his gaze, looking me over. Sharp as tacks, for country bumpkins.

People rarely pin me as Jewish, but the man in the truck held this truth to be self-evident. What was it? A slight crook of the nose, possibly a hint of frizz? Maybe it was my frugal use of matches; one does the trick. Whatever it was, they knew now—both of them.

I’m proud of him, actually. He was relatively classy about the whole thing, me being a k-k-k—k**e and all.

“Well, I...” he looked down and lowered his voice. His tone was gentle and mild. “Well, I guess I better get going... ‘cause-uh, you know. He’s waiting for me.”

“Oh, okay. So we’ll get this show on the road at four o’clock tomorrow, right? At the library?”

“Yeah, absolutely. We’ll be there.”

I envisioned some kind of awkward sitcom—Me and the Neo-Nazi. He’d be in prison for a hate crime. The court would release him on one condition: he has to live with Jew. We share a studio apartment (because I’m cheap, of course). Half the room is decorated with Jewish—NOT Israeli—icons, and the other half with Swastikas and pictures of President Wilson. There would be scenes where I tell him rent or the cable bill is due. He’d get all red and scream, “JeeeeeeEEEEEEWWWW!” as I shake my finger back and forth saying, “Ah-Ah-ahh,” pointing to a photo of him behind bars. “Arrrrrrghhh! I’ve been Jewed... literally!” Then I’d look at America’s audience with a solemn stare that reaches way, way down into their souls, only to smile and shrug my shoulders. Roll end credits, Dradle, Dradle as background music.

I truly believed he was show. He wasn’t.

The star despot of the Nazi party would be rolling over in his grave! He was punctual, he knew a thing or two about administration. No wonder Nazism has kicked the bucket. It can’t be resurrected by a group of pathetic ruffians. And talk about lack of conviction! This Neo-not-so-Nazi just lowered his eyes and scampered away at seeing a Jewish boy. I expected at least fiery slurs or a scholarly apologist.

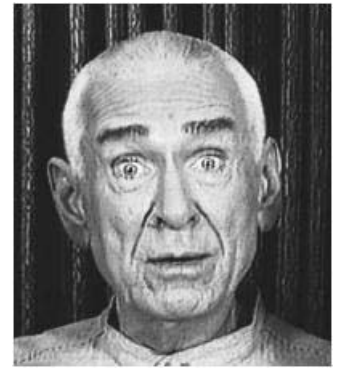
This is all I get? Silence? Oh well. I guess it’s true what they say: Neo-Nazis are just not as punctual as the normal kind.

“D.D. Holtzman” should have had this done by in time for our last issue. Better late than never.



Knock, Knock, Knocking on Heaven's Gate

By Jake Speicher



As I laid there with a plastic bag over my face I suddenly realized something had gone terribly wrong. I didn't want to go to the space ship behind the comet. I didn't want to drink the Kool-Aid. All I wanted to do was leave. But I was drowsy.

Bo or Do, or whatever he went by, had promised me I would see Heaven's Gate. He said that if I wore these sweet shoes and these awesome black sweats, I would be on my way to paradise. Now, all I could think about is what goes on in paradise that I need brand new Nikes and a sweat suit.

Am I going to be jogging? Are we going to South Philly? Neither or those options sound like paradise. In fact, they sound just awful. I wonder what the aliens look like.

Are they green little men with big eyes like on X-Files, or maybe we are being sacrificed to a blood-thirsty gladiator culture, and that's why we need these shoes. They are going to put us in a giant ring, and we have to run away from saber-toothed space tigers.

Man, it's hot in this bag. Someone should poke air holes in it or something so it's not so stuffy. Maybe it's this giant purple hood I have on that's making me warm. Is it cold in paradise? That might explain the sweats and the hood. The more I think about it the more this paradise place sounds awful.

I feel light-headed.

Why do alien space ships need to hide behind comets? They

have the technology to travel hundreds of miles to whisk us off to paradise, but they don't know how to hide from satellites. I mean even Klingons have cloaking devices. At least the Kool-Aid was good.

They used fruit punch and vodka. That's my favorite combination. I hope they have fruit punch and vodka in space. I am not a fan of those pills right now though. I feel tingly and my stomach hurts. My eyes feel so heavy.

I feel like I am spinning. I wonder what Dave's doing? Dave in lying in the bed above me. "Dave," I try to yell, but I don't think any sound came out. He's probably spinning too. Maybe we are on the flying saucer now. Maybe we are spinning through space like a giant Frisbee.

The space between breaths gets longer. I bet I sound like Darth Vader. What if he is on the space ship? What if what I had been living was the movie they watched? That doesn't make any sense.

I can't feel my legs anymore. My head feels like it is floating in space all by itself, away from anything.

"What the hell did I do?" I think. "What the hell did I do?"



Jake Speicher, who brews up a mean batch of Kool-Aid himself, is a contributor for the Oregon Commentator.

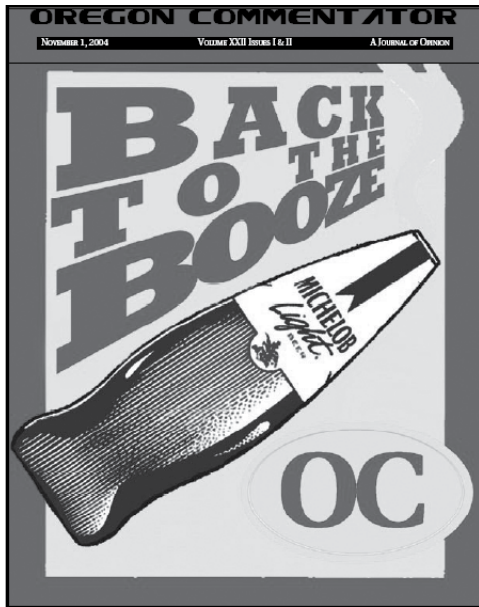


Rennie's Landing

Where we get our Sudsy on!

1214 Kincaid
687-0600

On *The E.T. Fatwa*



“One thing that popped into my mind was that the only way Americans would be in an asymmetric war on the other side would be if we were attacked by aliens. Everyone chuckled, but then after a minute the comments started setting in.” Then we really got to talking about it and we thought, well, you know, we really might need this contingency plan anyway.”

-Travis Taylor, co-author with Bob Boan of “An Introduction To Planetary Defense: A Study of Modern Warfare Applied to Extra-Terrestrial Invasion.” The chuckles only lasted “a minute,” did they?

“Taylor holds advanced degrees in astronomy and physics, and is an associate at consulting firm Booz Allen Hamilton. He and Boan have done consulting work for the Defence Department and the U.S. space agency NASA.”

-Reuters. Just goes to show how a career can head downhill after too much consulting with Booz.

“You’d have to create an insurgency, a mujahideen-type resistance. The insurgents know how to win this war against us. It also tells us that if we were attacked by aliens, this is our best defence.”

-Taylor elaborates. Remember, if you die fighting the infidel E.T.’s, you’ll have 17 virgins waiting for you in heaven.

On *We Need To Make Whitey Responsible*



“People of color cannot relate to teachers at a Eurocentric university because they view history and politics completely differently. Academics disagree about the interconnection of imperialism, slavery, nationalism, capitalism and democracy. Academia has heavily rejected alternative narratives that inspire resistance and revolution.”

-Ty Schwoeffermann in an ODE guest commentary entitled “UO Must Reject It’s Culture Of Whiteness.” Um, actually Ty, those “alternative narratives” are only taken seriously in Academia.

“Your solution to this problem is to create a sort of de facto segregation between whites and non-whites in the university. Hmmm. It looks like biological determinism as a course of policy is making a comeback. Thanks Ty, this looks like a winning solution. It’s so obvious: the color of my skin makes me literally incapable of thinking about the world in a certain way. As a result, we should create little bubbles of pigmented purity: whites talking with whites, and non-whites talking with non-whites. This truly is the path to a better and more equitable future.”

-Commenter “cz” responding to Schoeffermann’s piece on the ODE website. We couldn’t put it better ourselves.

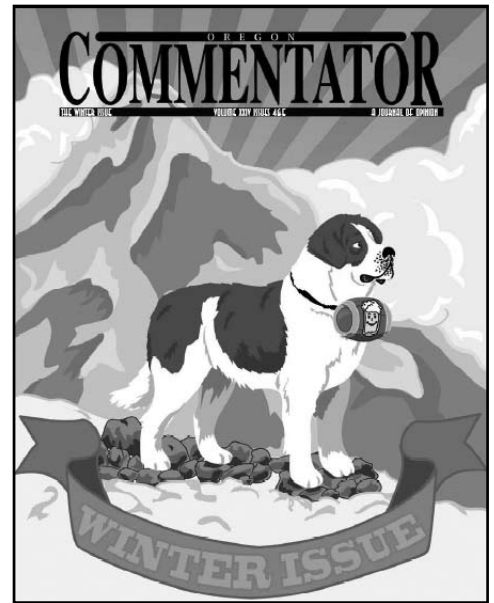
On Our Loyal Competition

“Obama’s impenetrable mega-armored suit deflects bullets, lasers, UV rays, racial insults, and ketchup stains.”

-Grant Farrington of the Oregon Voice takes on the challenge of political commentary... the results speak for themselves.

“My penis is exactly as it was when I came out of my mother’s womb, and for that I am proud.”

-Gabe Rodriguez gets the OV back to its bread and butter: circumcision. Now that’s the Voice that we know and love.



On Wait, Who Are The Racists Again?

“Having the grievance against me unanimously dismissed is exactly what I expected. Nobody knows the rules better than Constitution Court and they obviously understand that I didn’t break any. Hopefully we can all keep our focus on votes that are actually contentious, like the racist attacks Senators Daniels, McKenzie, Hamilton, Papailiou, Kinsey, Rosenberg, Sherrick, Trippe, Ebner, and Justice continue to make against programs.”

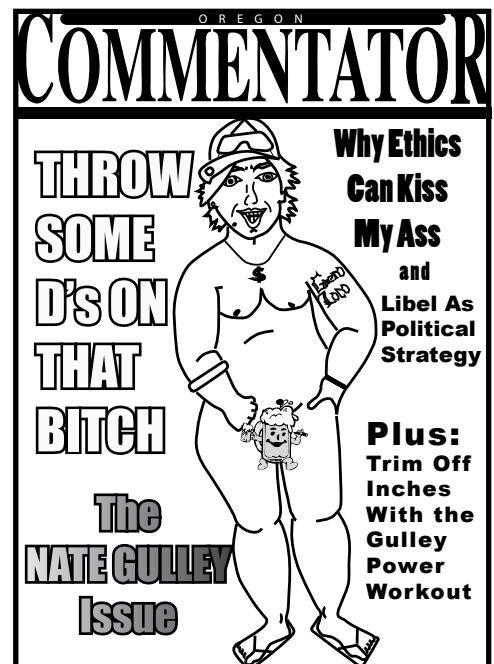
-Senator Nate Gulley to the ODE, after being cleared by the Con Court of conflict of interest charges. OK Nate, what dollar amount did the Senators have to fork over to not be racists? Would a 7% benchmark have done the trick, or is that still an insufficiently tolerant allocation?

“Sen. Karen Trippe said that a potential employer found the article with the accusation of racism on Google and asked her about it in an interview.”

-The ODE explains the impact of Gulley’s accusation in coverage of his 4/18 ethics hearing before the Senate. Not only did Gulley get off without even a reprimand, he also never publicly explained his accusation. By the end of that meeting, the Senate also agreed to sensitivity training. No, this is not an episode of South Park.

“Perhaps it borders on condescension to claim that Gulley needs to learn that his words, actions and overall behavior have consequences. But Gulley’s college age belies an individual who is deeply bereft of any sort of inner barometer - something that tells him that he ought not make certain comments. Gulley deserves to receive condescension. Gulley deserves to be told - very slowly - that his behavior has a poisonous effect on the ASUO.”

-The ODE Editorial Board. That’s right, we just let “those people” have the last word.



O R E G O N C O M M E N T A T O R

Volume I No. 1

Eugene, Oregon

Monday October 24, 1983

Radical moderation

By Michael Rust
Assistant Editor

In a book describing experiences as a volunteer in the 1960 presidential campaign, novelist James Michener described how then-candidate John Kennedy had been heckled by some youthful Republican sympathizers at Indiana University. Michener indignantly reported this was all

too typical of students of his acquaintance; indeed, he prophesied darkly that the 1960s would reveal American college students to be shock troops of some monolithic American right-wing movement.

As it turned out, history responded to Mr. Michener's analysis in about the same way that critics have usually responded to his novels. All of this is long past, of course, but there's a certain symmetry if one compares Michener's Camelot-era fears and similar concerns today.

For the past several years a great deal of finger-wagging has been directed against the supposed conservatism of college students. Reports of membership increases in ROTC and fraternities and sororities have been common. Even more frightening was Nicholas von Hoffman's claim in the pages of *Harper's* in May 1982 that Ronald Reagan "is abetted and egged on by the myriads of capitalist-youth marching and chanting societies, the Joustlers for Jesus, the Young Americans for Freedom, the Helms helpers. Organized on every campus and in every church, the youth brigades emit a constant white-noise roar of approval through which these hard old men pursue the work of finding and refining the unalloyed abstract values so dear to demented idealism."

Although it was a considerable relief for many to have identified the source of that white-noise roar that rang in their ears every time they stepped on campus, my spirits were not lifted by the knowledge that even a splendidly progressive place such as Eugene was not immune from the nightriders of the Right. At the same time Hoffman's article was on the stands, a genuine law professor from Boston's Northeastern School of Law named Denise Carty-Bennia was informing a wide-eyed Women's Symposium audience at the University, "You're living in the middle of a fascist, totalitarian state and you haven't yet realized it." This unnerveing information was reported by the dutiful, if somewhat credulous, Ore-

gon *Daily Emerald*, as well as Carty-Bennia's contention that college students ignore racism and women's issues "because of an increase in apathy and a decline in a desire to learn."

In June 1982, the *Emerald* weighed in with another scoop of sorts. In the last editorial of the 1981-82 school year — a piece ominously entitled "Gray neo-right" — the *Emerald* maintained that Eugene, the one-time "Berkeley of the Northwest," was undergoing a swing to the Right that was causing it to bear a "striking resemblance to Bob Jones University — or for that matter — Oregon State." Even as recently as last year, a woman criticized an *Emerald* article about the Cuba Study Group, asking if it was an example of "the creeping conservatism currently raging" across the country? The specter of conservatism simultaneously "creeping" and "raging" is a bit disconcerting, but one gets the general idea.

Happily, it seems as the Age of Reagan continues, students are redeeming themselves. No less an expert than Mr. Gary Trudeau, the Pulitzer Prize-winning creator of *Doonesbury*, told a Harvard Class Day audience last June that he had observed signs that students are about to begin another cycle of protest activity. Trudeau cited the hostile reaction to recent campus appearances by United Nations Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick as reason for his optimism. Apparently, the idea of a speaker being howled off a platform meshed in quite well with Mr. Trudeau's memories of his own youthful idealism.

In an atmosphere of this sort, the birth of a publication such as this is bound to elicit greatly varied reactions. In my own case, it has triggered some musings about my own political attitudes and how they have evolved throughout my University years.

When I arrived in Eugene in the fall of 1979, I was glad to be in a place with a heritage of political activism and a

reputation for being a haven for '60s refugees. In the small coastal community I came from, I had worked as a volunteer for liberal candidates in a couple of campaigns — hardly a radical step, but the closest thing I could find to political activism. A 1972-vintage Wayne Morse poster and a 1974-vintage Richard Nixon count-down calendar were among the objects on my bedroom wall. Hunter S. Thompson was my favorite political journalist son was my favorite political journalist, I had four years worth of back issues of *Rolling Stone* and I preferred "Alice's Restaurant" to the soundtrack from "Saturday Night Fever." Obviously, I was one up on most of my classmates when I arrived in Eugene.

During the 1979-80 school year, I was involved with a number of political groups, most notably Students for a Nuclear-Free Future. I participated in and helped organize demonstrations, leaflet distribution, as well as the petition drive to place nuclear power measures on the ballot. I make no great claims about any of this; although my political involvement allowed me to feel virtuous as I compared myself to my "apathetic" classmates, it was minuscule compared to that of other people and involved no great sacrifice on my part. I mention it simply to show where I was when my attitudes began to shift.

By the time I left my budding activist career, the 1980 election was upon us. We shall never see days like those again. It's difficult to explain to those who were not present just what the response to Reagan's victory was like in places such as Eugene. The most popular explanation seemed to be that some vast horde of religious fanatics had risen throughout the country with the general objective of wiping out tidy little citadels of progressivism such as Eugene.

It really seemed that some students, no matter how sincere or well-meaning, lacked something — call it historical perspective. I still remem-

Continued on Page 3