

# OREGON COMMENTATOR

Volume 25, Number 5

Friday, November 30, 2007

## *The Holiday Issue*



**INSIDE:** America gets hard



pg. 12

Senator Brown's last stand



pg. 20

Pacifica Forum outrage



pg. 8



Founded Sept. 27th, 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 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-four 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.

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# FROHNMAYER LEAVES THE OC A LUMP OF COAL FOR CHRISTMAS

The Oregon Commentator isn't expecting any invitations to University Presidential Christmas parties this holiday season. It's a shame; we already had our seasonal sweaters picked out. In an attempt to secure an interview with President Dave Frohnmayer, OC staffers exchanged emails with Public and Media Relations, only to be told by Senior Director Phil Weiler, "President Frohnmayer will not be able to meet with you." When OC Editor-In-Chief Phil Bladine asked Weiler, "Does that mean he will not be able to meet with me before winter term, or he will not be able to meet with me ever?" the response was, "Your latter statement is correct." Being cut off is not something new to the Oregon Commentator, but generally there is a large bar tab and a wicked hangover tacked on. Being non-responsive to requests for information, on the other hand, is nothing new for the Administration.

The legacy that Frohnmayer will leave behind when he announces his resignation, rumored to happen to 2008, should be viewed moderately. He oversaw the creation of a self-sustainable athletic department, pissing off a lot of intellectuals along the way, and met increasingly lowered state funding with the most successful philanthropic effort in Oregon history. He has also teaches a leadership class to freshman each year. On the flip side, the President has been targeted on multiple occasions for not serving the better interests of the campus community, eventually earn-

ing the beloved campus media nickname, Das Frohn. In his time, the administration has pushed through many controversial issues, like the sale of Westmoreland and the "branding" of the University with the now-nationally recognizable "O" that depicts Autzen Stadium and Hayward Field. In many cases, however, it is the process and not the result that has garnered the most ridicule. Frohnmayer's legacy will forever be stained by a lack of transparency in his administration's operations.

Media members and faculty have berated the University in recent history for its lack of accessibility to University records. Some record requests are followed through quickly and easily by the office of Attorney General Melinda Grier. On many occasions in recent history, however, public documents have been denied and requests have not been met in a timely matter.

The irony of the situation goes back to the 70's, when Frohnmayer helped write the Oregon Public Records Law. Who better to know where the loopholes in the system are than the architect? It has become increasingly difficult in Frohnmayer's tenure as President to retrieve information that is legally open to the public. Some requests have been led on and on and on until the filer finally gives up. Other requests have had large costs tacked onto them, making it difficult for student groups on short budgets to attain them. Frohnmayer has declared in certain circumstances that his administration needs a level of confidenti-

ality in able to function successfully. In such cases, the Administration pervades an ethical doubt upon itself that encourages outsiders to believe that something fishy is going on inside the walls of Johnson Hall.

The OC Editorial Board finds itself in such a situation now. Why has the President's Office cut off communication with the second largest on-campus news outlet, while at the same time grant the Oregon Daily Emerald a 25-minute video interview? Has there been one too many bridges burned between the Commentator that President Frohnmayer? Why was Bladine denied an interview regarding a feature on the success of Campaign Oregon, when he was granted such an interview in 2005 as a reporter for the Emerald? Is the OC simply insignificant and not worthy of Frohnmayer's time? Or is there some other motive? Does the OC stand as a nuisance to the Administration for reasons its staff is unaware of? Does anybody know what time it is? Does anybody care?

We have only these questions to ponder, while we sit in in front of the TV, a little bit hurt, a little betrayed, watching Lifetime Cinema and eating copious amounts of ice cream. In the spirit of the holiday season, however, we have decided to let bygones be bygones. Mr. Frohnmayer, you are cordially invited to the Oregon Commentator Christmas Party. Just don't expect anyone to let you borrow a sweater.





# POKER TOURNAMENTS



## FRIDAYS @ 7:00 PM

- ♥ **GAME:** NO LIMIT TEXAS HOLD 'EM
- ♥ **ROUNDS:** TWENTY (20) MINUTES EACH
- ♥ **MAXIMUM PLAYERS:** 50, FIRST COME BASIS
- ♥ **BUY IN:** \$50.<sup>00</sup> MEMBERS, \$60.<sup>00</sup> NON-MEMBERS
- ♥ **STARTING CHIPS:** 10,000 STANDARD CASINO COLOR VALUE
- ♥ **REBUY:** \$30.<sup>00</sup>, MAX. OF ONE (1) THROUGH ROUND FOUR (4)
- ♥ **REBUY CHIPS:** 10,000, MUST HAVE NO MORE THAN 10,000 CHIPS
- ♥ **PAYOUTS:** 10% OF THE SEATS ARE PAID, ODD SEATS INCREASE PLACES

ROUND	SMALL	BIG
1	100	200
2	200	400
3	300	600
4	500	1000
5	1000	2000
6	2000	4000
7	3000	6000
8	5000	10000
9	10000	20000

**REGISTER**  
**6PM - 7PM**

## SATURDAYS @ 8:00 PM

- ♦ **GAME:** NO LIMIT TEXAS HOLD 'EM
- ♦ **ROUNDS:** FIFTEEN (15) MINUTES EACH
- ♦ **MAXIMUM PLAYERS:** 30, FIRST COME BASIS
- ♦ **BUY IN:** \$25.<sup>00</sup> MEMBERS, \$30.<sup>00</sup> NON-MEMBERS
- ♦ **STARTING CHIPS:** 2,000 STAMPED TOURNAMENT CHIP VALUE
- ♦ **ADD-ON:** \$5.<sup>00</sup>, BONUS 1,000 CHIPS, BEFORE 1<sup>st</sup> HAND IS DEALT
- ♦ **REBUY:** NO REBUYS ARE AVAILABLE, RE-ENTRY ONLY IN 1<sup>st</sup> ROUND
- ♦ **PAYOUTS:** 10% OF THE SEATS ARE PAID, ODD SEATS INCREASE PLACES

ROUND	SMALL	BIG
1	25	50
2	50	100
3	100	200
4	200	400
5	300	600
6	400	800
7	600	1200
8	800	1600
9	1000	2000

**REGISTER**  
**6PM - 8PM**

**8<sup>TH</sup> & OLIVE ~ (541) 513 - 4321 ~ EUGENE, OR**



# Bush awards Optimus Prime Medal of Freedom

In a ceremony in the White House today, President Bush awarded Optimus Prime the Presidential Medal of Freedom Award – the highest civilian award the United States bestows.

“America has no truer friend than Optimus Prime,” said Bush in his presentation speech. “Once again, we are joined together in a great cause – so honored Optimus Prime has crossed the void of space to show his unity of purpose with America. Thank you for coming, friend.”

Prime is an Autobot, a sentient robot hailing from the planet Cybertron. He first came to earth 4 million years ago, but was not activated until 1984. Many sources close to Prime say he was heavily influenced by the policies of then president Ronald Reagan.

Since 1984, Prime has been fighting the Decepticons, an evil group of transforming robots also from Cybertron. They are led by Megatron, a noted despot and socialist. Bush included the Decepticons in his famous “axis of evil,” and they are classed as a terrorist organization by the FBI.

“Optimus Prime has been one of the galaxy’s most dedicated defenders of liberty,” continued Bush. “He and his brave band of Autobots have fought tirelessly against the forces of evil, protecting the people of earth from tyranny and oppression.”

Politically, Prime has been a close ally of the United States in the war on terror, although he has criticized President Bush’s policies on torture and domestic spying..

He often describes himself as a “small ‘l’ libertarian” and says everyone should have the right to “choose for themselves.”

“Freedom is the right of all sentient beings,” said Prime in his acceptance speech. “I have witnessed humans’ capacity for courage, and though we are worlds apart, like us, there’s more to you than meets the eye.”

Closing his speech, Prime denied that he and his soldiers had done anything particularly heroic and urged all humans to be vigilant in fighting terrorism.

“No sacrifice is too great in the service of freedom,” Prime said.

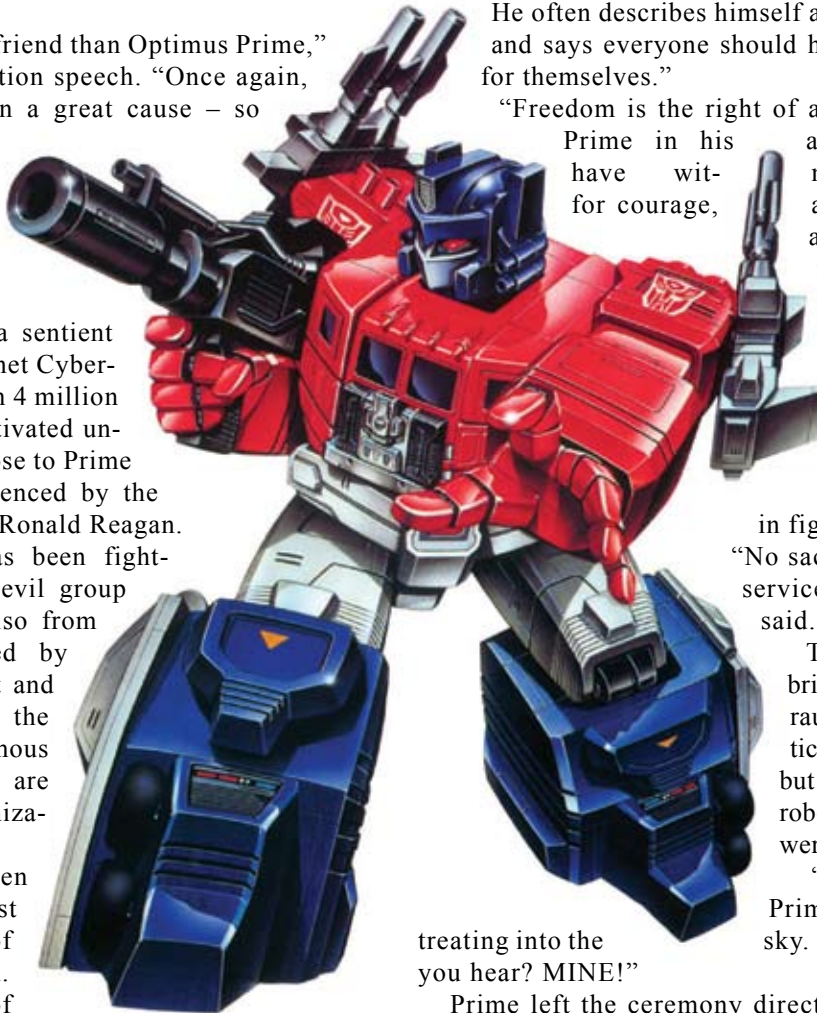
The awards ceremony was briefly interrupted by a marauding band of evil Decepticons, resulting in a short but highly destructive giant robot fight. The Decepticons were routed.

“You win this time, Prime!” said Megatron, risky. “But Earth will be mine,

treating into the you hear? MINE!”

Prime left the ceremony directly after the fight, transforming into his trademark cab-over semi truck and ordering his fellow Autobots to “roll out.”

“Oh man.” said Bush. “That was so fucking cool.”



## Bellotti Mustache Watch



It’s bowl season,  
what if...

Remember Bellotti, there is no “i” in team, but there is “t,” “e,” “a,” and “m” in mustache

## Sudsy Says:

Girls, can’t live  
with ‘em,  
can’t shoot ‘em

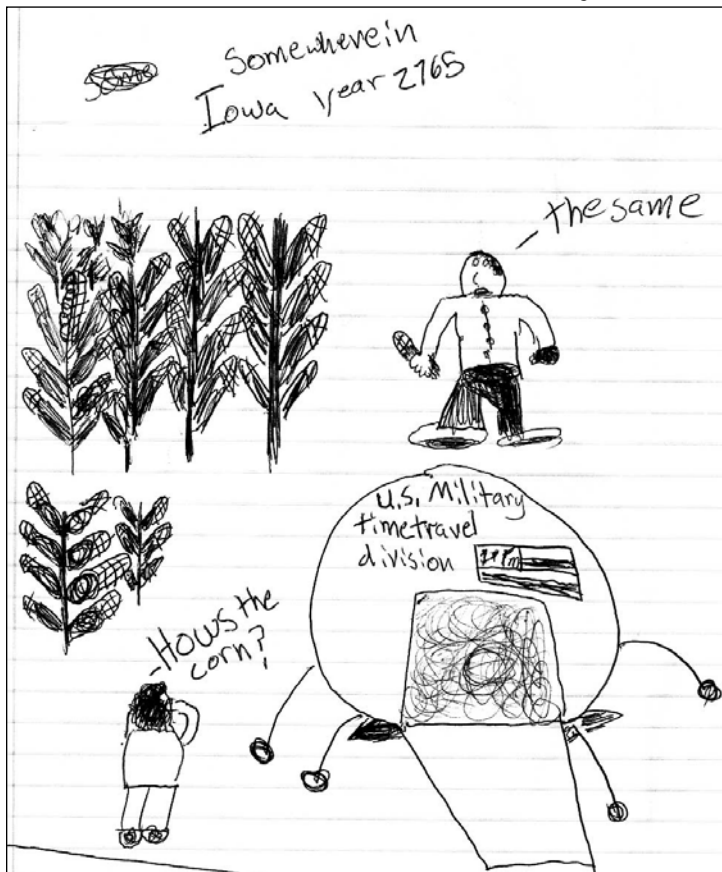


# Eggnog for Alcoholics

- 2 quarts milk
- 1 quart half-and-half
- 1 dozen eggs
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 pint brandy
- 1 pint rye whiskey
- 1/2 pint dark Jamaican rum
- 1/4 pint sherry wine

1. Mix liquor. Sample at will.
2. Separate the eggs. In a large bowl, add sugar to yolks and mix.
3. Add liquor slowly while beating the mixture.
4. Add milk and half and half, beating slowly.
5. Beat egg whites until semi-stiff. Fold into other mixture.
6. Keep refrigerated. Since we live in the Northeast, my father likes to put it out on the basement steps and lets the winter weather keep it cold. At my apartment, we just use the porch.
7. Sprinkle with nutmeg and taste frequently.

~from recipezaar.com



"What Drew Drew" by Drew Cattermole



asks ...

## What do you want for Christmas / Hannakkah / Kwanza?

### Mac Court:

A restraining order on Das Frohn.



### T Rex:

Death to Rex From Toy Story. He makes the rest of us look like pansies. And I want some condoms that fit.

### Liora Sponko:

A sense of humor



### Bill O'Reilly:

An end to this senseless war.....  
.....on Christmas

### Sen. Diego Hernandez:

You Euro-centric, patriarchal pricks!



### Coach Belotti:

Two dozen QBs, five wide receivers, three running backs and a frikin partridge in a pear tree



# Anarchy and outrage at the Pacifica Forum

C.J. Ciaramella

A group of about 50 local peace activists protested outside of the Pacifica Forum's lecture on Nov. 2. It was an odd sight – peace activists protesting a forum ostensibly dedicated to peace and non-violence.

But the Pacifica Forum had brought Mark Weber, a noted "revisionist historian," to speak in a lecture titled "The Israel Lobby: How Powerful is it?" The organizer of the lecture and its speaker both claim the speech was merely about the influence of Israel in U.S. politics, but many Eugene residents, including some former members of the Pacifica Forum, say the forum and its content are hateful and anti-Semitic.

The Pacifica Forum was founded in 1994 by Orval Etter, a long-time pacifist and Eugene resident. According to Etter, the forum's purpose "is to provide information and points of view regarding war and peace, militarism and pacifism and violence and non-violence."

The forum is sponsored by a group of retired University of Oregon professors (including Etter) and meets every Friday in the basement of McKenzie Hall. They call themselves the Campus Civil Liberties Forum, a nod to Etter's fierce belief in unfettered freedom of speech.

Common topics at forum meetings include the war in Iraq, U.S. foreign policy and the Israel/Palestine conflict. In recent years, though, the forum has focused more heavily on Israel. This has led to increasing criticism, culminating with the Weber lecture.

A spat of letters and guest columns in the Register-Guard lambasted the Pacifica Forum for inviting, as one writer put it, "one of the world's foremost Holocaust-revisionist, neo-Nazi-affiliated, radical-right-wing provocateurs." An ad that ran in the Eugene Weekly for the Weber lecture only added fuel to the fire; it showed a hissing snake, coiled in the form of the Star of David.

However, Etter claims that the criticisms of Weber were misdirected. He says Eugene and its Jewish community resorted to "Ad Hominem attacks on a grand scale," while failing to address the points brought up in Weber's lecture.

"A whole chorus of voices started claiming that he was a Holocaust denier [...] even though he was speaking about the Israel Lobby," said Etter. "This exercise in Ad Hominem attacks did not silence the message we brought Weber to deliver, but it was an effort to rob it of meaning."

At the lecture, Weber also claimed that questions of his background and affiliations were a red herring and "irrelevant," but who exactly is Mark Weber?

According to the infamous ad, Weber is "America's most prominent revisionist historian." Revisionist historians are those who challenge the accepted story of the Holocaust. Most, like Weber, vigorously object to being called Holocaust deniers, but

**Pacifica Forum presents**  
**FREE SPEECH vs ZIONIST POWER**

**The Israel Lobby: How Powerful Is It?**

**Free lecture by America's most prominent revisionist historian**  
**MARK WEBER**  
**Director of the Institute for Historical Review**

**Friday, November 2, 7:00 p.m.**  
**University of Oregon, McKenzie Hall, Room 129**  
**Near 11th Ave. and Kincaid St.**

This is the ad, ran in the Eugene Weekly, that led many to accuse the Pacifica Forum of being anti-Semitic.

they often question key facts of the event, such as the number of Jews killed.

For example, Weber is the director of the Institute for Historical Review. The IHR claims to accept the Holocaust; however, in the past, it has openly doubted the existence of the gas chambers used to murder millions of Jews. According to its website, the IHR "works [...] to separate historical fact from propaganda fiction."

Weber was also at one time also the editor of the newsletter of the National Alliance, a white nationalist group. An undercover investigation by the Simon Wiesenthal Center in 1992 identified him as having neo-Nazi ties, and he has appeared on the Southern Poverty Law Center's "40 to Watch" list of radical right-wing activists.

Despite the flap over the Weber appearance, the Pacifica Forum



has not toned down its content. It immediately followed Weber's appearance with a lecture titled "Kristallnacht Remembered" with references to the book *Flashpoint* by Ingrid Weckert, another revisionist historian. This was followed the next week by "Elie Wiesel's Hate: Analysis of the doctrine of hate enunciated by the Nobel Peace Laureate." Wiesel is the author of the acclaimed *Night*, a novel recounting his holocaust experiences.

But even though the forum has long held a critical stance on Israel and its treatment of Palestinians, one that is often said to cross the line into anti-Semitism, two former members of the group say that it is more than business as usual at the Pacifica Forum.

### ***"Anarchistic in nature"***

Mariah Leung and Jack Dresser used to be presenters and organizers at the Pacifica Forum, but they disassociated themselves from the group in August, claiming it had become home to a small but vocal group of "white separatists." Leung writes via email:

"[O]ur concerns earlier this year arose from infiltration of the 'regulars' by a small group of self-proclaimed 'white separatists' who occasionally intruded inappropriate materials into others' presentations and generated an informal email forum behind the scenes that included many racist correspondences, some with violent imagery. (Some PF attendees do not have computer capabilities and might have been unaware of this.)"

Dresser echoes Leung's claims in an opinion piece on the Pacifica Forum website:

"While never part of forum sessions, emailed views about 'race-mixing,' 'blood consciousness,' 'miscegenation that tears down civilization and pollutes good races' and 'the genocidal war against our own race' began to proliferate," he writes.

Leung and Dresser tried to combat these new developments but found themselves oddly alone.

"These often disturbing emails were met with silent complicity by some, warmly received by others, with no evidence of support for Jack [Dresser] and me when we countered this garbage," Leung wrote.

According to the two, anti-Semitism in the Pacifica forum soon became blatantly overt.

"Concern began to change to alarm when Jimmy Marr brought a desecrated menorah, painted black with red paint and bullets for flames and didn't take personal responsibility for it," Leung wrote. "Apparently he was encouraged to bring it again to another presentation, and yet again took no responsibility for it."

These activities led Leung and Dresser to hold a discussion in the forum titled "Pacifica Forum Examines Itself", in which they voiced their concerns and petitioned Etter for veto control over forum content.

As [Pacifica Forum] presenters, we did not object to attendance by people with racist mind-sets, priorities and focus in their lives, and we in fact hoped to reform their thinking," Leung wrote.

"However, we could not agree to permit their influence over the programming, presentations and speakers."

According to the two, Etter refused to grant them veto power, so they left. However, Etter's account is less clear.

"I feel indebted to them and their work in the forum, but they never gave a clear reason for leaving, said Etter. "My understanding is they didn't want Mark Weber to come to town [...] They felt otherwise, and strongly enough to disassociate themselves."

An e-mail from the Pacifica Forum's address, simply signed "E.R.", claims the forum has recently "taken a turn to the right, and two liberals left in protest over the Mark Weber lecture."

The confusion, as well as the semi-anonymous e-mail, is just a small example of part of the perennial problem at the Pacifica Forum (and what seems to be Leung and Dresser's point of contention): a lack of structure.

"We don't have a lot of rules," said Etter. "There's no by-laws or constitution."

Etter describes the forum as "anarchistic in nature" – more of a program than an institution. He is not sure exactly who created the controversial ad that ran in the *Eugene Weekly*. In fact, he had never seen it until this interview. When showed the ad, he conceded it was "rather inflammatory" but refused to call it anti-Semitic.

"I wouldn't regard it as anti-Semitic in the sense of being anti-Judaism," he said. "Maybe anti-Zionist or anti-Israel, but there's an awful lot more to Judaism than Israel and Zionism. And I have a hunch that the people who put it together would claim it's

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Nevertheless, Etter claims the ad "represents the views and preferences of a few people, not everybody in the forum."

Etter doesn't know who runs the Pacifica Forum's website, either. On the website, there is a list of links titled "Holocaust Articles" and, underneath that, another titled "Holocaust Revisionism." As for the "informal e-mail forum" that Dresser and Leung talked of:

"One of the problems of the forum is that people engage in a lot email that is off on a tangent and doesn't have the OK of the forum," Etter said.

Furthermore, Etter claims that the "infiltration" of white separatists into the Pacifica Forum consists of one person, although he admits there may be "another person or two" he is not aware of. Etter said both he and Dresser led Pacifica Forum discussions critical of white separatism and that his complicity in the recent events is overstated. According to Etter, it all comes with the territory.

"We run the risk that some people do things that the rest of us don't agree with," he said.

# A habitat for a bad habit

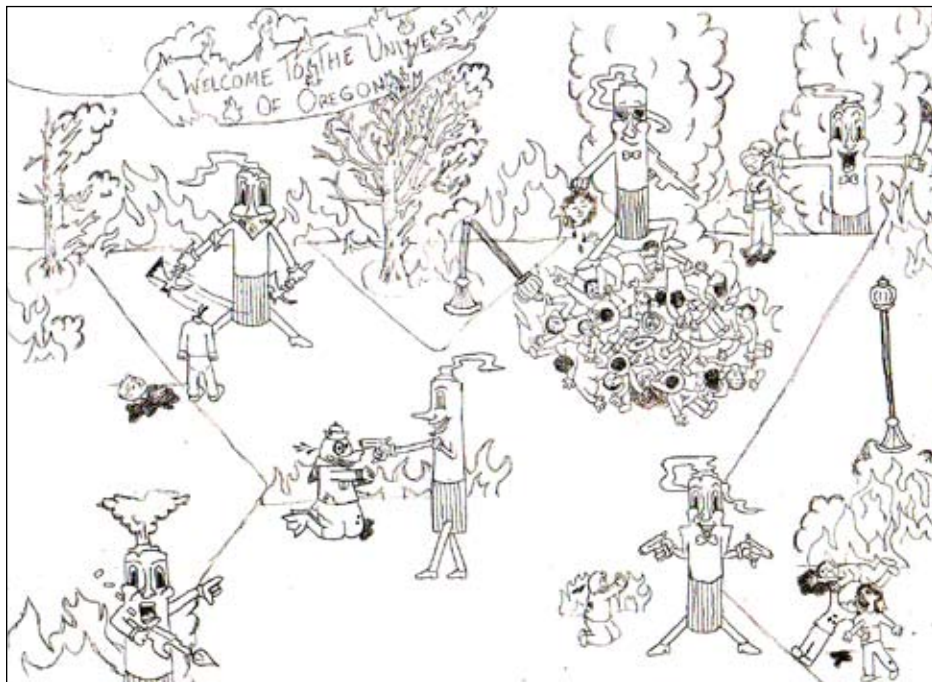
Drew Cattermole

The Oregon Daily Emerald and ASUO President Emily McLain seems to have joined the force of The Clean Air Project in a battle to ban smoking cigarettes on campus. Ninety-nine college campuses are currently smoke free, however a majority of those colleges are either community colleges, religious or medical schools. What could be the big rush to join the BYUs and Maryland Bible College and Seminaries of the world? To be number 100?

Last year, Governor Ted Kulongoski signed a bill that banned smoking in bars, bowling alleys and bingo halls. I am from California where a similar bill was passed when I was in elementary school. I have no problem with this bill because I think employees should not have to endure smoke-filled rooms while on the job. If I was of age to go to bars before this law was passed, I would have probably smoked outside anyways. The bill is bothersome to some bargoers, but it benefits the atmosphere of bars overall. Although, it was reported that eighty-six year old tobacco enthusiast Gretchen Miller was over heard muttering "Damn Polack" under her breath in between the calling of B9 and G42.

As a writer for the Commentator I cannot condone a movement for a smoke-free campus because we are against totalitarianism-type rule (check it out in the mission statement). If smoking is banned on campus, what will be banned next? If this issue does not blow over in two weeks like most campus issues seem to do, at least have the students vote on it because they would be the ones who are directly affected.

There are plenty of prudes on campus who are bothered by smokers. They do not want to inhale smoke or hate the smell of it. Is it really that hard to avoid smoke outside? Unless for some very unfortunate event you have lost use of your legs, it is not difficult to avoid smoke. If you get stuck behind some smokers on the way to class, simply speedup, slowdown or switch sidewalks. I do not see what the big deal is. It is a dirty little habit, and I assure you that every smoker on campus will admit that cigarettes are damaging to their health and



potentially to others. Second hand smoke can lead to diseases and even death; this fact was made famous by flight attendants back in the day. But how many construction workers, or golf caddies, or gardeners have you heard of that die from second hand smoke in the workplace? Outside smoking is not comparable to inside smoking. The smoke that is exhaled by smokers is within breathing level for a minuscule amount of time. The Clean Air Project claims that even the slightest bit of smoke is harmful, but there are millions of things in the air that we breathe on a daily basis that are similarly harmful. If The Clean Air Project wants to eliminate all harmful entities in the air they should also move for a ban on cars and major polluting industries.

There are some loose ends in this push for a ban on campus smoking. What would happen if one was caught on campus smoking? Would there be a fine? How much would it cost to light up a cigarette? If there was not a fine involved, what other form of punishment for smoking on campus would there be? A cigarette centered BUSTED class would be more boring than the class already is. How would you keep visitors from smoking on campus, call in the po-

lice? Offenses could be seen as a violation to the Conduct Code, which may lead to absurd suspensions for repeat offenders. Would you really want that to happen to a fellow student because he or she didn't want to walk 15 minutes in the rain for a smoke in between classes? Would students in residential housing be punished by adding a strike to their record? It would be frivolous to make smoking cigarettes on campus subject to the same disciplinary process as smoking pot in the dorms. Any punishments issued that were less severe would seem so inadequate that smokers would totally ignore the rules altogether.

There are other, much more reasonable alternatives that would limit the "deathly presence" of second hand smoke on campus. Designated smoking areas would give the non-smoking public an escape from the smokers while not totally alienating smokers on campus. Many public high schools already implement this. It would be a compromise for both sides of the equation.

Out of all the people I have asked concerning the idea of a campus-wide smoking ban, responses have ranged from, "that would be ridiculous," to, "I wouldn't mind it if I didn't have to deal with the smoke,

its annoying.” I have to side with the first viewpoint. I find a lot of things annoying on campus that I wouldn’t mind banning, like Free Hugs, The Oregon Daily Emerald, or everyone who wears Hollister clothing. Just because I’m annoyed by these things doesn’t mean they should really be banned completely – well, maybe Hollister clothing.

If the campus government is to take some type of action regarding campus smokers, it should be to help them quit, not ban them from the campus. Quitting cigarettes is not an easy task. Currently, the Health Center has little plastic baggies that

are each labeled as a “guide to quit smoking.” The contents of these baggies are: some notecards, a paperclip, a toothpick, a jolly rancher, a bouncy ball and a bag of tea. It is like the Health Center emptied the pockets of eight-year-old boys and put them in to baggies. That’s not a way to quit, that’s the first step to becoming Dennis the Menace. The people who are fighting for a campus ban on tobacco are the same who produce these baggies; maybe they are just tired of making “self help” baggies.

A campus ban on cigarettes would result in a large group of pissed off students and a much smaller happy group. More students

would show up late for class since they had to walk a half mile or so to have a smoke, many would even skip class. Dry smokers coughs would still interrupt classes. In the end, it’s just not feasible. Why, then, would the ASUO support time and money into such a project that would just be a waste of resources in the end? Oh yea, that is what it’s best at.

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*Drew Cattermole is a Contributor to the Oregon Commentator, but not for long since he has developed lung cancer and is damn proud of it.*

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# The Barometer and the Black Man

## Rockne Roll

Editor-In-Chief of The Liberty, Oregon State University

Everyone knows by now. The Great Blackface scandal, followed by the Great Column-Holding Scandal. Both held up as examples of how racist the OSU Daily Barometer is. But the facts are different then they are skewed. And the Barometer is innocent.

Lets start out with the picture. A young man in black face paint, black clothes, and black curly hair appeared on the cover of the OSU Daily barometer to promote a student led event, prompting students to appear in all black at the home football game against Arizona so that the student seating section would be nothing but black in color. Nobody said anything. Everybody came to the game in black. It was pretty cool

Renee Roman Nose decided to write a column on how the black face paint constituted “blackface,” an early American form of racist entertainment, despite the fact that “blackface” was usually more like dark brown, with exaggerated white lips and, most importantly, acting which portrayed and perpetuated negative stereotypes against black people.

After the Roman Nose came out, along with an Editorial from the Baro stating that they were sorry about any feelings they had hurt, the hue and cry started up in earnest. Not before the Baro’s preemptive apology. After. Apparently, everyone decided it was time to play racial politics.

A stream of Letters to The Editor alleging institutional racism on the part of the Barometer were forthcoming. And that’s when it got really dicey.

Luke Sugie wrote an article on the subject, from which, after reading it on his website, I can surmise that he intended to say that The Barometer hiding behind ignorance was an example of majority privilege (better known as “white privilege, though since I’m sure the Barometer employs minorities, it doesn’t really apply.)

The Barometer held the column, saying they were no longer printing

opinion pieces about the “blackface incident.” (to use my words) This information was leaked and another hue and cry was raised, this time alleging censorship against the Barometer. The allegations were so great that students from the Black Cultural Center protested outside the OSU-UW game with signs (such as those shown) saying “It’s Not Just Face Paint”

Except that it was just face paint. Really. As noted by many in many place, the entire purpose of the event was to support unity, school spirit, and beating the Wildcats. Nobody thought about black people. Not even black people, until Renee Roman Nose said they should be offended. Someday, there will be a distinction between Black the color and Black the ethnicity.

Was the Barometer wrong to print the picture and the article involved? No. Did the Barometer act in a racist manner? No. It was kind of the Baro for apologizing to the people they may have offended. And it is much better that they did it of their own conscious than being bullied into it, as would have been the case.

Did the Barometer commit “censorship.” No. I am told that the editorial board had simply decided that the issue had been addressed every way it could have been. After reading Sugie’s article, I disagree,





# A few final words

Senator Neil Brown

It is fitting that my farewell is to be published here in the OC. After all, it was Editor-in-Chief Emeritus Edward Niedermeyer who convinced me to attend the candidates' orientation session last winter, and throughout my time in student government it has been the OC that has helped highlight many of the ASUO's most egregious short comings. However, despite the best efforts of this publication and many talented people inside and outside the ASUO beltway, it is with a great deal of regret that I report that student government is still rife with problems ... lots of problems. This initial gripe may cause you to think this article is another defeatist manifesto, decrying each and every mistake of our self governance structure while confidently asserting that no solution is in sight. After all, many critiques of the organization have taken this approach in the past (i.e. anything Tyler Graf as ever written on the subject). But this piece is different. This is a "how to" guide. This is how we all can help the ASUO do what it is intended to do: represent students and their interests.

## Step 1: Identify the Issues

There are a number of important issues facing the ASUO that need to be dealt with in a level-headed manner. They range from the future of the rec center to the fate of over-realized monies. For example, the need to reform the budget allocation process grows every year. The current I-fee process is outdated and puts student groups in a difficult position competing with large contracts for I-fee money. Fortunately, the administration has been in talks with student representatives about changing the Clark Document and allowing for separation of programs and contracts. The proposal is very similar, if not identical, to one put forward by former senator Jeremy Ebner. Senator Ebner deserves a lot of credit for doing the foot work on this project; unfortunately, no such credit has been forthcoming.

I have no intention of providing a detailed overview of each of these issues. You can find that sort of thing elsewhere. I will simply point



Senator Neil Brown will be leaving the University and his PFC Senate seat next term for Belgium to research the European Union Constitution for the State Department.

out that, given the current attitude and make-up of student government, most students are likely to get overlooked when it is decision making time. This Senate had no problem setting a benchmark that would raise student fees an unnecessary 5.5 percent, although myself and six others voted against it.

What it is all about is making sure the interests of the entire student body are taken into consideration, not just a few members of select interest groups. Take note all present and future representatives: work to advance the interests of all students.

## Step 2: Get Organized, Get Involved

The reform factions in the ASUO usually get beat because they are out-organized. If a small group of motivated, talented people organize around an elections slate, they can, in one election cycle, take over the executive and garner a majority on the Senate. Campaign for Change did a very good job shaking up the system last cycle, but much of our potential was lost when we failed to capture the executive. If we're going to make a difference next year, we need to get started now. As the great Indiana coach Bob Knight

once said, "You can't win if you aren't prepared to prepare to win."

## Step 3: Stand on Principle

*"An honest man in politics shines more there than he would elsewhere."*

*-Mark Twain, from A Tramp Abroad*

Once you get elected to the ASUO, be sure to stand on principle and don't forget why you're there. I know this is vague (which according to Chief Justice Greene makes this unconstitutional); however, it is impossible to account for all of the situations you will find yourself caught up in. The truth is we already have too many blowhards who are happy to compromise their stances to accommodate whatever special interest group happens to be knocking at their door. It is sad to say, but simply introducing a moderate dose of level-headed common sense will move the ASUO ahead light-years. Good luck and God's speed.



*Neil Brown, who is notorious for hitting on everyone's girlfriend, is a Guest Commentator for the OC.*

## *A history of controversy*

But this is not the first time that critics have put the Pacifica Forum under fire for its content. In 2003, the forum generated controversy for screening a movie sympathetic to Palestine. One disgruntled citizen wrote a letter to the Register Guard claiming that showing the movie was “threatening to the Jews of Eugene.” and part of a “smear and hate campaign.”

Later in the year, members of Hillel and the Jewish Federation both complained to the director of the Wesley Center about the Pacifica Forum’s latest series of programs, which could loosely be categorized as “Zionism and its links.” The Wesley Center had, up to that point, sponsored the forum and gave it space to meet. Shortly after, the Wesley Center sent Etter a letter that said it wasn’t interested in “controversial material, including Zionism and its links.”

The Pacifica Forum briefly relocated to the University of Oregon Survival Center, which had agreed to lend it space, but events followed a similar path. An offended citizen complained to the director of the Survival Center that Etter claimed Kristallnacht was caused by the Jews themselves. (Kristallnacht was the night that thousands of Jewish storefronts, homes and synagogues were destroyed in Nazi Germany).

For his part, Etter claims this is a “half truth,” he says he was merely discussing a book that “had produced some evidence that tended to lead in that direction.” The Survival Center soon severed its ties with the forum.

The Weber lecture was not the first time the Pacifica Forum has invited a controversial guest, either. Earlier in the year, the forum held an eight part lecture series titled “Zionism and Russia” by Valdas Anelauskas, who, among other things, claimed that Zionists believed “Jews have both the right and obligation to rule the world.” He also lectured on The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion – a fake document that supposedly outlines the Zionist plot to take over the world.

## *Shouting “Fire!” in a crowded theater*

The controversy that has embroiled the Pacifica Forum since 2003 has raised complicated and enduring questions regarding free speech and racism. When does criticism of Israel and its policies turn into criticism of Jews? When does free speech turn into hate speech? When does public condemnation turn into censorship?

Leung drew the line at this point:

“Vigorous criticism of Israel in its abuse of the Palestinians is both justified and necessary,” she wrote. “Broader attacks on Judaism are neither.”

But Etter emphatically denies that anything he and the Pacifica have done, including the recent Mark Weber lecture, is anti-Semitic.

“An important fact about public life in recent years is that the word ‘anti-Semitic’ has grossly expanded in meaning,” Etter said. “It means a lot more than it used to. [The forum] went through a phase a couple years ago on whether to simply criticize Israel was anti-Semitic.”

If recent events are any indicator, they decided it was not. In fact, the outrage of the community has only spurred Etter on.

“One of my zeals in all of this has been to stand up for free speech and against censorship,” Etter said. “I did not appreciate the efforts to silence me. I became quite the zealot. I became determined.”

Etter is now in his 90’s, but he remains the main program planner of the Pacifica Forum, choosing the topics, lecturers and occasionally hosting a lecture himself. He was recently injured in a hit-and-run accident, impairing his mobility, but his mind remains sharp. He speaks slowly and forcefully about the value of free expression, even if he is somewhat troubled by where it is leading him and his forum.

“I was concerned with the free speech issue, but I was not prepared for the twist the free speech issue would take,” he said, pausing carefully over his words.

It seems that no matter what the circumstances, though, no matter who joins the forum or how much controversy they cause, Etter will forever defend his creation on the principle of free speech. Above all, he values the dissemination of ideas and different points of view. He is wary of hate speech laws or, for that matter, just about any limits on speech. He is even skeptical of Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes’ famous (and often misquoted) example of shouting ‘Fire!’ in a crowded theater.

“There may be a situation where crying ‘Fire!’ in a crowded theater might be just the thing to do,” he said. “What if there was an actual fire, and no one saw it but you?”



*C.J. Ciaramella, who pledges allegiance to the flag every night before he says his prayers, is Associate Editor of the OC*

but that is beside the point. As an independent student paper, it is solely to the editorial board what goes in the paper and what doesn’t. That’s how it works around here, too.

But what is more troubling was the idea that “everyone has a right to be offended,” a phrase offered in a TV interview by Terryl Ross, OSU Director of Community Diversity. I am opposed to this statement because of the implications I see it having considering the context.

If people have the right to find things offensive, would it not be logical to say people have the right to not be exposed to things that make them feel offended? Thus, one could draw from that a thesis supporting the Barometer not publishing things that anyone, anywhere might find offensive. This idea is not fitting with a society where the free and open exchange of ideas is a value we cherish. If we as a citizenry can’t have dialogue without worrying about offending someone, then what is there left to discuss?

If you find something offensive, simply choose to not expose yourself to it. This same argument works against those who wish to ban pornography. It is not right to control the ability to publish something because you do not like it, even if you have very, very good reason to not like it.

The OSU Daily Barometer, through out this ugly ordeal, has conducted itself with poise, grace, and class. I might not always agree with them on politics, philosophy, or what constitutes quality journalism, but they have set the standard for editorial conduct which any publication can aspire to. The people who are shaming the Barometer for it’s conduct have forgotten what living in a free society means, and have put their right to have their feelings and sensitivities handled with kid gloves above the values of public discourse and free exchange of ideas. What happened to freedom?



*Rockne Roll’s middle name is Andrew. His full name is Rokne Andrew Roll. We shit you not.*

# Top Three Non-Stories of Fall '07

Jake Speicher

## *Fuck, Fuck and more fuck   Anime Fans Get Butthurt   Lowered Expectations*

In a show of truly great journalistic solidarity, the Ol' Dirty printed the word "fuck" in huge type in their editorial section on October 2. The editorial board made the decision to run the piece to show support for both their brothers and sisters at Colorado State as well as the always handy First Amendment.

The Colorado State editorial board had come under fire because they wrote "Taser this...FUCK BUSH" in response to the "excessive" force used by officers in restraining a man at a John Kerry event.

The Puritanical view of obscenities in this country, combined with a slow news day, propelled the Colorado State editorial to the level of national shit storm. (Or so says the Daily Emerald, I hadn't heard about it until the editorial was published.)

The Emerald went on to write: "The First Amendment gives Ku Klux Klansmen the right to march in parades; it protects civil rights leaders and neo-Nazis alike. Unfortunately, it does not prohibit universities from curbing the speech of students working at most college newspapers."

I have to disagree and say that the First Amendment does protect students from college administrators who wish to limit the language of on-campus publications. In fact, the Supreme Court has even backed college publications first amendment rights in the past.

But the real issue here, besides writing "fuck" in really big letters, is poorly written editorials. "Taser this...FUCK BUSH"? What does that even mean? And it hardly even comes close to explaining why a man being tased at a John Kerry event warrants the "FUCK BUSH" moniker.

I think the Ol' Dirty is on to something here. Every once in awhile journalists need to stand up and stick it to the man. That is in fact their job, but I think I will stick with my original statement. It must of been a slow news day.

On October 15, the Ol' Dirty's Elon Glucklich took the opinion page to uncharted territory—the world of anime. Yes, anime. That weird genre of animation that features 13-year-old boys that look like little girls and 13-year-old girls that look like Jenna Jameson. Glucklich, in all his infinite wisdom and glory, went on to cite anime as the cause of America's civil destruction. Not terrorism, not the war in Iraq and not even Lex Luthor. Just poorly drawn, cheaply made, Japanese cartoons.

"In a society dominated by excess and two-second attention spans, cartoons play a significant role in preparing us for the world. Each can be thought of as a 30-minute babysitter, instilling the kids who watch them with certain values and life lessons. But the landscape has changed," Glucklich wrote.

Apparently it is the quality of these 30-minute babysitters that have led to this country's downfall, and not the fact that parents are using cartoons to keep their children occupied. Whatever happened to toys, the imagination or, God forbid, books. Glucklich continued:

"So what is Pokemon teaching the next generation of kids? The virtues of capturing exotic animals and making them fight for your amusement? I already learned that from Michael Vick."

Now, I am no anime defender. I find it annoying and pointless. But, is it any better than American Idol, Survivor or Grey's Anatomy? The answer is no. TV has long been the medium for cheap, pointless entertainment. Networks only care about shows that bring in advertisers. It's all as high-minded as that.

Is Anime dumb? Yes. Were the cartoons of our generation better? Of course, they were our cartoons. If you ask your parents they will tell you the same thing. In their eyes, Bugs Bunny is ten times better than Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles or Ghostbusters. That's just the way generations work.

However, probably the most hilarious result of Glucklich's piece was the outcry from anime fans in the Daily Emerald's comment section. More than 100 people posted arguing the pros and cons of the Japanese import. This says more about the state of civil discourse in this country than it does about anime and their fans. When more people comment on crappy cartoons than censorship, there is a problem.

Perhaps it's time to back off the Ol' Dirty for just a little bit and talk about our good friend Nate Gulley. Gulley had his panties in a twist when Senate President Athan Papailiou sent a letter calling for Jerome Roberts to pay back the money he earned while illegally serving on the Constitutional Court. Gulley, with all the tact we've come to expect from him, maintained that Roberts had done nothing wrong and that Papailiou was out of line. Things took their next Gulley-logical step when this message appeared on Nate's Facebook:

*"Also, it's a good thing I am going out of town this weekend. Because if some shit goes down, all the evidence is going to point to me. For example, my recent Google searches include:*

*'Rates of Spontaneous Combustion Among Greek-Americans,' and 'Top Ten Most Effective Ways to Throw a Hand Grenade at Targets That Rhyme With Smapailiou.'"*

OC Editor-In-Chief Ossie Bladine and Production Manager Nicole De Lancie, hopped up on caffeine and on deadline, decided to join in on the fun with this blog post:

"Alright Nate, calling fellow Senators racist in public is one thing, but suggesting deadly violence against the Senate President, Athan Papailiou, is one of the crudest, most despicable and immoral actions an elected representative of a student body can perform. This is a public threat toward a fellow official. We believe this type of behavior is detrimental to the ASUO Senate and is worthy of a recall."

Bladine and De Lancie have recently realized the errors of their ways. However, most of the blame should be placed on the irrationality of the ASUO. If you spend too much time near it, or around it, or hell, even smelling it, it will fuck with you. The pettiness starts to make sense, and there is a brief period where one might sink to its level. By asking for the recall of Senator Gulley, our esteemed editor validated Gulley's existence.

Gulley feeds on this kind of crap. It forces him to draw his supporters tighter around him, and it is acknowledgment that people listen to him. From now on, I think if we ignore him, he might go away.





# Chinese Booze Review

With Ted Niedermayer

## Tiger 5.50 Yuan, 5.5%

The most expensive beer we sampled, and the most similar to an Oregon micro, Tiger Lager is the upscale Chinese beer of choice. Tiger is a crisp but surprisingly full-bodied lager with a toasty malt finish. Although not as textured and coherent as a Mirror Pond or similar amber ale, it is the only beer we tried that even shot for the middle ground between traditional lager and “black beer.” Generally higher alcohol content in Chinese beers manifests itself in a rough, grainy bite, but Tiger goes down like a pussycat every time.



## Tsingtao 3.30 Yuan, 4.3%

Tsingtao is China’s “King of Beers”. Crack open the bottle, and a slightly skunky hop smell immediately fills your nostrils, similar to the scent of a freshly cracked Pilsner Urquell. Like any good lager, the quality of the hops are what really stand out here. Delicate, almost floral, and just bitter enough, nothing beats a Tsingtao after tramping around the hot, dusty streets of Beijing or Shanghai. The Tsingtao Brewery was founded by Germans on the coast of Shandong province, and the combination of a first-class mineral water source and old-world character shines through as Tsingtao stands head and shoulders above every other Chinese beer. There’s a reason that this is the only beer that you can pick up at Little’s... go try it sometime on a hot summer day. Even the most committed microbrew snob won’t regret it.



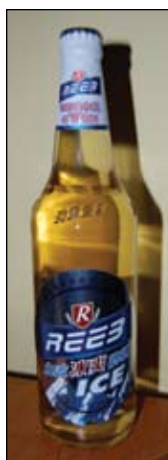
## Reeb Dark Beer 3.50 Yuan, 3.6%

Fairly typical for a Chinese dark beer; much lighter body than an Oregon stout or porter, but with similar dark chocolate-coffee bitter tones. Compared to the other Chinese lagers, it’s only mildly more substantial and slightly less carbonated, but a truly dedicated Guinness drinker would call it “bloody watery”. Malty but refreshing (if slightly too far on the sweet side), it is a good alternative to the much hoppier Chinese lagers even on a hot day.



## Reeb Ice 2.50 Yuan, 3.6%

In the US, “Ice” in a beer name is shorthand for “gets you fucked up in dramatic, ‘hi-gravity’ style with plentiful helpings of chemical aftertaste”, as in Keystone Ice, Milwaukee Best Ice, and the reigning champ, Camo Black Ice. In China, the opposite seems to be the case, as the “Ice” moniker appears to describe a target demographic that would actually put ice in beer to water it down. Sporting only a 3.6% by volume, Reeb is a low-budget lite beer that makes the American champions of the genre taste like they were brewed by Trappist monks with OCD. Calling Reeb Ice “light bodied” doesn’t begin to describe it... it wouldn’t have any less body if it were a fashion model in a famine. The thin, watery fluid is only slightly disturbed by a barely noticeable fizz, and the taste shows up only post-swallow in the form of a mild chemical ache. In short, this rice soda should be passed over by anyone seeking a solid buzz or enjoyable drinking experience. Truly a sad excuse for a beer, even by Chinese standards.



## Blue Diamond Stout 2 Yuan, 4.7%

Most Chinese “Dark Beers” are disrespectful of the fact that they are really just dark lagers, and stay away from labels like “Stout” and “Porter” which describe more than simply color and taste. Blue Diamond however, is one Chinese brewery with a pair on it, and they’ve actually set out to make a real stout, and they’re not afraid to come right out and say it. Although you can’t stand a pencil up in it, this is by far the most full-bodied beer we tested, and although it starts with hints of weakness, it finishes with a crude, disjointed explosion of dark malt and heavy that is anything but weak-wristed. The flavors are hardly refined into the deep, mellow tones of a truly well-made stout, but it is the only thing that’s come close to a real “liquid bread.” I wouldn’t go as far as the can, which confidently claims that “Blue Diamond Stout Beer is suitable for all seasons and all people”... I’d say if you can’t find anywhere to get a Guinness, or you only want to spend about a quarter, then why the hell not?



CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

*From the*



***Aroused Amer***

*same incidental fee that brought you Aroused Jesus, introducing...*



***rica***





# Chinese Booze Review

## HongFa "White Liquor" 3 Yuan, 46%

China economy is well known for its ability to produce cheap but effective products in huge, with only occasionally fatal side effects, and few products encapsulate this ability quite like this little hand grenade of booze. Although we were not able to determine the brand of this particular bottle, BaiJeo or "white liquor" is China's leading form of low-cost, high-potency tipple, and this small green bottle can be found in nearly every store, and at lunchtime in restaurants around the country. It is invariably drunk by wrinkled, hard-working men on their lunch breaks, and even these veterans of such hardships as the Cultural Revolution and the 7-day workweek still wince when they take a slug of this stuff. There's really no way to describe it besides by saying it makes effete western decadents like this writer wince in ways they never knew possible. Comparisons to vodka, gin don't even have a basis to start from, and only everclear really begins to come close. This stuff is the cheapest form of rocket fuel made in a land with no regulatory bodies to enforce any kind of purity or toxicity standards. One sip overwhelms the senses with the taste and flavors of combustibility and formaldehyde, as the body shudders and the mouth waters with barely restrained vomit. Two sips were enough to convince us that further experimentation would result only in permanent organ damage.



## BaiJeo "Healthcare Wine" 4 Yuan, 36%

This small bottle of brownish liquor looked harmless enough, and even claimed to be a "healthcare wine," following in a long and proud Chinese tradition of marketing based on supposed health benefits. In this particular case, any improvement in health caused by drinking this foul substance would inevitably be nullified by the sudden loss of desire to survive the wrenching experience of consuming it. The nose is innocuous enough, with a raisin-like smell that recalls that one time you were bored enough to try to get drunk off of port or sherry. The first taste, however, lets you know that you are entering a world of pain that lacks any of the joyful innocence of youthful experimentation with mere fortified wines. The enigmatic blend of herbs and life-giving substances that earn this wine it's healthy billing have a dark, dirty flavor, like cumin and dreadlock. Hints of clove sweeten into licorice before diving off of a patchouli cliff into an ocean of Zinfandel-soaked compost. The swirl of muddy, bitter sweetness hides the 36% kick well, but you would doubtless consider snorting MSG for a buzz before trying to get properly twisty on this stuff.

## Changyu Sparkling White Wine 20 Yuan, 5%

The champagne of Chinese domestically produced sparkling white wine, Changyu is available only in 1.5 liter magnums, and in either red or white. The old-school, French-style label leads you to believe that this bottle of bubbles might be more than grape juice with a little yeast in it, but you'd be wrong. This is one cheap, sloppy champagne, tasting like a mixture between Martinelli's cider and Pabst Blue Ribbon. The carbonation is weak, and the flavor has all of the delicacy and floral notes of a stale Coors Lite. Even the 5.5% rating seems overreaching, as you can drink a whole liter and a half of the stuff without getting so much as a mild buzz.



## Yanjing Lemon Beer, 2 Yuan, .6%-2.5%



Everyone knows that fruit-flavored beers are bad news, and this one is no exception. Although lemon is an integral part of the Hefeweizen experience, and even work with a Corona if a lime isn't handy, the crisp tartness of natural lemon taste is nowhere to be found in this beer. Initial taste impressions are of 7-UP, Pine Sol, and Coors Lite all rolled into one, as if someone left a citrus Emergen-C out until it fermented. Although the flavor is pure cleaning solvent, the ingredients lists a 1.5 to 2.5% range of juice content, and the "quality grade" is modestly listed as "excellent." Further reading of the can reveals that the alcohol content could be anywhere from .6% to 2.5%... I don't like that kind of uncertainty in any beer, let alone one that tastes like it might have a Lemonhead floating in the bottom.

## Fermented Mango 5 Yuan, .05%

Sold in an opaque/aluminum bag, we made this purchase imagining the delicious combination of mango and alcoholic content. The results were disappointing, to say the least. Pulling out the small, kidney-like lump of rotting fruit, the nostrils are assaulted by the smell of, well, rotting fruit. A full-bodied nose of sickly sweet, tangy funk assaults the senses, not unlike a fruit leather that has been exhumed from a five year interlude under a school bus seat. Even taking the smallest nibble takes near super-human levels of focus and determination to press new frontiers of alcohol consumption. Let's just say we've seen bums pulling better food out of the trash bins in China, so steer clear at all costs. A death row inmate has enough to live for to prevent them from taking more than one bite of this vile concoction, and could probably get a better buzz from cell-mate Tony's navel-fuzz schnapps anyway.

## Yanjing Pinapple Beer 2 Yuan, .6%-2.5%



I'm not sure if I even feel comfortable even classifying this as a real beer, but unlike the nasty Lemon Beer this stuff is actually delicious. It tastes more like pineapple juice than anything else, which is no bad thing in my book, and because the beer flavor takes a back seat to the fruitiness, this is one beer that you could dump a little hard stuff into without any guilt. Like the Lemon Beer, the alcohol content is pretty ambiguous, and only a tingle of carbonation gets through the thick pineapple goodness to let you know that the medicine is working. Still, you could always freeze a few and make the worlds tastiest beersicles.

Tweaker Comics by Corey Adams



# A pointless society: an argument for knife control

Greg Campbell

Let's face facts, we, as a nation, have long ago left the concept of our Second Amendment rights in the dust. We have gone from, "The right to keep and bear arms...shall not be infringed," to forcing people to jump through major hoops to possess what the constitution clearly enumerates as an individual right. We have taxed guns to the point of rendering them cost prohibitive in many cases. We have forced background checks to make sure the government has a say in who has them. We have forced those that are licensed to carry guns into the dark shadows of society (where they were soon joined by the smokers of society), and in some cases we have made them just plain illegal to own; constitution be damned. And yet, though we have sold every principle the founding fathers had to do all this, crime still exists. Why? It's simple. Knives and other sharp, pointy things exist. We, as a society, need to turn to the government to control them in the same fashion that they control everything else.

I know this may sound far fetched, but allow me to bounce some ideas off of our readers as I brainstorm. I will speak a few facts that I have encountered in my 22 years on Earth. I have been hurt many more times by knives and other pointy things than by guns. Knives can kill just as effectively as guns. Knives have been in existence much longer, hence, the skillful use of them must have been refined over the years. And, of course, less we forget, historically speaking, swords and arrows have wreaked far more havoc and carnage over the centuries than firearms. I think we know what is really to blame for crime. It's not those with malicious intent. It's knives.

So what is to be done? Well, that part is simple. Let's turn to the fascists that have already begun controlling every other aspect of our lives. Let's petition the government to ask them to force us to relinquish our tools of necessity and self-defense. If we prohibit the use of knives in society, we will, of course, be removing them from the hands of criminals and non-criminals alike, and that will leave everyone on an equal playing field. Think of the peace and tranquility that will ensue: common people will not have knives, thus leav-



ing them defenseless. However, that's okay, because surely criminals will relinquish their knives as well. It will be a complete Utopia more tranquil than anything Thomas Moore could ever fathom!

What would this ban encompass? That's simple. All pointy things and all things with sharp edges will be a thing of the past. Sure, it might take some getting used to eating salad with your hands, but won't you sleep better at night knowing there is nothing sharp in your home that can do you harm? You won't have to worry that your kids might find your knife and hurt themselves or a friend. No more having to yell, "Stop running with scissors!" For that matter, you won't even have to take responsibility to teach them to respect knives and their lethal potential. Kitchen counters will be filed down so there will be no edges, we will write with dullened crayons instead of pencils and of course, there will be strict regulations by the government on the length of fingernails.

Sure, some will need to use knives. Surgeons, for example, will need to use them. Those with the absolute necessity for the use of knives can do so under the supervision of the government. We will force them to take courses to prove their proficiency in handling them. Hell, we can just add another year onto medical school to teach proper knife-handling techniques.

The ban will occur without much of a hitch. If anyone protests, we will simply call them names like, "knife-nut" or "crazy neo-con." They should shy away from their position quickly. We could get crazy, asshole celebrities like George Clooney or Michael Moore to tell the public what to think. Man, this plan is coming together swimmingly!

It may start off slow. But we can start by heavily regulating them. We can narrow the margin in which it is okay to own a knife. We'll start by saying that no felon can own one. That should make the law popular with those that only watch CNN for a few minutes a day to get their opinion fed to them. Of course, we can use the standard cry of, "Do it for the children." If someone gets hurt by a knife, we can allow a lawsuit against the knife manufacturer. We will make up false, scary mortality statistics and tell people that knives kill people, when it so obviously the user, not the knife, that does. After knives, we can begin hindering the use of blunt objects or hot things. We will do what we did with tobacco, and make it a seedy, back-alley thing to have. We will make those that use knives feel like social lepers and force them to conform to whatever crazy-ass law we make. We'll tell them it's for everyone's safety. Then, slowly but surely, we can whittle away any rights the people might think they have until the government has complete control of the situation. We should be much safer by then.

Of course, this ban would take some major work on the part of society. But I am confident that as long as a few of the people in power have decided what is best for us, we, as a society, will be better off. Think about it, don't you feel better now that the government controls smoking, gambling, guns, unpopular speech and in some areas, fatty foods? Why not add knives to the list? What is the alternative? Allow things that can potentially be dangerous to exist unhindered within society and allow people to possess the responsibility of making sure they use them properly; while punishing the ones that don't? Come on, doesn't my idea sound more logical?



*Greg Campbell "the Moss Street Butcher" is a Contributor to the Commentator*



# Ol' Dirty needs a real sports fan

As an undistinguished journalist — if you could even call me that — I have to make sure it is worthwhile and meaningful when I call out someone else for terrible journalism. Alas, I feel as though I need to take it upon myself to do something positive for the sports fans of the University of Oregon. In wake of the Ducks football game against the Arizona Wildcats, which I will refer to as “the game” from now on, I was appalled at what I read in the following Monday’s edition of the Oregon Daily Emerald.

Over the course of the term, I have made a consistent habit of reading the Emerald’s opinion pieces regarding our school’s sports programs. Nearly every time I read an article written by Jacob May, my inner Duck fan gets more and more frustrated with what I regard as passive, negative and uninformed journalism about something I love. May writes like someone who clearly is not a true fan and seems to know little about sports, competition and what it means to have faith in your team.

I would like to point out that having a degree of objectiveness is important in journalism. In this particular case, I see May’s writing as beyond objective, to the point of epitomizing everything bad about fair-weather fans. Jacob May, you are a fair-weather fan who knows little about sports. The following is three specific examples that support my accusations of what I see as fundamentally flawed sports writing.

Exhibit A: Days after the Oregon Men’s Basketball team lost its first game of the year, a heartbreaking loss to USC, May already begins comparing the 2006/2007 team with the 2005/2006 team that was marred by inconsistency.

“...the Ducks (13-1 overall, 1-1 Pac-10) lost to USC (12-4, 2-1) 84-82 in the final seconds, a familiar finish for a team that lost several heartbreaking games last year.” (12/4/06)

May is unable to put the past behind him as usual and questions the heart of the team at the first opportunity, even though the season was still in its infancy and the No.1 UCLA Bruins were on hand the following day. The Ducks beat the Bruins in a landmark win and later smashed the Trojans in the Pac-10 Tourney.

Exhibit B: The headline of May’s article just before last year’s Pac-10 Tournament was: “Kent’s crew shouldn’t worry if they don’t win Pac-10 tourney.” (3/08/07)

The last time I checked, and as current Kan-



Matthew Walsh

sas City Chief’s head coach Herman Edwards would concur with me, you play to win the game! Let me repeat that. You play to win the game! I can’t remember the last time losing games was good for a basketball team, especially heading into the NCAA tournament. Later in the opinion article May also tries to back up his wet noodle of an argument by indicating that being a No. 3 seed in the tournament isn’t much different than being a No. 6 seed.

“You can have your own opinion of whether or not Oregon should try to win the thing. I say they should know better than to play like its season is at stake.”

This is downright asinine. I understand that being in the tournament is an accomplishment itself, but come on. Duck fans and players would all agree that they were much happier with a No. 3 seed than a No. 6 seed. Finally, at the end of May’s less-than-stellar opinion of Duck Basketball, he predicts UCLA as the likely winner. May’s prediction against his own school was blown out of the water, as was every opponent the Ducks faced along the way to a triumphant Pac-10 Tournament Title.

Exhibit C: Perhaps the most frustrating example of May’s inability to comprehend what exactly makes sports great.

“But as Dennis Dixon lay on the ground in agony and I turned to watch the replay on the television screen, my heart sank and I covered my face in my hands knowing that the Ducks’ season just went right down the drain. ESPN later showed Dixon crying on the sideline, and I was miserable knowing that Oregon’s title chances had essentially ended,” (11/19/07) he wrote in his first article since “the game.”

Are you kidding me? How can you resolve yourself to defeat to the point of “knowing,” when the Ducks were ahead and only three possessions into the game? Teams have been able to overcome the adversity of losing their starting quarterback on the road — Arizona 2005, USC ’94 — and come back to win the game. How

can you call yourself a fan if you have your head in your hands halfway through the first quarter of a game that your team is winning? If that wasn’t enough evidence of negativity and admission of defeat, May continues:

“A fellow Oregon reporter seated next to me tried to be reassuring, saying the Ducks still had a shot at winning the game. I had some sarcastic reply along the lines of: “Look who’s throwing the ball. There’s no shot.”

Show some faith, dammit! It’s fans like you who left before the end of the Oklahoma game.

And to truly put the icing on the cake, May tries to accuse the team of being underprepared for the situation of not having Dixon in the game. Head Coach Mike Bellotti stated that Leaf actually took more snaps than Dixon in the practices leading up to the game. For crying out loud, of course Bellotti prepared for life in the event that Dixon, whom he knew had already torn his ACL but kept quiet at the request of Dixon, went down. The aforementioned decision is up to debate, but is one which I personally support and admire.

“While Dixon’s grit and determination allowed him to practice and start against the Wildcats, in hindsight, it ultimately caused the Ducks to lose (although Derrick Jones’ bobbled touchdown catch could have completely changed the outcome).”

Execution, along with an ankle injury suffered by Leaf early, was the problem with the Ducks offense, not a lack of game-plan or preparation. The defense played superb, the Ducks won the second half and gave themselves a chance to tie the game in the end. They just could not execute properly, and in the end it is what killed them.

It is the Duck fan in me that has traveled literally thousands of miles to see season openers, NCAA tournament games and big road games. I remember the years of Jason Fife and Jay Anderson and what it felt like then. I can no longer remain idle while someone who has achieved an exaggerated position of journalistic stature compared to his lack of knowledge waltzes around town as an actual sports writer. A sports writer without any sense of what it means to be a fan, and more importantly a Duck, needs a good publicly lambasting once in a while.



*Matt Walsh, a true Duck fan, is a Contributor to the Oregon Commentator*

# Yes

By Sean Jin

Let us begin with the idea of the “citizen.” Citizenship is an idea that we often associate with ancient Greece and Rome, but the modern manifestation of the idea was forged out of the fires of the French Revolution. The importance of this came from a shift in mentality that people should no longer be subjects under a king or monarch but citizens to a nation-state. In essence, the people now have a duty to an entity that is above and greater than any one person - A nation-state ruled by democracy. No more kings declaring, “I am the state!” or judges declaring, “I am the law!” The people were now handed a piece of the power, and citizens were the servants and rulers of the state. Citizens were now considered “part of the nation” not “under the king.” And as a part of the nation, these citizens had a duty as a mother does to her child: the nation must be guided (by voting), nurtured (by maintaining a healthy economy) and defended (by serving as a citizen-soldier).

From the idea of the citizen came the glorious and revolutionary idea of the citizen-soldier. Suddenly, war was no longer just for the adventurous, the poor and the degenerates of society! War was for everyone, and the reasons for fighting were no longer exclusively conquest, personal gains or wealth. Because citizens now had more of a stake in the welfare of the nation, it was only right that they should have a hand in its defense. The citizens had a duty to fight. Our language is completely permeated with these ideas: “National Defense.” “Joining to serve your country.” These ideas have been undermined by the professionalization of our military. Joining the military has become a last resort for kids that are poor, lack direction or have no way to pay for college. It has become a profession that is looked down upon by the general public and misunderstood by all except those who have joined.

Thanks to the people that called for the end of the draft during the Vietnam War, especially Senator Mike Gravel, we have retrograded to the 17th century in terms of social attitude towards the military. What’s more, these hippies and liberals that lacked foresight on the issue have made it possible for neo-conservatives to now abuse the military for their expansionist ideologies. Nice going. This is a prime example of how a critical mass of self-centered, ignorant people can ultimately aid those they oppose. But it’s not like the hippies care anymore; they don’t have to serve and can just go about their hippie lives, while war wages on for the poor and unfortunate.

Professionalization has given the government almost unrestricted freedom in using the military as the fist of its policies, regardless of the policies’ relevance to national defense. Governmental decisions to deploy troops and wage war now only affect a fraction of the people: the troops and their families. For the rest of the nation, all they see of war are headlines and two minute sound-bytes on CNN. And even when there is a vague, general discontent with government decisions to go to war, the issue is not personal or important enough for the majority of people to take action.

Reinstating the draft will bring war home to the people. War will no longer affect just the kid that couldn’t pay for college and his family but every kid and every family. Granted, there will be exemptions for various reasons, but the point is that a far larger portion of

# Reinstate

the population will be affected by any foreign policies that involve military mobilization. In effect, having a citizen military will limit its use to national defense. No more global interventions, no more expansionist, imperial pursuits and no more world policing.

In addition, the draft will reinforce a sense of civic duty. We take citizenship for granted. We are born with it in this country. We do not have to earn it, and thus the principles that embody our citizenship are often forgotten. This is not only exhibited by the professionalization of our military but by the low voter turnout, the lack of knowledge or interest in candidates and the sheer national apathy that our people seem to have sunk into. Our citizens have come to think that serving the country is a dirty or “blue-collar” thing to do. The majority of them don’t understand the political process for selecting our leaders, nor do they really care about the people that are being chosen to run our nation. They don’t care about the state of our nation or the policies it undertakes. These responsibilities of citizenship must be revitalized by reminding our people what it means to be a citizen. At the very least, it should be required of citizens to serve their nation at one time or another.

As a practicality, reinstating conscription is virtually impossible. The current military would oppose it, as the logistics of handling the influx of recruits would be insurmountable. The people would oppose it, with the very basic reasoning that “they don’t want to do it.” Politicians would oppose it, as suggesting such a thing would be political suicide, as well as limiting to their abilities to use military force abroad (as stated above). But that says nothing of the long run societal and political benefits that could result.

As an end note, I recognize that reinstating the draft and vastly increasing the ranks of the military is a seemingly conservative and militaristic argument. But I would counter that with a brief history lesson: In 2002, in Germany, there was a contentious debate regarding the legality of conscription. The supporters of continuing the draft were Social and Christian Democrats, who reminded the rest of the country that militaristic, Nazi Germany had only been 50 years before. And their argument was, in order to prevent something similar from ever happening again, the military must be tied to civilian society.



*Sean Jin, who enjoys taking bubble baths, is a Contributor of the Oregon Commentator*



# the Draft?

**No**  
By CJ Ciaramella

With the military stretched to its breaking point in Afghanistan and Iraq, some well-meaning people have suggested reinstating the draft. Not only would it relieve the current service members from extended tours of duty, they say, but it's every citizen's duty to serve America.

But is the draft in line with the ideals of America? No. Our country, at least according to our founding documents, is based on liberty and individual freedom, and conscription runs completely counter to this philosophy. In fact, the idea of compulsory military service should be abhorrent to anyone who says they value liberty.

Thomas Jefferson once said, "To compel a man to furnish funds for the propagation of ideas he disbelieves and abhors is sinful and tyrannical." If this is sinful and tyrannical, how much more then is it to compel a man to furnish his body and possibly his life?

Milton Friedman, the acclaimed economist and staunch supporter of individual choice, did not consider his greatest achievement to be winning the Nobel Prize in Economics but rather his role in stopping the draft. Conscription, he argued, was an unacceptable coercion and threat to freedom. It imposed a cost not only on the draftee, who was deprived of the money and time he would otherwise have, but also society, who was deprived of the skills and money the draftee would otherwise be using.

But many who argue for the draft say that it is needed as a backup plan in case of sudden crisis. However, if there is truly a case worthy of a draft, Americans would no doubt respond on their own volition. Take, for instance, the fact that enlistment jumped appreciably in the days following 9/11. If you champion the idea of liberty, you must have faith that the majority of people will make the right decision. If you don't have this requisite faith, why argue for liberty at all?

Some still argue that military service is the duty of every citizen, even in peacetime. Yes, this is a noble sentiment, but it is tragically misplaced. The choice to serve one's country should be one of the most honest and heartfelt decisions a person makes in his or her life. To coerce a person to serve makes a mockery of this choice. Furthermore, the idea that we have an overarching "duty" to the state smacks of authoritarian glee. We are free citizens, not wards of the state or appendages of the body politic.

Besides the issue of individual freedom, there is another reason to oppose the draft: It damages the effectiveness and morale of the military. A lot of military folk oppose the draft on these grounds, and the reasoning is simple: Who would you rather have next to you in a firefight, a person who wants to be there, who's trained for this moment and accepted it as his duty, or an 18-year-old Spicoli who humped his way through boot camp because it was more appealing than a jail cell?

But other than forcing people into the military who don't want to go, the draft also forces the military to take on people it probably doesn't want. Not everyone should be in the military. Sure, most of the certifiable lunatics would be screened out, but some of the sneaky ones would no doubt slip through. Hell, some of the sneaky ones slip through now. Imagine if the military was forced to process hundreds of thousands of more recruits a year.

Simply put, an all-volunteer army is not only more congruent with the principle of individual liberty but more effective, efficient and dependable. Although America has resorted to the draft many times in its past, we must accept it now as an anachronism, a hypocritical and odious institution that is thankfully (and finally) behind us.



*Associate Editor CJ Ciaramella also likes bubble baths*

## Which agitation propaganda artist do you prefer?



(A)

or

(B)



If your answer is none of the above and you can write, join us...

**The Oregon Commentator**

Free Minds, Free Markets, Free Booze

ocomment@uoregon.edu, EMU room 319



# How to Make a crack pipe

Guy Simmons

Christmas is the time of giving and I know that not everyone is as affluent as yours truly, which is why, as I travel home via a 737 in luxurious first class sipping expensive whiskey, a few thoughts pass through my mind; what could I do to help the poor and the weak this Christmas? Why doesn't Alaska Airlines have Maker's Mark for my consumption? Crown is barely adequate for my needs. What knowledge do I have which I could share with the haggard and pathetic to give them Christmas cheer? What do the wretched masses want for Christmas? Ah, the answer to the last question is obvious and easy. They want meth. Poor people love that stuff. They can't seem to smoke it enough. Unfortunately, meth doesn't just smoke itself. One has to have the proper vessel for consumption: a crack pipe. The problem with crack pipes is that they are not readily available. You can't just scoot on down to the corner market and pick a dozen up. Plus, meth fiends are always breaking or loosing their pipes. For this reason, crack pipes make great holiday gifts. (Meth is kosher you know. Mazel tov!). Luckily, we Americans (both rich and poor) are an industrious folk and have a great penchant for creating useful objects in our kitchens, basements and garages. The crack pipe is a prime example of said useful objects. Making a pipe suitable for smoking meth out of is something that even a plebian with only a modicum of technical skill can make for themselves - or as a gift - with just a few simple, readily available tools, supplies and these directions.

- 1) Collect the necessary components and tools.
  - Propane tank (available at any hardware store)
  - Propane torch attachment (available at any hardware store)
  - Heavy work gloves (available at any hardware store)
  - Glass vial car air fresheners (available at 7/11, many super markets and gas station checkout stands across America)
- 2) Attach propane tank to propane torch.
- 3) Remove cap, empty and rinse glass vial free of air freshening liquid. (You don't want any air freshener residue left inside).
- 4) Open valve on propane torch and ignite via striker or a lighter.
- 5) Put heavy work gloves on hands (prevents hot glass from burning fingers).
- 6) Heat bottom of glass via lit propane torch.
  - Heat until red hot, but do not allow glass to become so viscous that it flows and melts into a useless slab.
- 7) Blow gently into glass vial to form a bubble of heated glass.
  - Blow gently (glass bubble can pop, recommend safety glasses).
  - Rotate vial while blowing so the glass bubble expands uniformly (very important).
  - Don't blow the bubble too big (it will blow out).
- 8) Once the bubble is formed, stop blowing and rotating the vial.
  - Keep the torch near one side of the bubble. This allows the side away from the fire to cool.
  - Once the far side has cooled, gently blow into the glass again until a hole opens up on heated side.
- 9) Allow time to cool and your crack pipe is complete, ready for decoration and wrapping.



# Take it from a liberal

Austin Himes

That's right, a liberal. And what, you might ask, am I doing writing for a neo-con (or should I say neo-NAZI!) rag like this? Honestly I don't have a choice.

When I applied for a commentary position at the Emerald they said I didn't have enough insight into the nature of "Jungle Fever" (1) to compare to Ty Schwoefferman, and my passion for nut butter was not inspiring enough to be printed on the same sacred pages that once housed the ponderings of Ailee Slater. (2) Of course, after the Emerald I tried the Insurgent, but my violent allergies to Patchouli and B.O. stopped me before I could even walk through the door. Next, I thought about the Voice — actually no matter how desperate I was I wouldn't write for the Voice. After these disappointments, it became clear to me that for the world to be saved my enlightened liberal perspective must be heard, and for that to happen I had to swallow my pride — not that I have any — and write for the only collegiate publication with standards low enough to accept me: The Commentator.

I hope that you, the reader, understand the sacrifice I am making by associating with all the redneck hatemongers here. I don't want you to think of me as a martyr; I just want you to have a sense of religious awe at my selfless pursuit to save the world. Of course if you're reading this and you're an obtuse LibertARYAN hater of free thought and diversity, you can go fuck yourself.

Now down to business. I feel it is only appropriate that my first article in this paltry publication should defend one of the greatest defenders of our defenseless environment that has been repeatedly defamed on the pages upon which I now write. It is poetic justice (almost as poetic as my alliteration). That great organization of which I speak is, of course, OSPIRG.

Now, OSPIRG has received a lot of criticism, especially by the Comm-

tator, for illegally spending the huge amount of money it receives annually from student incidental fees. This money is spent on lobbying for the environment in places like Alaska, and

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**We all know that there is nothing which molds the character of the U of O campus more than crazy panhandlers.**

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apparently this is wrong because student incidental fees are supposed to be used to support organizations that actually do something for the campus community. (Alaska is not part of that community, sorry Ray Schafer.)

I say that's horse shit! Oh no, they spend the money illegally. Well, it's illegal to blow up other people's SUV's and to send death threats to the Pet Adoption lady that made Ellen cry, but these are things that are necessary to achieve a truly peaceful and harmonious world. And as far as OSPIRG not contributing anything to the campus community, why that's the most ridiculous thing I've ever heard. We all know that there is nothing which molds the character of the U of O campus more than crazy panhandlers.

For those of you who remember Hatoon, the homeless woman that used to live by the bookstore, you remember that after she died she was finally recognized as the gem of society and campus culture that she really was. Since crazy beggars are priceless hallmarks of our University, OSPIRG must be the greatest part of our Campus (at least they get the greatest percentage of student incidental fees) because they provide more nut-bags begging for money on the street corners of thirteenth than all the home-

less of Eugene.

Furthermore, when you enroll at the University of Oregon you are enrolling in a school that nurtures diversity, free speech, and intellectual integrity. In other words, you are enrolling at a liberal school, which means an extreme environmentalist institute. Therefore, everyone paying incidental fees at the University of Oregon supports the environment, thus OSPIRG, and, if by chance you are a student that disagrees with this, obviously you hate diversity and need to leave our campus.

How could you disagree with OSPIRG? They lobby against things like logging of national forest lands that exist for managed and sustainable timber harvesting. You can't disagree with that because everyone hates logging, except for loggers who choose to work outdoors and spend most of their time in the midst of nature because they hate nature so much and want it destroyed so that no one can enjoy it and they won't have to work anymore. So let's all stand up for the world and support OSPIRG, more than we already are with our incidental fees.

Next time you see them panhandling on the street, don't just take one of their paper printed fliers, actually pledge some money! It's obvious they need it if our incidental fees aren't enough.

(1) Watch out for 'Jungle Fever' . 11/15/06 issue of The Oregon Daily Emerald.

(2) a condiment that complements everything. 2/22/06 issue of The Oregon Daily Emerald.

(3) Community gathers to remember Hatoon. 3/7/05 issue of The Oregon Daily Emerald.




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*Austin Himes may rot in hell for all the Commentator cares about, despite being a Contributor for the OC*



# Schmoozin' and Boozin' at the CN Conference

*[Editor's Note: The following was posted on the OC Blog by Associate Editor CJ Ciaramella on Nov. 5. The next day, Joe Lindsley of the Collegiate Network, an organization that supports conservative publications nationwide, called my cell phone and demanded he take down the post, calling it "unprofessional," saying what we drank was "probably too much" and claiming it was "all over the internet" (a false statement). In a hazy state of mind, I agreed since the CN helps the OC financially. After consulting alumni, however, I learned that the CN has been less than favorable toward the Commentator in recent years. OC Alum Timothy Dreier wrote in an e-mail, "There is no official position on the matter, but my personal position is fuck that guy and his interference in our content." Ian Spencer chimed in with, "The current organization is, for all intensive purposes, a proselytizing wing of the church." Looking back, I regret not telling Joe to shove it. Despite that, CJ and I had one hell of a time at the conference.]*

Ossie and I just got back from the annual Collegiate Network Editor's Conference in sunny Scottsdale, Arizona. There's a lot to tell, but I'll let the numbers do the talking:

Over the course of 48 hours, two members of the Oregon Commentator consumed at least 65 alcoholic beverages:

- 29 beers
- 2 shots o' whiskey
- 2 gin and tonics
- 1 mohito
- 5 margaritas
- 4 whiskey on the rocks
- 1 glass of wine
- 6 vodka cranberries
- 11 rum and cokes
- 1 shot o' Captain Morgan
- 1 mini-bottle of Tanqueray
- These numbers are actually low because my note-taking skills became seriously impaired somewhere around 1 a.m. on Saturday night. But lest you think we were nothing but irresponsible booze-hounds at the conference, read on. Despite our heroic consumption of alcohol, we managed to attend every lecture and discussion, even the Saturday morning

opener at 8:30 a.m. I was thinking about writing a grandiose narrative about the CN conference, but maybe I'll just give you ol' scumbags some of the highlights in no particular order:

We sat at the poolside bar of the Hilton, about a mile away from ASU, and watched the Ducks destroy the Sun Devils. Many loud cheers and high-fives were exchanged.

I challenged the guy from the Princeton Tory to a drinking contest. He declined. Oregon wins by forfeit, bringing our win-lose drinking record against Princeton to 280,000 - 0.

Ossie bought Executive Director of the CN Steve Klugewicz a margarita.

Ossie called Marty Singerman of News Corp an "ol' polecat" during the closing ceremonies of the conference ... quite loudly. However, anyone who knows the

There is talk of collaborating.

The Commentator was recognized for its 25th anniversary, along with Harvard, Yale, Princeton and Tufts. It sounded like one of those "which item doesn't belong" questions. However, we weren't invited to speak at the "Ensuring your paper's legacy: How to make sure your paper survives after you graduate" lecture. God only knows what we would have said.

The Commentator didn't win any awards, so we presented ourselves with the Oregon Commentator award. We also put Mr. Klugewicz "on notice" and told him the Paper of the Year Award (as well as all the other awards) would be ours come next year.

We scored a whole bunch of conservative swag. Look out for Ossie and I repin' our new Fox News hats on campus. We'll be the ones running from the angry, hippy mob.

We found out that, comparatively, we have it pretty good over here. Most of the other publications at the conference didn't receive any funding from their university and had pretty awful stories about vandalism, box-dumping and intimidation. One publication at a Jesuit school was actually barred from distributing on campus.

Overall, we had a damn good time at the CN conference. We got a lot of good ideas for the mag, made some good connections and showed everyone present how Oregon throws down. Thanks to Liz Persing and Steve Klugewicz for putting the whole shindig together and paying for our sorry asses to come down (and sorry for the late-night call, Liz!).

Apparently the Collegiate Network found this blog post to be inappropriate. They called OC editor Ossie Bladine and made him take it off the internet. I guess they have never actually read our magazine, or they probably wouldn't have invited us. The Commentator will just have to sober up and get back to the hard-hitting conservative journalism for which we are known and loved.



From left to right: Rockne Roll (OSU), Greg Kendoll (OSU), Kevin O'Rourke (Ohio State), Jon Hasman (Illinois), Ossie Bladine, Emily Murdoch (Illinois) and CJ Ciaramella.

OC knows that this is a term of highest honor.

Ossie called Liz Persing, Senior Program Officer of the CN, at 1:30 a.m. and invited her to go hot-tubbing with us. She politely declined.

We hung out a lot with some cats from OSU, one of whose name was (I'm not joking) Rockne Andrew Roll. Rockne and his compatriot had fine taste in cigars, booze and clothes, and we managed to put aside our Civil War rivalry to combat broader, Ivy League douchebaggery.

# Holiday Drinking Game

Stuffy social gatherings and endless family time can leave the average college student bored for much of the Holiday season. To combat lameness, the OC presents these drinking rules for you Holiday enjoyment.

## Drink Everytime:

- Santa says "Ho," three drinks for a "Ho Ho Ho."
- Your younger sibling plays an obnoxious song.
- Your mom makes you straighten the Christmas tree even though it is already straight.
- Manheim Steamroller comes on the radio, twice when Trans-Siberian Orchestra does.
- Someone asks what you are majoring in, twice if you don't have an answer.
- You get the notion that you are the only one in the room drinking to get drunk.
- The Corona commercial with the lit up palm tree is shown on the television.
- Your waspy step mom makes it a point to be in control of everything.
- Grandma asks if you are still in school.
- You forget you are in school.
- Ralphie shoots his eye out.
- A bell jingles.
- You think of Rennie's Landing
- A log gets thrown on the fire
- You see a little person in an elf costume.
- A cookie is offered.
- The urge hits you

## Take a shot:

- When you open a crappy present, but you have to pretend to like it.
- During any discussion of the "War on Christmas," two shots if Bill O'Reilly is involved.
- A polar bear drinks a Coke.
- Whenever you are in the same room as a fuitcake.
- Before Midnight Mass.
- If Ducks football is being discussed.
- An awkwardness sweeps through the family room
- If dinner is postponed because of hysteria over the over-done-ness of the meet.

## Take an Irish Car Bomb:

- Christmas morning before the rest of the family is up.
- Whenever someone asks, "so when does school start up for you again.?"



THE SUDSY TANK  
\$10

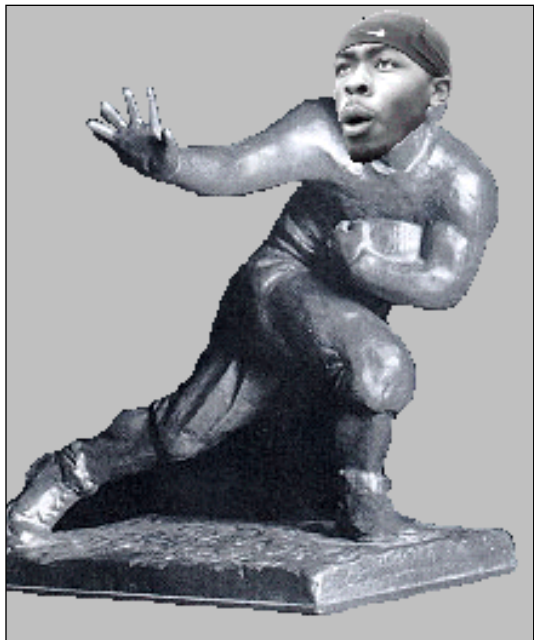


JUST WHAT MOM  
WANTS FOR X-MAS



# SPEW...

and what the OC wants for X-mas



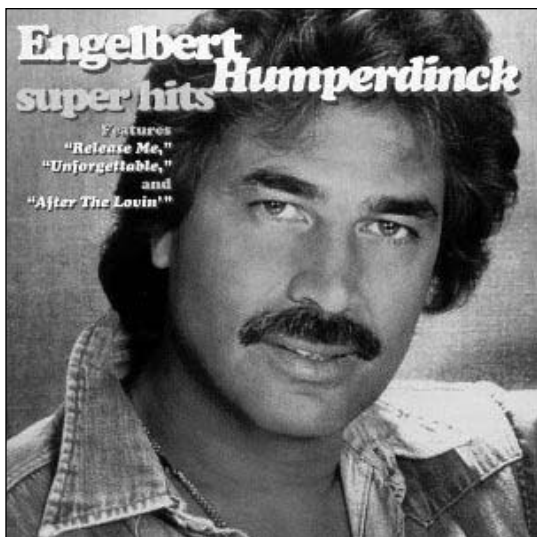
## ON FRIENDS OF THE UNABOMBER

“Oh, and we also received a warm salutation from Theodour John Kaczynski, affectionately known as the Unabomber. Cheers man! We know how much you loved our kind in your more active days and, hey, maybe sometime in our office could show you how to construct an actually functioning pipe bomb.”

*~ The Collective Editorial in the most recent Insurgent. We only get letters from Zach Vishanoff. Wonder what Teddy has to say*

“I would really appreciate it if you would stop sending me the UO Student Insurgent. You are wasting precious natural resources by doing so, because every time I receive a copy, I just throw it straight in the trash. I kept the latest issue only long enough to get your address from it so I could write you this letter.”

*~ Are you kidding? The Insurgent is so bad that THE UNABOMBER can't even stand it. Can we get the address. We feel like the OC could be highly regarded by Teddy.*



## ON THE VOICE-LESS

“[crickets], [tumbleweeds], [nothingness]”

*~ This has been the sound of The Voice, which has managed to put out zero issues on stands by the time the Commentator staff is sending its fifth issue of the school year to the printers. Is it about time that the OC buys the cute indie campus rag... again?*

# ON TOBACCO FASCISTS

“Like other University students, Kira Fonarow worried about deadlines, classes and time management. But for her, the few minutes she spent walking across campus between classes were the most stressful.”

*~ An intriguing lead to yet another smarmy Emerald article on Nov. 13 about smoking on campus.*

“Fonarow’s sensitive lungs and vocal cords could not function efficiently when she inhaled cigarette smoke, and it took a toll on her daily life.”

*~ Boo hoo hoo. Cry us a river, ask us we’ll give a damn, and then build a bridge and get the hell over it.*

““I always felt the need to hold my breath every time I passed a smoker,” said Fonarow in a letter to University administrators in July. “When they smoked in the doorways, I felt like I was suddenly being attacked or halted each time I entered or exited a building.””

*~ I guess it’s about time we send all the smokers to the concentration camps.*



# ON PERKY POLITICIANS

“She combines a perky Midwestern friendliness with the kind of idealism you find only in Eugene.”

*~ A news brief in the Eugene Weekly about U.S. Senate hopeful-Candy Neville. Is perkiness really a positive political force?*

“She admits that some of her ideas “almost sound Pollyanna-ish,” such as her plan to market Oregon’s timber as a “designer label” in order to both save trees and promote industry. But, she points out, “People make a lot of money following ideas like that.” It’s part of her plan to “keep Oregon awesome.”

*~ Is it possible that she is a love child between Aaron Neville and Cydni Lauper?*



# ANNOUNCING

## The Oregon Commentator Mustache of the Month Competition

The inaugural winner is:  
Richard Evarts

The Commentator came across this impressive nose neighbor while wasting away in Room 319, putting this issue together for y'all to enjoy.

Richard's personality is as appealing as his mustache, which is put to good use while Richard cleans up the EMU after all you damn kids.  
CONGRATS Richard



If you or someone you know has a mustache worthy to be printed,  
email a photo to [ocomment at uoregon dot com](mailto:ocomment@uoregon.edu)

The owner of the OC Mustache of the Month wins a free sudsy shirt.