

OREGON COMMENTATOR

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THE NEW ARENA





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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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THE OREGON COMMENTATOR
FREE MINDS, FREE MARKETS, FREE BOOZE

THIS IS THE REASON WE CAN'T HAVE NICE THINGS

Ten years ago, the opening stages of the Process for Change, a multi-layered set of possible improvements to the University, were under way. At a University Senate meeting in April 1998, Senate Vice President Jeff Hurwit gave the University Senate Executive Committee report:

“As we position ourselves for the future in a rapidly changing environment, we must define ourselves rather than let external forces define us,” Hurwit said. The University administration had sold the Senate on the proposal, which was set to itemize numerous projects. The plan was to redevelop the campus and the University bit by bit. The often outspoken Nathan Tublitz, a biology professor at the University of Oregon, remarked that he and other faculty were cynical of the plan at first, but that the report proved them wrong.

One of the first major improvements was an expansion of Autzen Stadium, set forth to gain revenue for the athletic department and secure a self-sufficient future. From the minutes of a Nov. 2000 University Senate meeting:

“[Vice President for Administration Dan] Williams noted that athletics is an extremely competitive enterprise and, contrary to traditional economic theory, competition does not lower the cost of athletics. Rather, it has the reverse effect. In part because of the highly competitive nature of athletics, the cost of facilities, salaries, equipment, and so forth rise on a regular basis and, more often than not, exceed general inflationary cost increases.”

At the time, talk began around town that Mac Court needed to be replaced. Critics like Ron Bellamy of the Register Guard said the charm

of Mac Court no longer outweighed its structural problems, and Athletic Director Bill Moos agreed.

“This issue continues to be addressed,” Moos told a senate committee, “there are limits to the improvements that can be made due to the structure of Mac Court.”

Moos was envisioning a multi-use, University-owned facility “that would serve the university and the community, attracting concerts, trade shows, ice shows, etc.”

The Process for Change soon met up with the 125th Celebration Campaign, which celebrated the University’s 125th birthday by raising \$125 million (all the Commentator got for it’s 25th birthday was a 12 percent decrease from PFC), and the two spiraled together as the Comprehensive Campaign. The administration initiated a \$600 million fundraising campaign – with a \$125 million head start – and, thankfully, changed the name to Campaign Oregon.

At a Nov. 2002 Senate meeting, University Vice President Lorraine Davis noted if the \$600 million were raised, a new basketball arena would probably be built. But plans were already long underway, dating back to the mid-90s when Moos developed a long range planning project he called the 21 options.

In the fall of 2003, President Dave Frohnmyer announced that the new arena would be built over Howe Field.

“The University of Oregon’s new arena will greatly benefit Oregon’s economy,” Governor Ted Kulongoski said. “The site selection is an important milestone and I sincerely appreciate the generous philanthropy of the many private donors who have made a

commitment to this project and clearly value the benefits the university provides our state.”

But projected costs grew and space for the site shrunk. The University Street neighborhood complained about additional noise and traffic. The Senate slowed the process, pushing to follow “established procedures concerning campus planning,” according to meeting minutes. Williams said that the administration “felt that the university would realize the greatest benefit of the donors’ financing gifts (efficiencies in contract bidding and construction time frame) by setting up non-profit corporation subsidiary of the UO Foundation to handle the project in conjunction with the university.”

When the Howe Field proposal fell through it was time to resort to Plan B: the site of Williams Bakery on Franklin. After several years of crunching numbers, answering to criticism, shifts in financial strategy and land acquisitions, including a new athletic director, the University is on the cusp of breaking ground on the most expensive public project in Oregon history. If the Oregon Legislature approves \$200 million in state-backed bonds this month, the new arena is pretty much a sure thing.

When future generations look back on the building of the University’s arena, they will see a story of divided factions. They will see how deep-rooted public-private partnerships changed how higher education is run; how a body of public employees felt neglected throughout the process, but managed to pull a little weight against the bigwigs; and how the communities

From A Cyclist

Greetings Commentator staff,

Just wanted to respond to your hilarious blog comment suggesting it's funny to kill cyclists with cars. This comment could only come from someone who doesn't ride their bike around town very often. So I'm wondering why you'd comment on something you know so little about.

I'm a cyclist and I am one of the most law abiding and safe cyclists I have seen out on the streets. Just the same, daily I am almost killed by inattentive, ignorant and sometimes malevolent motorists, due to no fault of my own. Are you saying that because some cyclists choose to risk their own safety by disobeying traffic laws, that they (and I, myself) should be run over and killed?

I understand it was a joke. But jokes are supposed to be funny.

Now, it's not that there can't be funny jokes about people being run over. I'm sure there are many. But it's not a funny joke when the subject of the joke is the person who is already living the real-life joke of almost being killed on the streets every day for trying to do a decent thing by using leg muscles instead of oil.

A truly funny joke would instead level the playing field of power and poke fun at the ones who are doing the running over, rather than the ones being crushed under the wheels. That would be a strong and courageous use of wit, to poke fun at the dominating elements of society (ie: car use), instead of just propping up the status quo, which the Commentator folks, for some strange reason, think is a worthwhile thing to do with their limited time on this Earth.

I am available if you want to explain to me in person why you think it's funny for cyclists to be mangled.

Hope to hear back this time,

Josh Schlossberg

Greg Campbell's Knife Article

Hello,

I just 5 minutes ago discovered that your publication exists, and yet I already find myself writing a letter to the editor! In response to Greg Campbell's ridiculous, albeit cute, sarcastic editorial about knife control, I pose a few simple questions, the kinds of questions that any honest, logical, socially responsible person would ask him/herself before writing a piece on "knife" control: How many people are killed each year by mass knifings in schools/malls/restaurants? How many family murder-suicides occur each year with knives? How many drive-by knifings have occurred in recent history? How many times has a killer been able to use a knife to murder more than one person at once?

Gun control is an issue simply because guns are capable of killing with a speed and detachment that can't be achieved by most any other method, especially knives. Regardless of your feelings on gun control, at least be wise enough, even reasonably knowledgeable enough, to recognize this simple truth.

Justin Morell

Pacifica Forum article

Thank you for your recent article on Pacifica Forum. It was better than I expected, given the tone of many comments on PF during the last five years and given my experiences with the products of numerous interviews with reporters for a longer period of time.

The issue that carried the PF article carried also an interchange between two of your writers about the draft. Would they be available to speak to the forum on that subject sometime during the next three months? The draft is a topic that has long been especially pertinent to the militarism-pacificism focus of the forum.

Your "Mission Statement" is also especially pertinent to PF purpose. How about some OC representative addressing the forum sometime about how OC's mission and PF's purposes relate to each other.

Orval Etter.

Matt Walsh's criticism of ODE sports

Matt,

Sorry if you think that sportswriters are supposed to be fans of the teams they cover — they're not, typically. And if they are, they should find a different beat. I wouldn't call yourself an undistinguished journalist because you point out that you are a fan and that you love the Ducks. The point of objectivity is to not be biased.

Of course I wanted the Ducks to win against Arizona, but that's because I selfishly wanted to attend the national championship, not because I'm a fan of the team. What sportswriter doesn't want to cover that game? My heart sank because I did feel remorse for Dixon and for the guys knowing their dream had died.

Maybe you wrote that column too far in advance, but I don't know how you can argue against my column knowing how the season ended. After Dixon went down, the life was sucked out of the offense, and even someone as eternally optimistic as you should have realized that. Even though I thought Leaf would pull out a victory against UCLA, that was me being overly optimistic, obviously, because I knew Oregon was still playing for a Rose Bowl berth.

I agree that my Pac-10 Tourney column wasn't good, I was trying to make the point that Oregon's season wouldn't be defined as "great" if they won that tournament. Their season would be judged on how they fared in the NCAA Tournament. Although winning the Pac-10 certainly didn't hurt the Ducks, losing in the second round didn't exactly hurt UCLA either. That was the other point I was trying to make and failed to do so clearly, I guess.

But it's pretty easy to criticize in hindsight of everything, isn't it? Maybe you should try writing some of your own predictions (and on a tight deadline) and see how often you're betting on the Ducks to win. For me, that kind of homerism gets stale real fast. Some fans don't always want to read positive articles about Oregon when the team continues to lose; they want reasons to be a disgruntled fan and many would stop respecting you if you're praising Oregon constantly.

If you only want to read what's good about the Ducks, look somewhere else. If that never gets old, then you truly are a Duck for life and more power to you. Just don't misinform people about what you think an objective journalist is supposed to be.

Jacob May

Ol' Dirty Sports Editor

The progression of alcohol intake and resulting behavior of various ASUO-funded groups

	3 beers	4 shots and two beer bong	6 beers, 6 shots and a smoke session	5 Jager Bombs, 4 rounds of Beruit and 2 hours of flip cup	Ate the worm
ASUO Executive	Being cute	Partying at the Indigo	Drunk-dialing, verbally berating senate members	Flipping tables, trashing the ASUO office	First rule of Fight Club, don't talk about Fight Club
On The Rocks	Swooning girls with "Lady in Red"	Partying at the Indigo	Taking turns trying to kick each other in the nuts, trying to give the group an alto	Making out with each other	Partying at SNAFU with glow in the dark body paint
Toastmasters	"Hear, Hear"	"For he's a jolly good fellow..."	"Harrumph, harrumph, harrumph"	Throwing up into champagne glasses	Giving inappropriate details about the Vegas bachelor party to the bride's family
Coalition Against Environmental Racism	Filling out bureaucratic forms	Making out with trees, of all colors	Illegally dumping on the lawns of University St. and Fairmont St.	Attempting to write a definition of environmental racism	Cruisin down the street in a six-fo,' jockin the bitches, slappin the hoes
Students for a Democratic Society	Raging against the man	Raging against each other. Slap fight.	Having sex, liberally (involves crying)	Being happy to be pro choice	Saying "fuck it," reforming Weather Underground for kicks
The Oregon Commentator	Still in the office	At Rennie's Landing	Back to the office	Back to Rennie's	Back to the office ... issue completed

Celebrity Look Alike



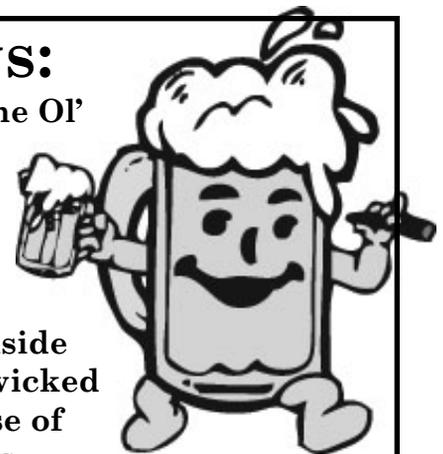
Cimmeron Gilespie
Former editor of the Student Insurgent



McLovin
Noted player of the field

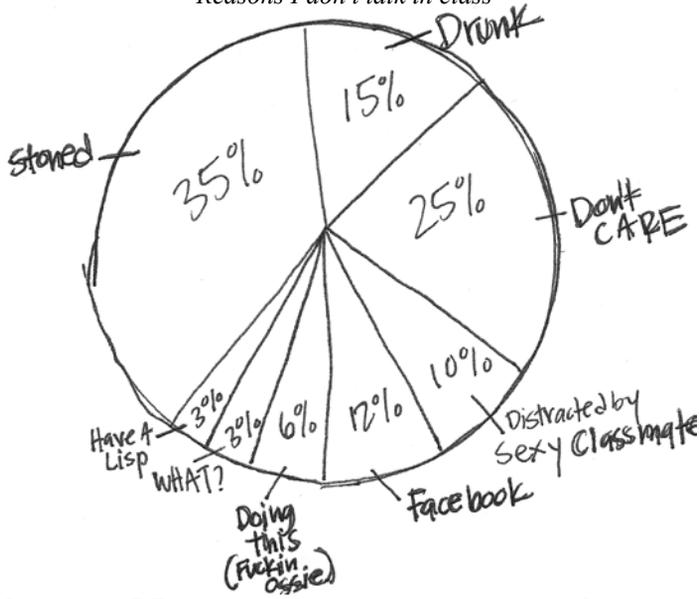
Sudsy Says:

Did you see me in the Ol' Dirty? I was at Rennie's one night, macking on some honey named Alana Kennedy, next thing I know, I wake up inside the Emerald with a wicked hangover and a case of ghonnasyphiloids.

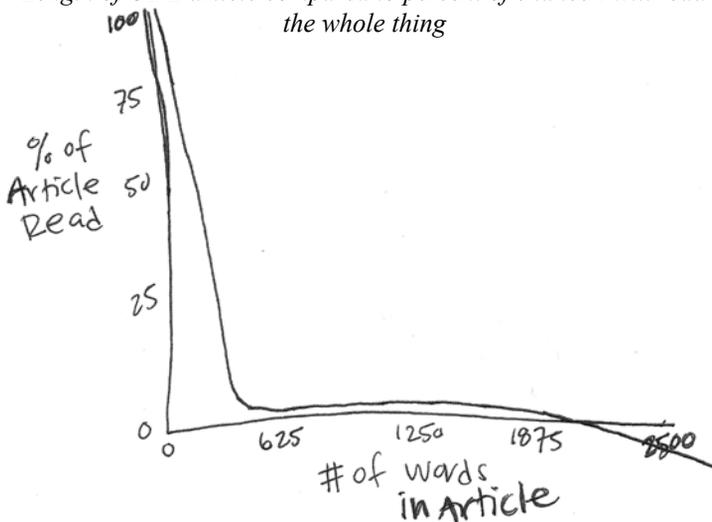


Graphs By Drew

by Drew Cattermole
Reasons I don't talk in class



Length of ODE article compared to percent of chance I will read the whole thing



Drinks drunk to ability to make a graph



asks ...

What's it like up there?

Jerry Fallwell:

It's a lot hotter and more painful than I imagined. Where's J.C.?



Mother Theresa:

Jesus is big up here, if you know what I'm saying.

Tammy Faye Bakker:

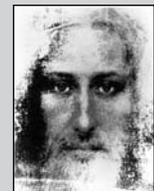
Overrated (clap, clap, clap clap clap) overrated...



Megatron:

What am I doing in this OC Asks?

J.C.: It's a little gay



Heath Ledger: Too soon

L. Ron Hubbard:

It's like Candy Mountain! Candy Mountain, Charlie, come with me to Candy Mountain



THE ECONOMICS OF FINDING A MATE AT THE BAR

J Herman Feinberg, PhD

Visiting Professor of Economics at the University of Oregon

In my humble opinion, there is no better way to approach the multifarious challenges of life than through the eyes of an economist. No matter the situation, the timeless laws of economics are sure to guide the follower to a most rational decision. In fact, many people apply facets of the discipline subconsciously during their everyday trifles. Did you go to the grocery store yesterday? If you did, what made you choose Captain Crunch over Lucky Charms? The choice probably involved the utility that you derive from each cereal, or the opportunity cost of forgoing one box to buy the other.

Needless to say, you may easily conclude that these concepts are relevant to much of the decision making that man must endure. Therefore, without further delay we shall discuss the subject at hand - how one may best apply the rules of the economic discipline to the always trying endeavor of "picking up chicks." I have constructed an abbreviated guide of sorts, one in which the layman will have no trouble comprehending.

The arduous undertaking at hand should begin with a clear understanding of the concept of **scarcity**. Much to the chagrin of many a fraternity man, the female species is not an unlimited resource; the stock is not replenished as easily as planting the seeds of your favorite lentil. Therefore, a finite supply of women means that there may not always be enough to go around, so to speak. Keep in mind that time and money are also classic examples of scarce resources. The essence of the scarce resource should always remain in the back of your mind as you make decisions while "chasing tail."

Somewhat similarly related to scarcity is the arguably disappointing law of the opportunity cost. **Opportunity cost** may be most simply conveyed by the old adage "one cannot have his pie and eat it too" - meaning that you are unable to do two things at once. For example, it is physically impossible to drink the night away at the bar and simultaneously spend the night doing homework that is due the next morning. But here is another illustration that is less straightforward. You may spend five hours at the bar with the objective of escorting a young lady back to your dormitory, or you



may spend twenty minutes sitting by yourself at your computer and fulfill the same intention; the other four hours and forty minutes is now open. This is doubtless an important consideration.

In regard to opportunity cost, it is imperative that you weigh all of your options carefully. Quite bluntly, you must decide how much a girl is worth to you - remember, you will be spending your time and your money, as well as the energies of your "game," on her. The opportunity cost of relinquishing a chance to woo a most attractive girl is likely greater than the cost of ignoring her portly friend. Keep in mind

that while some girls many require Belvedere martinis and others only warrant Bud Light swill, you must always consider the question "Is another \$8 shot going to pay off tonight, or should I save the money for Taquitos at 7-11 later?" On the other hand, one more martini may be the difference between masturbation and fornication; and a decent Eugene prostitute is at least \$100 (so I have been told). Quite a stinging opportunity cost indeed.

Whether you know it or not, many of your bar-night endeavors revolve around your own personal pursuit of **utility** maximization. Simply put, utility is a measure of satisfaction, and man is an instinctual utility maximizer. So you say Miller Lite tastes better than Coors Light? That's just another way of you telling me that you derive more utility from Miller than from Coors. However, the utility function becomes more complicated than this simple example. In relative terms, it is similar to opportunity cost, in that you cannot always have everything that you desire. For instance, a "bundle of goods" in our bar-room scenario may include time spent with friends, money spent on a girl, the degree of attractiveness of a girl, etc. One must balance this bundle in order to determine his utmost level of utility.

I will offer a relative illustration that is as explicit as possible in order to assist my lust-driven readers. In all likelihood, the best looking girl in the bar is not going to be the cheapest catch. If you believe it's "all about the Benjamins," then the girl may be yours. Nonetheless, many college men are lucky to be in possession of a Benjamin, and monetary expenditure is certainly a disutility. Therefore, every man must find his own personal happy medium between money spent on a girl, time spent with a girl, and the attractiveness of a girl, among other things. As a colleague of mine once said after a few (free) cocktails at the department holiday party, "A 6 or better, it's whatever."

The law of **supply and demand** may be the only concept that you remember from Econ 101. I will give you the benefit of the doubt, and tell you what you really need to know when dealing with the bar scene: Supply is your friend and demand is your enemy. Ideally, you want to frequent bars that have a large supply of girls and a low demand for girls (i.e. few other straight men). But regardless of the male-to-female ratio, an equilibrium must be struck, and your own inclusion in this equilibrium

may require you to reevaluate the available supply. Look at it this way; if you demand a girl that is more attractive than what a particular bar has to offer you will probably be going home alone.

Perhaps subconsciously, almost every woman already understands the law of supply and demand (I know, even economists have trouble explaining it). But think about where you are most likely to find the best looking girls; not at The Old Pad. Women know where the demand is, so be sure you are aware of the supply.

I will now take the liberty to add my own twist to a classic economic model. The **Engel Curve** is a mainstay of the discipline and, as fortune would have it, easily applied to our given discussion. About one hundred years ago Ernst Engel concluded that man will purchase more of some goods as his income rises, but less of others; hence the difference between normal and inferior goods. For instance, as your income rises you will probably eat more filet mignon, but fewer hot dogs.

Keeping our aim in perspective, recall how wealthy men believe that they can literally “buy” attractive women at the bar. Unfortunately, they often can (think Anna Nicole Smith). This being an undisputed truth, you are left with two options. 1) Try to outspend all the other men at the bar, although you may max out your father’s credit card in the process. 2) Defy the Engel Curve; spend a lot on an inferior good. Treat that cross-eyed girl at the end of the bar to a few Mojitos and your chance of having after-hours company will greatly improve.

There is a particular economic sensation that no college man should ever underestimate, especially during time spent at the bar. It is something that I will refer to as the **Economics of (dis)Information**. I like to use the stock market as an example when conveying the essence of this notion. Perfect information is supposed to lead to instantaneous market clearings, as the market is purportedly inherently “rational.” Yet professional money managers continue to make excessive capital gains while amateur day traders lose their shirts. The reasoning is that despite what many theorists like to believe, information is not equally and perfectly available.

An astute college man will use the advantages of disinformation whenever possible while at the bar. Realize that most women do not enjoy perfect information about you. The old adage “act cool” was actually coined by an economist touting the virtues of disinformation. Here are a few tips: 1) Wrap your crumpled wad of one dollar bills in a twenty, or maybe even your only hundred dollar bill. 2) Buy one very fashionable, expensive shirt and wear it to as many different bars as possible. 3) Slug Bud Light at the beginning of the night while standing with your friends, but always order something respectable in front of the women. 4) Appear cultured; read plot summaries of classic literature on Sparknotes.com. 5) Be sure to note that the Dow is not a cleaning product. And the list goes on; I am sure you get the picture.

One pause of caution: always choose your company wisely. Consider your group of male acquaintances as an exaggerated version of a micro-sized market. Not only will the single men represent demand for the women that you may possibly pursue, but your friends also know a lot about you. They are very capable of “blowing up your spot” as you work the magic of disinformation with a co-ed. Therefore, frequenting the bars with friends in relationships is imperative. Also, tell the jealous “cock blockers” that you are spending the night at SNAFU, and revel in the

magic of disinformation.

I find a brief defense of this law necessary. Some may ascertain that this deception is just a form of lying, but I say nonsense. The women who do not fall for your act are just employing their own personal stock of information. I will close this topic with one more exemplar in order to justify my conviction. The same salesman that sold you shares of Pets.com in 2001 convinced you that an Adjustable Rate Mortgage was your best bet last year during the peak of the housing boom. Did he trick you, or did you do yourself a disservice by not knowing better?

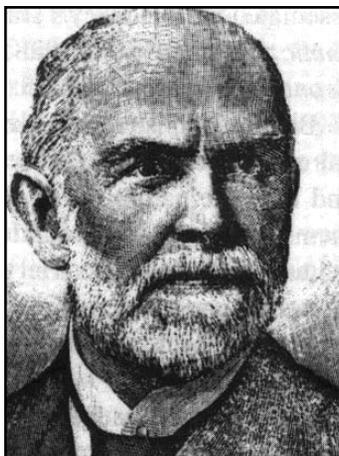
Every night out on the town will not be successful; I am sure that is already understood. However, it is possible to cushion the blow of failure by not getting hung up on **sunk costs**. These costs represent expenditures (time, money, effort) that cannot be recouped. Many economists will use the example of the restaurant buffet to illustrate this point. I feel that for this discussion the open bar is more appropriate. Whether you drink five beers or fifteen beers, you still paid a ten dollar cover charge. Do not be so concerned with getting your money’s worth, because your drunken buffoonery may “kill your game.” Remember, your ultimate goal is to maximize your utility whenever possible (i.e. become tipsy and engage a lady). As soon as the ten dollars leaves your hand it is gone and should no longer be of any concern to you. This same principle applies to drinks bought for a woman, time spent in conversation, etc. If she decides to go home with her friends and watch *The Notebook* do not let your anger drive you to a state of blacked-out drunkenness. Just keep in mind the irrecoverableness of the sunk costs.

I will conclude my tutorial with one final element, and that is Adam Smith’s timeless **Invisible Hand**. According to Smith, man’s pursuit of self-interest will invariably bring about a state of market equilibrium.

In essence, this is the beauty of the Invisible Hand at work. It guides buyers and sellers (so to speak) to a point where their respective demand and supply are in agreement.

You may be wondering how this unforeseen force applies to your carnal conquests. I will explain, because a firm comprehension is absolutely crucial. Let us suppose that you enter the bar with very high spirits, as well as high expectations. As the night wanes, you concede that you have completely struck out with the captain of the cheerleading squad and the girl who had a spread in Maxim. You are currently operating beyond equilibrium, as your personal demand exceeds your attainable supply. But rest assured, because the Invisible Hand can guide you toward inebriated, bar-room matrimony. All you have to do is . . . lower your standards.

And thus we conclude our exploration of the laws of economics, and how they pertain to the most important of life’s challenges. I offer my sincere assurance that this guide will allow every U of O man to realize his true philandering potential.



Ernst Engel



J Herman Feinberg, PhD, may or may not be a real visiting professor of economics. In fact, he may be a figment of your imagination, or just a 7th grade Talented And Gifted student with nothing to do a Saturday night. All that matters, however, is that J Herman Feinberg just taught you Intro to Econ and you should be thankful.

You damn hippies should be thankful for capitalism

CJ Ciaramella

These days on campus, in pretentious coffee shops and around the world at large, everyone likes to talk trash about capitalism. It's a convenient scapegoat for just about any social problem; Inequality, racism, world hunger, my startling inability to manage my bank account – capitalism is somehow responsible (or at least a co-requisite) for all of them.

This fashionable distaste for capitalism is dishonest, though, because it ignores all of the immense economic and political freedoms that capitalism gives individuals. Capitalism gives you opportunity to live your life how you want, whether that means owning a small business or setting up a tent at Burning Man (a wonderful example of hippie capitalism in action, by the way).

For example, I would ask all of you avowed anti-capitalists who enjoy organic, vegan and/or vegetarian food, what do you think makes your diet choices possible? It's only because of the amazing amount of food available in modern, capitalist society that you have any choice at all. Yeah, free market is responsible for slaughterhouses and feedlots, but it's also supporting a burgeoning organic food and free-range industry. More and more restaurants have started offering vegan and vegetarian alternatives as well. In short, consumer demand resulted in supply. Imagine that.

How effective would your grand, socialist state be at implementing such changes? I can imagine the announcement now: "After seven months of deliberation, the Committee on Food Resources has decreed that all members of the state can now apply for two cage-free eggs a week. Enjoy, comrades!" (Unless of course, your grand, socialist state forces everyone to be vegan, in which case, you've got bigger problems than a misunderstanding of capitalism).

Of course, if you're one of those anarchist folks (and who isn't these day?), I'd ask you how you plan on getting these



Photo by Mike Kho

Frog sells joke books for \$1 and says random things to unsuspecting students, like "does school make you shit your pants?" He is a member of a free market and loves it.

types of products at all. Do you really think someone without the incentive of money or a government boot is going to truck their fresh avocados up to Oregon so you can make guacamole for your vegan burrito? You'd better have a lot of nappy, hemp necklaces to trade. I know ... bummer.

But the complaints keep rolling in. "Capitalism screws people over! Whine, whine, whine!" Well, allow me to present the greatest case for capitalism I know of: Frog.

For those who haven't had the pleasure, Frog is the Santa-like hobo who sells "the funniest joke books in the world" for three dollars a pop outside of the UO Bookstore. This is Frog's sole profession, his trade, his joie de vivre.

Some might point to this as an example of the inequalities that capitalism produces, but I would argue that it is an example of the incredible possibilities of the free market. In what other system can you produce crappy, hand-written joke books, and people will actually buy them? What do you think the demand for three dollar joke books is in Cuba? How many positions for Official State Joke Book Writer do you think there were in Soviet Russia?

A lot of anarchists argue that in their anarcho-topia no one will need "jobs" anyways, but you know what? Maybe I don't want to spend all day splitting logs and pulling weeds in the communal garden. Maybe I want to stand on the street corner and sell joke books to college girls. Then I can use the money I barely worked for and buy a goddamn hamburger.

That's the beauty of capitalism. If you're smart enough, you can make a living (or at least survive) by doing practically nothing

at all. In fact, it's possible to live completely on the waste of other people. It's called dumpster diving; check it out.

If you'll allow me to stop being facetious, though, capitalism also gives people the freedom and materials to advocate for radical change. Because transactions are entered into voluntarily by independent individuals, rather than by the heavy hand of the state, a guy can sell his anarchist zine on the corner or Naomi Klein can sell her

That's the beauty of capitalism. If you're smart enough, you can make a living (or at least survive) by doing practically nothing at all.

anti-capitalist screeds through a major New York publishing house (irony alert!). Milton Friedman recognized this quality in his book, *Capitalism and Freedom*.

"One feature of a free society is surely the freedom of individuals to advocate and propagandize openly for a radical change in the structure of the society," Friedman writes. "[...] It is a mark of the political freedom of a capitalist society that men can openly advocate and work for socialism."

Thanks to the incentive of profit, the guy on the corner is free to use Kinko's copy machines as much as he pleases, and Klein

doesn't have to persuade her publishers of her viewpoint; she only has to persuade them that her book will sell. Friedman again:

"[The free market] makes it possible ultimately to finance such ventures by small amounts from many people without first persuading them. There are no such possibilities in the socialist society; there is only the all-powerful state."

To paraphrase more of Friedman's point, if the tables are turned and our two examples are advocating capitalism in a socialist state, it's hard to imagine the guy on the corner getting permission to use the government copy machines and government paper. Likewise, it seems unlikely that the government-run press would agree to print Klein's books.

But leftists somehow remain blissfully ignorant of this fact, even though they use it to maximum advantage. For example, I'm always amused when the radical Marxists who table on campus every year offer me one of their "newspapers" and then pitch me a \$15 subscription. C'mon, guys, choose a side. You can't rage against the machine while having sex with it!

Don't get me wrong. I don't want hippies to stop being hippies; I just want them to admit that they owe their hippie-tude to capitalism, just like asshole CEO's do. Go ahead and say it: "Yes, I am a huge waste of space, and I couldn't have done it without capitalism. Thanks Adam Smith!" There, doesn't that feel better?



CJ Ciarmella is a supporting member of The Subgenius Foundation, Inc. and doubles as Associate Editor of the Commentator

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Frohnmayer, Kilkenny meet with students

The Executive and Residence Hall Association gets a chance for discussion and squanders it



Photos by Mike Kho

President Dave Frohnmayer. Nice suit.

Jake Speicher
Ossie Bladine

Two weeks ago, President Dave Frohnmayer and Athletic Director Pat Kilkenny revealed to students the University's plans for the new arena that will be constructed on the former site of the Williams' Bakery. The \$200 million project is scheduled to begin construction after the Olympic trials this summer. The arena plan has come under heavy criticism, calling into question the University's right to eminent domain, the effect the new stadium will have on campus life and the way the University plans to fund the project. The open forum was put on at the request of the Residence Hall Association.

Standing in front of glossy, digitally rendered photos of the new arena,

THE CONCEPT



Frohmayer told about 80 students what they saw behind them was one of the first public glimpses of the new stadium's design.

"The information is still schematic, but wonderfully schematic," he said, adding that the discussion would probably generate more questions than answers.

The first question of the night came from noted campus racist Ty Schwoeffermann, who wondered aloud whether the University would be forced to use eminent domain to acquire the necessary property for the arena. The area in question includes the 7-11 on Franklin frequented by munchie-seeking freshmen. Schwoeffermann asked Frohmayer if the University could legally force out the owners of the properties for what Schwoeffermann called a commercial enterprise.

Frohmayer, the former attorney general for the state of Oregon, countered. Not only did the University already come to "amicable" terms with the property owners, he said, but the new facility

would become a public enterprise for the city of Eugene, hosting both concerts and



The highlights area shows the land owned by the University. The arena will be built in the yellow area.

community events. He went so far to say the new arena would give Eugene a better sense of identity.

Scwoeffermann later showed his sad

true spirits when he asked about the "blood money" being used to finance the project. Thanks for being an embarrassment while representing the student voice, Ty.

With the purchase of the land surrounding the former site of Williams' Bakery, the University now owns the entire north side of the southern corridor of Franklin Boulevard, leading up to the entry of Interstate 5. Frohmayer said the new arena will serve as a point of entry for Eugene.

"Eugene currently has no point of entry; it's really pretty shabby," he said.

The University plans to take out \$200 million of state-backed bonds to pay for the new arena. The bonds would be payable over the next 30-years. The State Legislature will vote on the proposal this month. If passed, it would then go to the State Board of Higher Education for a final approval and ground breaking could commence shortly after the Track and

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Field Olympic Trials. Many thought Phil Knight's \$100 million donation had been earmarked for the new arena. However, when people saw that the administration would reserve that chunk of money for a "legacy fund" and take out bonds instead,



Above: Residence Hall Association President Keith Bassett sings the National Anthem before the meeting.

Below: Athletic Director Pat Kilkenny answers questions from students. On behalf of the rest of us, Pat, we're sorry you had to be put through that.

they were thrown for a loop. This fund, according to Frohnmayer, will ensure that profit generated by the athletic department would never dip into the University's endowment. The bonding scheme is controversial because it puts the financial risks could potentially come from the public's wallet.

"This is what we do for a living," said Kilkenny, a major fan of Las Vegas and Cabo San Lucas, earlier in January. "We don't write newspaper articles or teach classes. We merchandise college athletic teams. We're very good at it. That's why we have a confidence level in our ability to repay the debt comfortably."

Frohnmayer told students the new arena will have the same "blue collar feel" as Mac Court.

In initial plans of the new arena, before Bill Moos had stepped down as athletic director and Kilkenny replaced him, it was concluded that a new facility should have up to 15,000 total seats, about 1,000 club seats, 2,700 donor seats and 20 suites. But Kilkenny told students the current plan (there is a narrated digitalized tour of the arena at goducks.com) does not include suites. The arena has been described as having an arena bowl and is likely to be lined in wood, in honor of Mac Court.

Mac Court is "a tired, wonderful building," Frohnmayer said, but at the same time "no longer sustainable." The University is spending about \$500,000 annually to maintain Mac Court.

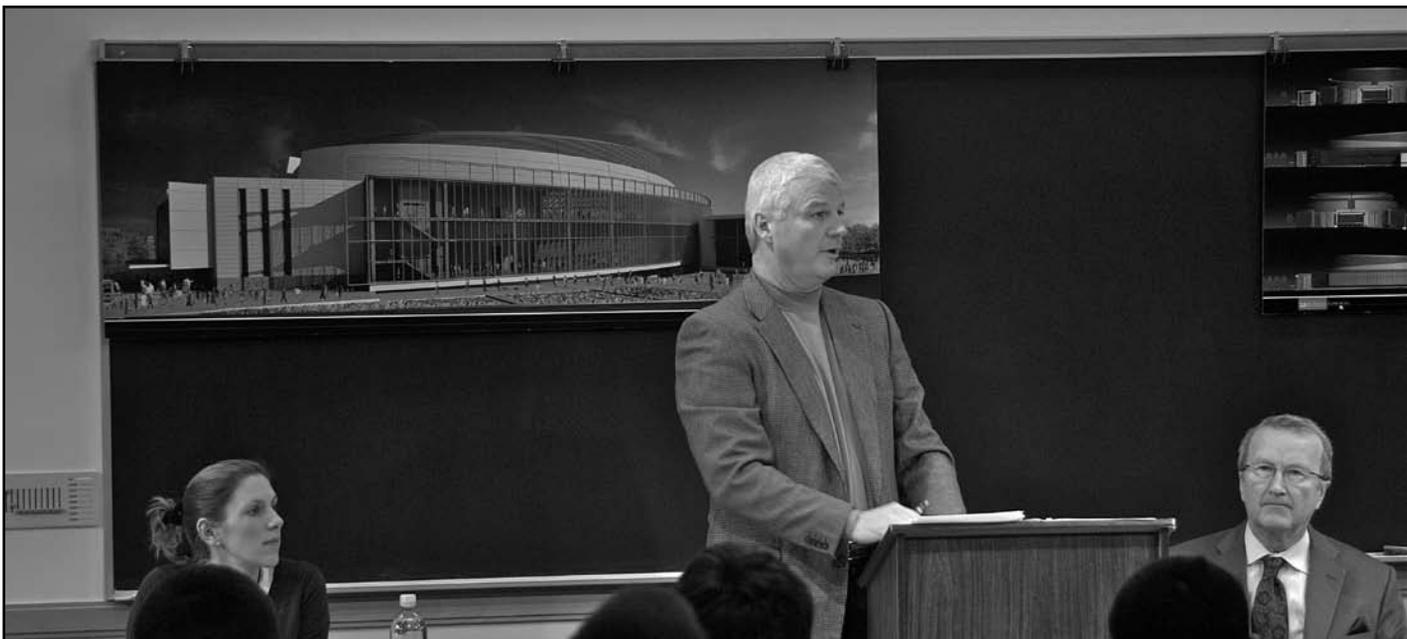
The administration remains undecided about the future of Mac Court once the new arena has been completed, but it will "devolve back into academic and student functions," Frohnmayer said. It is likely the facility will be torn down to build a new academic building, unless a plan to preserve it can be sold to the administration.

But few questions about Mac Court were asked at the RHA-sponsored event. In fact, very few informative questions were asked. Main concerns included parking and noise from the building just across the way from dorms. The students asking question must have lived in the quiet dorms and don't realize dorm life is already noisy. As far as parking, there is no way it can get worse, so no problem there (our words, not Frohn's).

The students at the meeting, for the most part, squandered a chance to discuss how students can be involved in the processes of building a new arena and deciding the future of Mac Court with Frohnmayer and Kilkenny. Most students seemed to be asking questions they only sort of cared about simply to ask a question, like the Q & A's where the questions are already written out and given to certain people. Sounds just like them.



Ossie Bladine is Editor in Chief and Jake Speicher is Managing Editor of the Oregon Commentator. Thanks for reading!



and neighborhoods surrounding the University felt helpless, but were hopeful their concerns would be dealt with properly. After analyzing the whole process, people will look back and ask, "what the hell were the students doing?"

University students built Mac Court in 1926. Contrarily, student involvement in the planning of a new basketball arena has been close to none. The recent town hall meeting between Fronhmayr, Kilkenny and students turned into a wasted opportunity to see how students could get involved (see page 11). What happened over the last 80 years? How could students have almost no involvement in the process of replacing a building that they built?

Over the years the student body has changed with the addition of more international and minority students, but this is not the source of an increasingly weaker student body. The problem is not the new faces, it is the new ideas. Over the past several decades, students traded in their own entrepreneurial ambitions for personal interests. The student body created socially-dividing factions and allowed a majority of administrative duties to go to non-students. The result is a defunct governing body that exports cash cows while most students import apathy.

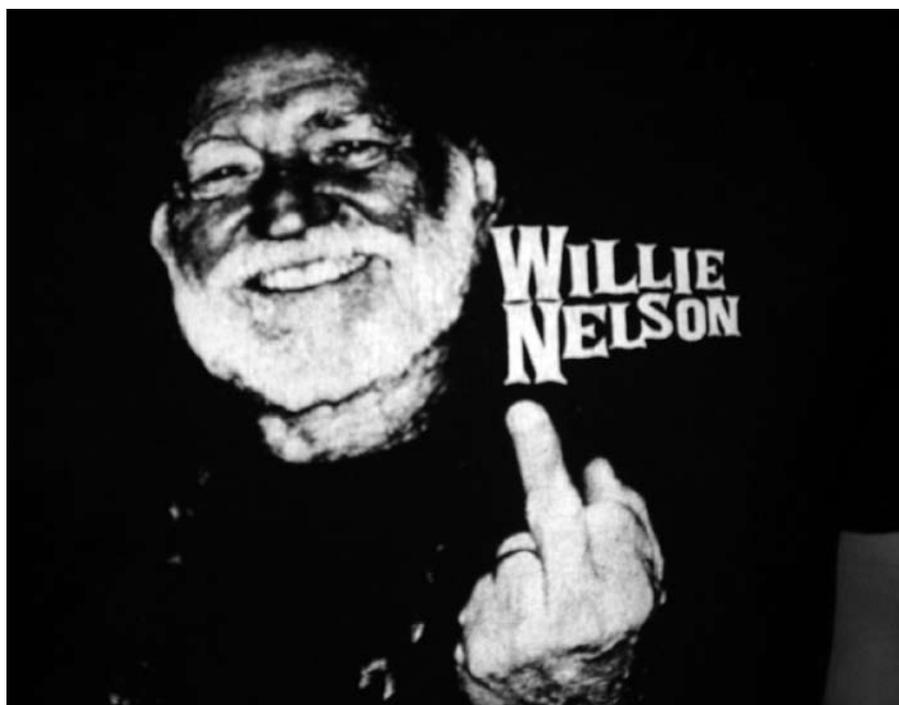
Now, read again the second paragraph to this article.

For the past 30 years, University students have allowed themselves to be defined by external forces. Until the student body and its socially driven government learn to process the changing environment around them, they will continue to have little influence and little representation, and therefore little potential, in the campus community.



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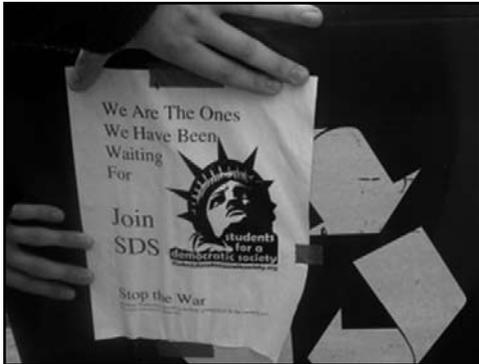
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Students for a Democratic Society reforms, unaware Vietnam already over

By CJ Ciaramella



Some forward-thinking students on campus have decided to start a chapter of Students for a Democratic Society, looking to recapture some of that 60's flower power. The new, zombified SDS meets at 4 p.m. on Wednesdays in the ground floor of the EMU next to Suite 1.

If you haven't cracked open your American History textbook from high school in a while, SDS was one of the largest and most prominent student activist groups of the 1960's; in fact, the Port Huron Statement issued by SDS is often considered the opening salvo of the "New Left." Of course, the group devolved into bitter in-fighting and ineffectiveness, ultimately disintegrating in the turmoil of 1969. (Also, the infamous Weather Underground happened to be a splinter group of SDS).

I trudged down to the SDS's meeting to try and scrounge up some quotes, but all I found were about eight hippies in various states of outrage about ... well, something or another. I asked if anyone was in charge, but they just looked at each other and shrugged their shoulders. Of course not. Then I asked if I could interview someone after the meeting, and I was told to come back in a couple weeks because the group "had just been started." If this is any indication, the new SDS should be just as successful as their predecessors! Jeez, why can't they just go for the gusto and reform the Yippies?

P.S. The small print in their poster says "subversives welcome," so feel free to infiltrate their meetings and slowly brainwash them.

Interview with Andrew "Shadow" Hill on the NH Primaries

By CJ Ciaramella

I got a chance to speak with Andrew "Shadow" Hill, the president of the College Republicans, about the New Hampshire Primary and the election in general. The Daily Emerald ran a story on the NH primaries today, but they interviewed their own columnist, Nik Antovich, to represent the College Repubs. Classy, guys. The OC interviewed Hill back in 2006 when he was running for state office.

OC: Any general thoughts, gut reactions or detailed analysis of New Hampshire?

Hill: Well, I think the early primaries are a joke. All these states that don't matter get bumped up in the primary schedule; I don't think we've seen anything yet. It's still a long, long road to the elections.

It kind of sucked that Ron Paul only got half of what he did in Iowa. As far as the Democrats, I was surprised that Hillary kicked Obama's ass. Apparently, everyone felt sorry for her and that's why she beat him.

OC: Who would you rather have get the Democratic nomination, Hillary or Obama?

Hill: They're not very different, but I guess I'd rather have Obama ... because he's not Hillary. It seems like Obama at least actually believes what he's saying, whereas I think Hillary is doing it 100 percent for personal gain. [OC alum] Andy Dolberg always said he wanted to see Hillary as president in '08 because it would speed up the revolution.

OC: Who are you voting for?

Hill: I like Ron Paul, and I'm going to vote for him. A lot of people call him a libertarian RINO, but he's just a conservative.

I don't like any of the front-runners. None of them are true Republicans. One of my friends described Huckabee as a populist, which he is. He's kind of like Bush. He believes in traditional, conservative values, but he's a big-government guy. And Mitt Romney is just as bad as the Democrats. He doesn't understand the Second Amendment. I will not vote for him; I will vote third party. We've been playing this "vote for the lesser evil" game too long, and it's time to let politicians know we're fed up. I think it's time to start voting third-party.

OC: Who do you predict will take the Republican nomination?

Hill: I think Guiliani will be a sleeper candidate. He'll take New York, and if he can pull California and Texas as well, he'll have the primary in the bag. Right now, I'm predicting Guiliani with McCain as his running mate; they're pretty buddy-buddy. That's not what I'd prefer, but that's what I think will happen.

OC: Are the College Republicans doing any election events?

Hill: Yeah, we're putting out a table, hopefully sometime next week in front of the EMU, with information, propaganda, etc. on all the Republican candidates.

The Scoop on why Donnie flew the coop

By Ossie Bladine

After a 15 minute discussion about whether or not to have a discussion, followed by recess, and then another discussion – with three motions made to get the heck out of there in the mean time, two rescinded – the ASUO Senate finally decided to have a discussion about the resignation of Senate Vice President Donnie Kim.

In the middle of it all, Sen. Dan Feldman asked, “is this an impeachment trial, what is this?” But let me regress to the beginning.

During his committee update of the Jan. 16 ASUO Senate meeting, Senator Ombudsman Patrick Boye said that Kim had resigned, but he was asked to add this item to New Business at the end of the meeting. He never said who asked him to do this. Boye was running the meeting because Senate President Athan Papailou had told senators he would be an hour late and VP Kim had resigned.

Sen. Lee Warnecke tried to squelch the conflict before it erupted.

“I don’t think we need to talk about it amongst us ... I think this was an internal problem ... I’m not entirely sure of the reason,” he said.

Senator Lauren Zavrel, the chair of the Personnel Committee, said that she had relevant information but was not comfortable saying it with out Papailou present. “I have reason to believe that there is a valid reason to have a discussion about this,” she said. Senator Nate Gulley and Diego Hernandez both claimed they knew nothing and each felt they deserved to know. Throughout the meeting, both Gulley and Hernandez tried to force as much conversation about the situation as possible. “We are a public body and we are accountable, all of us ... it’s a public matter,” Gulley said. Just like them to make it personal.

“This isn’t Watergate ... I don’t think it’s a big deal ... a member of this body decided he didn’t want to do the work anymore and he resigned,” Warnecke said.

Sen. Zavrel then suggested the body take a recess and wait for Athan to continue.

Note: This all began under less than an hour after the meeting began. It was looking to be the most efficient meeting of the year – I was worried that I had skipped the forth quarter of the Trail Blazers vs. Celtics game. Thankfully, Senate came through, as usual.

Senators dispersed into their own small circles during recess. I noticed that Sen. Jones and Sen. Zavrel came back to the board room together from down the opposite hall. As soon as the recess ended, Jones quickly motioned to adjourn. The “nays” won, led by Gulley, who asked, “what was that about.”

Boye seemed to be pushing for an end to the discussion, and a motion to table it until next week came. As the senate came to a vote, Papailou walked into the board room. I’m sure there was some rule broken in this quick moment, but the motion was quickly rescinded on the basis that Papailou arrived.

At this point, Zavrel said she could put it all in an e-mail and send it to senators. Gulley disagreed and said they should not wait for the resigned senator to talk about this. Zavrel finally spoke. The Personnel Committee met in December and created scores, grades, for each senator.

“Papailou came with concerns how the scores were laid out ... he disagreed with the scores of the VP, which were above average,” she said. “I suggested the personnel committee meet again so that we could accept feedback for any of those scores. I suggested that we have a meeting ... to which Athan agreed. At that point in time, Athan also confided information in me about Donnie’s performance ... I don’t want to go into any quotes on that cuz it would be best in committee meeting.”

On Monday, Athan sent out an e-mail to the senate saying he would not be at the meeting until 8 p.m. and that Kim would be running the meeting and would be in charge

for handling the paperwork for the meeting leading up to it. Sen. Zavrel said Kim thought this was an aggressive attempt at something. (!!?) She said Sen. Jones told her that it was not Kim’s duties. Papailou believes it was. Either way, this is a slight technicality and whether it garners a case against the senate president, I don’t know.

“It became evident over the past week that there was underlined conflict between the president and the vice president,” Zavrel finished.

In the middle of this, Boye told the senate he had received a text message from Kim, who said he gave permission for Sen. Jones to speak for him.

After some babble from the South side of the table, Sen. Warnecke said, “Let’s put some sense to it, it’s not a bad thing that the president saw the work of the vice president and didn’t like that ... you can either step up and do the work or do what Donnie did.” But then Sen. Hernandez cut him off. Finally, Jones, who was meticulous with her words and actions all night, spoke.

“Kim and I are close ... we kind had an open door information sharing policy ... I talked to Donnie as soon as I got the email. Donnie has authorized me to speak on his behalf. Donnie said that he has felt a near constant pressure to vote a certain way, a pressure brought on by our president ... for slate affiliation,” she said. She mentioned “a number of threatening phone calls from (former senate president) Sara Hamilton.” Hamilton later told the Commentator these are false accusations. Jones said Kim didn’t know he’d have to do the Senate President responsibilities for the meetings.

“Donnie’s resignation is due to him not wanting to deal with political pressure from a person whose job it is to be neutral,” Jones said. It also came out in the meeting that Kim had told Senators he felt Athan was not aggressive enough and too neutral during the meetings. Yet, the accusations brought out



Kim: resigned as Senate VP suddenly



Papailou: accused of dirty politics



Jones: rumored to be running for ASUO President

by Jones now are that Papailou is too aggressive and not neutral, outside of the meetings. This is when Sen. Feldman asked if it was an impeachment trial.

At this point, the conversation turned to politics and I stopped taking notes – I do enough of that in class. The speculations by certain senators were that Papailou is a dirty politician and is the cause of Kim’s resignation. This was affirmed yesterday by Kim, who told this to the Oregon Daily Emerald:

“He said he resigned for ‘personal reasons,’ but added, ‘I’m also tired of backdoor politics. I’m tired of being told what to think and how to think on that body.’ ...

‘From the very beginning of this student government process I have been back-stabbed and politicked to death,’ he said.”

Kim’s other comments in the ODE paint a poor picture of Papailou’s character. Keeping my own feelings out of it, it paints a false picture to the everyday, unknowing student.

In conclusion, certain senators have said Kim’s effort as vice president was often sluggish. Judging by the history of the senate, there could very easily be ulterior motives for Kim’s resignation. But it comes down to one of our student leaders decided he didn’t want to do the job anymore and quit immediately in a way that he knew would spark controversy against another member of the body with whom he had noted professional and maybe personal differences.

No individual can be blamed for dirty or backdoor politics here. The body as a whole, however, can be lambasted for such games year in and year out. I guess you could call it, “institutional backdooring.” Finally, Campaign For Change has all but been dismantled at this point. I think Papailou was just doing what he could to save the initial goals of the slate that ran as a cohesive unit. Since then, personal goals and games played for leverage have destroyed it all.

Must be getting close to elections season.

– Comments

Timothy Says:

Donnie are you okay, are you okay Donnie?

ASUO Alumni Says:

And I thought ASUO drama only happened when I attended UO! It seems as if someone was not doing their jobs properly, maybe even the president confronted him behind the scenes. Kim probably knew he was in trouble, and instead facing the consequences or starting to actually perform his duties, decided to go out with flare. I mean, what better way to cover your own ass than go out blaming someone else? When was being delegates extra duties such a problem? Isn’t that what you are paid \$100 EXTRA of STUDENT DOLLARS to do as vice president?

Niedermeyer Says:

I have a really hard time believing that the “Campaign for Change” slate is so tightly controlled from the top that its members are resigning because of overwhelming pressure

for conformity. In my mind, the problem with CFC is that it won on a mandate for reform, and yet much of the rank and file of its Senators seem more than happy to keep up the ASUO business as usual (at best) and backstab the people and ideas which put CFC together (at worst). Maybe it’s the CFC’s fault for capitalizing on dissatisfaction with the ASUO without having a comprehensive reform agenda and Senate candidates who were actually committed to said reforms, but hey, at least they tried. If the ASUO reform movement is going to stay alive it needs to find candidates who are actually committed to the difficult task of reform, and not run at the first sign of adversity.

Athan’s a douchefuck Says:

Athan is a disrespectful punk with a large sense of entitlement. This is why Donnie left, because Athan is an asshole.

Vincent. Says:

I don’t know about you guys, but “Athan’s a douchefuck” has convinced me with his wit and wisdom. Indeed, the Socratic Method has never seen such a champion.

Timothy Says:

Hasn’t it?

Vincent. Says:

Nay sir, it has not.

Timothy Says:

Are you certain?

Niedermeyer Says:

Hey Douchefuck, I’m guessing that the “large sense of entitlement” is a product of the fact that Athan and Sara held “open auditions” for their slate last year, and as a result they got more than a few candidates who knew fuck all about the ASUO, and had to be told what to do every step of the way. Obviously it’s Athan (and Sara’s) fault for assembling a coalition that had to be spoonfed, but that doesn’t mean they should be backstabbed for their trouble just because their petulant “slate” doesn’t have the decency to actually uphold the mandate they were elected on.

Trying to make Athan look bad on the count of “backdoor politics” is pretty hilarious when the attack is coming from people who Athan helped get elected on a reform ticket, but are now planning to run against him on the programs ticket. If Donnie doesn’t like Athan “telling him what to do,” he should just wait until his new boss Kate Jones is running the show... not only does she have an ego that won’t quit, she has already proven how loyal she is to those who help her out. You’ve made your bed Donnie, have fun sleeping in it.

OSA insider Says:

kate is running

Jake Says:

OSA insider? Does this mean we can start talking about “Fight Club” again?

Not quite so right in '08

Austin Himes

It's a new year here at the U of O and I think it's time to get serious about making some long overdue changes on campus, so I've come up with a few new years resolutions. These are all solutions to problems that need to be addressed at the University to save our student body from the oppressive grip of "The Man"— which brings me to the first resolution.

Why is it always the "Man?" Couldn't it just as well be the "Woman," the "SheHe," the "Ze," the "Transvestite," the "Hermaphrodite," the "Non-Gendered Individual," or the "Trans-Species Gender-Neutral Cat-Person" who's keep'n us down? The U of O needs to be more open minded to the needs and equal rights of Non Traditional Gender Oriented and Other Individuals Whom Refuse To Be Labeled By Gender and/or Sexual Orientation (The NTGOOIWRTBLBGSO), and I think the first step towards achieving this resolution is to place a giant Vagina sculpture adjacent to the Oregon Obelisk.

(Note: the Obelisk was recently torn down. But we all know, in this male-dominated world, another obelisk, even greater and more phallic, will eventually be erected).

Everyone knows that the Obelisk is nothing more than a huge symbolic penis. How can any woman walk under the shadow of such a massive towering phallus and not feel the oppression of a masculine dominated society. I think it's time to equal the playing field by constructing a giant anatomically correct vagina of such proportions that it dwarfs the Obelisk. This sculpture would sit atop a giant pedestal so that every time men walked by it they could feel the oppressive power of the female anatomy. It would be like being the only guy in an audience of hyper aggressive feminists at the Vagina Monologues, which is exactly the type of reminder we men need to keep us from forgetting what oppressive pigs

we are! A giant vagina would be a great step in the direction equal sexual oppression.

Next, the U of O needs to make a resolution to increase the number of minority faculty — regardless of the price. As many opinions printed in the Ol'Dirty have pointed out, the University's commitment to diversify the faculty has been extremely shallow. The powers that be have insisted on hiring faculty almost entirely based on

I propose a new hiring initiative that would pay any minority qualified to be a faculty member 100 times the regular salary of the position.

how qualified they are for the job. This nonsense has got to end!

I propose a new hiring initiative that would pay any minority qualified to be a faculty member 100 times the regular salary of the position. Only with such an increase in monetary investment can the University prove its commitment to diversity. The extra funds needed to pay for the higher salaries can come from the always-plentiful Incidental Fee Surplus and funding the Multicultural Center receives. AND if the U of O still has problems pulling in more diverse faculty I suggest that a special hiring committee be established for the purpose making armed raids against other Universities in order to forcibly steal their minority faculty. People of Eugene have been crying out for more aggressive recruiting of diverse faculty and this is the solution!

After the U of O gets a vagina and diversifies the faculty in 2008, it will be time to get down to the real shit, and I mean real shit. For too

long the U of O has had only Men's bathrooms and Women's bathrooms, but where are all the aforementioned NTGOOIWRTBLBGSO supposed to poop? It's time to let everyone pee in peace. No longer will the gender confused be forced to hide in the stalls because pissing next to someone else makes them uncomfortable. No longer will gay men be tempted to look over at the guy's package next him, and never again will strait men feel completely insecure about their sexuality when they think the guy at the next urinal is sizing them up. The days of hiding in the stall to piss are over!

This year the University of Oregon should resolve to be at the forefront of progressive ideas and make or designate a private bathroom for every student. Each student's I.D card will open the door to their own private bathroom. This will also help alleviate a lot of confusion for individuals who don't identify with the block figure in the skirt or the block figure with legs. Sometimes I see them staring at the symbols for hours as if deciphering ancient hieroglyphics until finally, after loosing control of their bowls, they slink off humiliated and confused (this usually happens near gender studies classrooms).

These are three New Years resolutions that we as a campus community can't afford to let go the way of countless Oprah weight loss plans and your four years running promise to quit smoking. Nor are these the only changes that must be achieved in 2008 at the U of O, but my personal resolution for the New Year is to continue bringing attention to the needed changes while countering the Nazi-like conservatism of this rag with the mighty weapon Leftivism.



Austin Himes prays to Saint Michael Moore each night before bed, and is a contributor to the Oregon Commentator

Who I'm banking on dying in '08

Drew Cattermole

Last year me and a few friends took part in a betting pool that is perfect for anyone with a sick sense of humor and loose morals. The name of the pool is Death Pool. The death pool is played when players pick a predetermined amount of newsworthy people they think will die during the year. Players receive points by subtracting a newsworthy person's age from a hundred. For example, if a player picks porn legend Ron Jeremy the equation would look like this .

$100 - \text{Ron Jeremy's age (54)} = \text{points (46)}$

No points are given for people that are over one hundred

Khaled Mashal, age 52

He is the leader of Hamas, one of the militant organizations and political parties that has been labeled a terrorist organization by several countries. This guy is just asking for it, being one of the leaders of a ruthless organizations near the war torn Holy Land. His faction is littered with assassinations and assassination attempts in its history. Also people have tried to assassinate him before. Political figures like him do not have a very long life span.

Points Value 48



Britney Spears, age 26

This is my Anna Nicole Smith pick. Britney is an absolute trainwreck. I don't think she could do anything worse than she did in 2007 except die. She is a notoriously bad driver and is extremely stupid, both equate for a good death pool pick. It was hard to pick her over potential trainwrecks Lindsey Lohan, Tara Reid and Jenna Jameson.

Point value 74.



The Undertaker, age 42

The wrestling superstar is undefeated at WrestleMania piling up a 15-0 record. He has been atop of the wrestling world for twenty eight years and that has to be taking a toll on his body. His profession is very dangerous and is rampant with drug addiction. I always pick a wrestler and had to decide between him and Iron Sheik.

Point Value 58

Phyllis Diller, age 90

Life long smoker Diller has not been looking good lately, her ten points do not seem like much but they can win me the pool. You can never go wrong picking comedians or rockstars since their lifestyles usually come with a heavy amount of drinking, drug usage, casual sex and the ever so deadly crazed fan.

Point Value 10



Dick Clark, age 78

After another year of rocking in the New Year, Dick Clark has to be slowing down. He has been struggling ever since his stroke and was noticeably slowed and breathless on his last New Year's telecast. I think all the botox he took is starting to catch up with him. When the legend dies it will sadly lower the almost extinct species of the Celebrity Dicks leaving Dick Van Dyke and Dick Cheney to fend for them selves.

Point Value 22

Ozzy Osbourne, age 59

Drugs, bat heads, and living in a constant wonder of what is going on.

Point Value 41

Billy Graham, age 89

The televangelist is up there in age and has money pick all over him. He has become a little frontrunner in the deathpool world. He has already picked his burial site, so he can't be trying that hard to live. **Point Value 11**

Tony Stewart, age 36

I always like to pick an Nascar driver. I hate their sport and they drive 200 mph on a crowded track for a living. I would not be surprised if he is sideswiped by another Nascar driver with him being a notorious jackass.

Point value 74

Dakota Fanning, age 13

So famous, so young, so much coke. **Point Value 87**

Dane Cook, age 35, or Carlos Mencia, age 40

I don't know what would be better. **Point Values 65; 60**

SPEW...

and Smile, you're on Facebook!

ON WHY WE CAN'T BE FRIENDS

"Is al-Qaida really fighting us because of our freedoms? There is a two-part answer to this question. First, simply put, yes. Al-Qaida's underlying motive for fighting the U.S. is to stop the spread of American freedoms."



~ *The ODE's resident bat shit crazy "conservative" columnist Nik Antovich on "Why U.S. Culture has given Al-Qaida a reason to hate us." The second part? Bat shit crazy "conservative" columnists.*

"Our culture is abhorred by many Muslims, extremists and moderates. The difference is that moderates understand America is shaped by the people, and therefore can be molded to satisfy its constituency, while extremists feel that democracy itself is enough to destroy their culture and therefore must be wholly rejected."

~ *Actually, America is shaped by several geologic phenomenons, mainly the shifting of tectonic plates under the Earth's Crust and the monthly cycles of Oprah Winfrey's bowel movement. Wait, is it our culture or democracy they hate so much?*

"Religion is found nowhere in our society...Divorce is the new marriage...Planned Parenthood travels the world throwing condoms at kids' faces...Both parents are encouraged to work full-time."



~ *No one at the OC has been hit in the face with a condom, and if anyone deserves that treatment, it would probably be us. And we may have to double check, but the comment, "religion is found nowhere in our society," may be the stupidest thing printed in the Ol' Dirty in the P.A.S (Post Ailee Slater) era.*

"They (Muslims) just don't want to turn on the television - which exaggerates but still influences American culture - and find Desperate Housewives, Friends, Tila Tequila or The Real World."

~ *Of course they want to, they are just afraid the Jews will make fun of them.*

ON THE VOICE

“Phil you are truly our Knight in shining armor ... out of the kindness of your culturally conscious corporate heart — you have promoted the creation of the Nike Air Native N7 — a shoe specifically designed for the ever so-’unique’ Native American foot.”

~ *The Oregon Voice’s Janae Schiller attempts satire in the Voice’s Asshole of the Month: Phil Knight Oh, we see what you’ve done there. Clever.*

“...these shoes will set a new fashion trend within the Native American community, making the moccasin as rare as tribal lands.”

~ *Yuppies will always need something to wear around the house. Schiller, the OC awards you Scumbag of the Month.*



ON CUTTING THE FUNDING OF A VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

“Recently, the Oregon Commentator’s budget was decreased because of poor standards. But the PFC didn’t cut as much as the ASUO Executive would have, and the conversation never ventured away from finances to politics.”

~ *A story in the Ol’ Dirty on Wednesday about PFC neutrality. This is pure rubbish and slander. Our budget was cut for ulterior motives.*

““The Commentator writes bad things about me. It was a civil discussion and I don’t think there was any political motive there at all,’ [ASUO Senator Steve] Wilsey. said”

~ *What? Sen. Wilsey, we haven’t written bad things about you. Until now, you bottom-feeding Caballo Diablo. Quit gumming up the works and do something that benefits the campus for a change.*



How to produce the Oregon Voice

