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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-six 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.

# FOLLOW US TO FREEDOM

Welcome to the University of Oregon, I am Drew Cattermole your editor and attendant for the flight, the trip is expected to last four years with the possibility of seven, depending on effort. Liquor will be provided at all times, the in-flight meal consist of Top Ramen with a side of Easy Mac. Exit signs are designated throughout the vehicle and are labeled by drug addiction, failing out and going to jail. Remember to keep your hands and feet in the vehicle at all times.

To all the young nubile college students: welcome to college. Enjoy your emancipation from childhood adolescence, and indulge yourself in the freedom to drink beer anytime you please. We are the *Oregon Commentator*, a scrappy bunch of individuals who seem to defy the impossible every once in a while and print a magazine for your reading pleasure

We are approaching our 26th year of publication at The *Oregon Commentator* (our birthday is the 24th). We started in the Reagan era where conservatism ruled the land and have now continued into the quasi-socialist Obama era. As the political landscape of campus and even the United States has changed we have also adapted. We have moved from a conservative journal of opinion, to a libertarian rag to the current state we are at now, an independent journal of opinion. The *Oregon Commentator* was founded by a few aspiring writers who were fed up with the *Oregon Daily Emerald* (the "Ol' Dirty" as we like to call it). They began the *Oregon Commentator* on October 24th, 1983 and it remains as the second oldest publication on campus.

If this is your first time reading this magazine, we are happy to pop your *Commentator* cherry. I hope it is as enjoyable as losing your actual virginity, except try not to cry this time. The "Back to the Booze" issue has been a staple of the *Oregon Commentator* since 1993, paralleling and parodying the *Oregon Daily Emerald's* "Back to the Books" issue. Who needs books when you can have booze?

To be a *Commentator* is not easy. It is a uphill battle against the hippies, extremist and hipsters that are littered throughout Eugene. Our goal is to speak for the people who are tired of the bullshit that encompasses the University of Oregon. We cannot think of any greater way to speak for the downtrodden conservatives of Eugene than to keep our little magazine and blog going.

Besides killing our livers with copious amounts of alcohol, we like to write, design and publish. This magazine is a tribute to what a bunch of politically minded drunkards can accomplish. The *Oregon Commentator* is not your usual campus publication. We are not the bookworms over at the *Oregon Daily Emerald*, or the hipsters that put out the *Oregon Voice*, and never confuse us with the anarchist bastards over at the *Student insurgent*. To make it clear, the *Ol' Dirty* brings

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The *Ol' Dirty* brings you the news, the *Oregon Voice* gives you reviews and the *Oregon Commentator* brings the booze.

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you news, the *Oregon Voice* gives you reviews and the *Oregon Commentator* brings the booze.

The *Oregon Commentator* runs by the motto "Free Minds, Free Markets, Free Booze". A quick summary of our beliefs is that it is a human right to have a place where people are able to think freely, while working in a laissez-faire capitalistic market sipping whiskey. Our mascot is an anthropomorphic mug of beer named Sudsy O'Sullivan. Sudsy is the white knight in the battle against sobriety and cultural appropriateness.

If you think college is going to be easy, you are in for some bad news my friend; it's not. The first week is exciting and full of new things to try and see. Just wait: credit card debt, academic probation, the OLCC, DPS, and the Eugene city police are all hovering just around the corner trying to make your college life miserable. If you ever get the blues have a drink, open up a issue of this magazine and prepare to be entertained. Since the flight is going to be a bumpy one, you might as well have Sudsy O'Sullivan as your captain.

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## Starting off on the wrong foot

Dear Oregon Commentator,

Sorry to have to do this but I must cancel the appointment you have with President Lariviere next monday at 10:00am. As you can imagine, his calendar is in great demand and the time I had scheduled for you is now unavailable. His calendar for August is packed full at this time. I hope you understand the need to postpone.

Thanks,  
Becky

*The OC responds:*

*You realize, of course, that this means war. I can already tell we're not going to be friends. Way to start off on the right foot, Dick.*

## Staff Application Not Necessary

Dear Dane,

I just got hit by a fucking car. Yeah, a fucking car and wow, does my fucking kidney hurt. But who comes to my fucking rescue? None other than a group of fucking freshman. I mean I have talked nothing but fucking shit about freshmen. And It's there fucking first night in eugene and someone gets fucking nailed in there fucking Front YARD. and WOW!!! FUCK!!! It;s me. ON a weird ass fucking raleigh cruiser. Can you imagine if I actually was hurt or anything, but wow, fuck that would have been crazy. But no I had a wonderful group of freshman, take care of me through a rough patch in my life, and i have no idea how to repay them. If only

they knew what I there names here. and how to repay them with what i had to offer.

sincerely,

PETER f./ Lesiak

I MEAN DANE I SINCERELY I GOT HIT BY a car and i couldn't respond to a hit and run becuse i was drunk. WHAT THE FUCK. It's horrile to be me right now. 'm alive though so atleast thats beautiful.

i am a horrible commentator person right now. I'm only good for cartoons

*The OC responds:*

*You're also good for drunken e-mails, buddy. Welcome to the staff!*

# Sudsy Gear

All sizes in green, navy, blue and red (and black in girls)  
Send order requests to [ocomment@uoregon.edu](mailto:ocomment@uoregon.edu)

# \$10





asks ...

What would you have done differently in college?



**"The Don't Tase Me Bro" Guy:**  
Not get tased, bro.

**LeGarrette Blount:**  
Punch more people.



**Robocop:**  
Worn a condom.

**Nancy Pelosi:**  
Lez out. And also--



**Kanye West:**  
Nancy, I'm really happy for you, and Imma let you finish, but Robo-cop had one of the best "OC Asks" of all time. Of all time.

**Obama:**  
Cocaine.



**UO PRESIDENT RICHARD "DICK" LARIVIERE'S  
HATWATCH 2009  
This Week:  
Sombrero**



**Wishing the  
summer was just a  
bit longer.  
Pass me another  
cerveza, hombre!**



### Important Dates

**Oct. 31st - 10th Annual Halloween riot/  
Eugene armageddon**

**Nov. 1st - First blackout morning of the year**

**Nov. 5th - Rain starts, never stops**

**Nov. 15th - Last day to drop "Info Hell"**

**Nov. 28th - Turkey Drop: Breakup with  
your high school sweetheart**

**Dec. 10th - Last day to hook up with some-  
one in your dorm before they find real  
friends**

### Summer Issue Corrections

\* Zach Vishanoff gave an interview that we titled "Conspiracy Theory". Really, Zach's ideas are more like estimated guesses mixed with fan-fiction. The *Commentator* regrets the error.

## Fun at Academic Advising

*Due to our intrepid investigative journalism skills, the OREGON COMMENTATOR has a mole inside academic advising. Below is just a sampling of what we unearthed...*

### Call #1

Student: It won't let me register for this Spanish class. It says I don't have the prerequisites.

Advisor: What are the prerequisites?

Student: Spanish 101

Advisor: Have you taken Spanish 101?

Student: No.

Advisor: I'm glad we got to the bottom of that, mi amigo.

### Call #2

Student: Hi! I was wondering if you could help me find a chocolate course?

Advisor: Excuse me, did you just say chocolate course?

Student: Yes, a course on making chocolate. I wanted your help on my search for chocolate.

Advisor: I'm pretty sure we don't offer a chocolate making course here at the University.

Student: Well, I know that. I just wanted your help.

Advisor: What?

Student: (click)

### Call #3

Student: It says online that if I withdraw from this class now, I'll get a "W" on my transcript. What does that mean?

Advisor: You know how "Withdraw" starts with a "W." It kind of makes sense when you think about it...

### Call #4

Student: Hi, I'm looking for an application to the post-bachelorette program on the website but I can't find the link.

Advisor: You mean the post-baccalaureate program, right?

Student: No, I'm pretty sure I'm a woman...

Advisor: Ma'am, post-baccalaureate is an education term, it has nothing to do with your gender.

Student: Oops, found it then!

## Commentator to publish 25th Anniversary Book

The *Oregon Commentator*, a staple on the campus of the University of Oregon for 25 years, will be publishing a book about the history of the magazine sometime this upcoming fall.

The book, titled *By the Barrel: 25 Years of the Oregon Commentator* will be distributed through the campus bookstore and the *Commentator's* website, [www.oregoncommentator.com](http://www.oregoncommentator.com).

The bulk of the book will follow the many trials and tribulations from the publication's history, including the several times it has been threatened to be de-funded by the student government.

Also included will be excerpts from alumni from all decades of the magazine's existence, including two of the co-founders, Dane Claussen and Richard Burr.

Alumni pieces will be both narratives from those who were present during various controversies and memoriams for the back of the book, a section to be titled "selected essays".

The rest of the book will detail the history of the magazine not specifically related to the various de-fundings, cries of racism etc.

The book promises to be an exciting read for any regular readers of the magazine. The hardbound book is expected to sell for around \$15, and there may be several contests within the magazine throughout the upcoming school year that give readers a chance to win a copy.

Look forward to seeing the book around late October.

**Sudsy  
Says:  
"Remember  
kids, your  
liver doesn't  
need a day off."**



# STUDENT SURVIVAL GUIDE

Greg Campbell

Coming to a new college is tough, especially for freshmen. There is much to learn here, but it can be tough to fully engage in college life if one does not know the pitfalls that lie before him. So, it is important to learn from those that have been able to navigate the treacherous waters.

## DORMS

I know you're away from home for the first time now and you are an adult, but please bear in mind that you are now attending an institution that does everything it can to make you feel powerless and servile. If you live in the dorms, you can kiss any semblance of freedom gone as you will be forced into a closet with another scared freshman spending a year being forced to bend to the will of the resident hall advisors, the goose-stepping security agents of the university.



Think of the RA's like informers in the Gestapo, they have a little authority that strikes fear into the hearts of many and they work hard to make you think that they see all that goes on. Do your best to conceal your gatherings of merriment, but if you get caught doing something that is forbidden, please take my advice and do not attempt to challenge their authority, lest they label you "troublesome" and take a special interest in monitoring

you. Living at the UO is kind of like a cross between "Animal House" and "Schindler's List"

## CLASS



What they don't tell you is that attending class is more of a suggestion. You should definitely attend class when you feel there is something important going on. Your consistency with regards to class attendance will depend largely on your major. If you're a math major, suck it up and do the busy work; there's just not much getting around it. If you're a history major, select classes that will work with you. Don't be bold and declare that this is the term you will learn all about the Franco-Prussian War. Go with your strong suits and skate by on residual knowledge until you have a grasp on how things work.

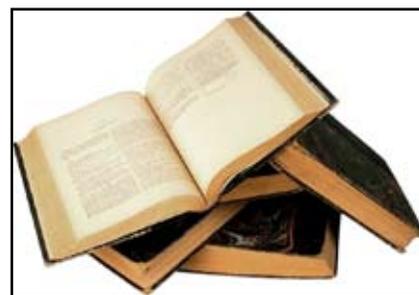
Secondly, get a copy of the syllabus and study that shit. I mean, that piece of paper is the rule of law for that class. You can usually get an idea as to what shit will fly and what won't by reading that. If there's a half page about how laptops will be monitored by GTF's then proceed with caution, as that will undoubtedly interfere with your Wikipedia or music downloading time. What's the point of attending class but to take advantage of the fast internet?

Also, taking notes is good: *if*

you work that way. With some professors, it's easy to catalog their ramblings. But others it's like being a stenographer recording Gary Busey on coke. Try to figure out early if notes will be put on Blackboard or not. If they are, a lot of work is done for you. If they're not, buckle down and do the work.

## BOOKS

Don't be fooled by the hype. You do not need to stock up on books before going to class. In my experience, my schedule rarely remained the same after the first day of class. Sometimes I would find out that the class was taught by a know-nothing mouth-breather who somehow coned *his* way through college and I would drop it. Or, if I kept the class, I would wait and see how slavishly the professor relied on the book. Sometimes they will only reference it once or twice and, if that is the case, you will have bought the book for nothing.



## EUGENE

Congratulations! You are in Liberal heaven. Sure, many who come to college might be "Liberal" as far as a label goes, but before long even the "idealistic" Liberal will lose a measure of faith as he sees that, under the guise of egalitarianism, the hobos, meth addicts and nefarious ne'er do wells get better treatment than the college stu-

dents that support this town's economy.

You will soon need to develop a system for existing in this model of intolerance as it is likely that you possess some vice or opinion contrary to the general vibe of this town. Though the inhabitants by and large pride themselves on a higher degree of progressive thought and tolerance, it should be noted that they mostly only tolerate behavior that they support. Which, when you get down to it, is not tolerance. How do I handle the insanity of the pinkos that work to aid everything I hate while simultaneously denouncing everything I am? I work for the *Commentator*, which provides me an outlet to try and provoke thought in a community that seems to value feeling over rational thought. You've got to find your own way. I suggest drinking.

## BUMS



These "urban survivalists" are everywhere. And I'm sure your parents taught you to be sympathetic to the "less fortunate". So I encourage you to give a bum a dollar and see what happens. Your dollar will go no further than the local 7-11 where the bum will purchase a Mad Dog 20/20 to fuel his crazy ravings throughout the night on the bike path to Springfield. The next day you will see him back at it and your disdain for these pathetic assholes will begin to grow. Be careful about denouncing these lazy parasites of society, as the nearest "know-it-all" hippie will correct your stance by suggesting that homelessness is really a product of exploitative capitalistic practices or from mental illness that is in no way related to the years of drug abuse in which the hobo likely indulged.

My advice is to not embolden the

bums by supporting their "life choice". This will make them less likely to be as conspicuous when asking for hand-outs. However, it should be noted that the bums will remain so long as the city government works feverishly to create a haven for these "stray cats" of society by offering them immunity from illegal camping citations and looking the other way as they perpetrate property crimes.

## ASUO

The ASUO is the body of student government that is comprised of children who know nothing of fiscal responsibility and conduct themselves with the maturity of eight-year-olds. They use various fees that you have paid to be here and do their best to find the most irresponsible ways to spend it. It should be noted that the incidental fees that they collect are used for many things. One of which is student publications, such as the *Daily Emerald* and the *Oregon Commentator*. However, the ASUO funds much more than our little rant-filled publication. They fund the student unions, clubs and the money-devouring monster that is the Student Recreation Center. And that is the problem: the solution to any and all financial viability issues is to simply jack more money from the students rather than fix the viability issues. On the plus side, they do a fantastic job of modeling the American legislative process.

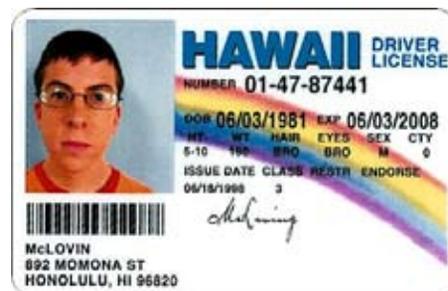
## BOOZE

Okay, first of all, I don't care how old you think you look, the bars around here check ID's. You can try, but it just doesn't work. But don't worry, you're not missing much. Rennie's is filled with drunk *Commentator* writers and Taylor's has "that guy." "That guy" has his collar popped and he is there to hit on the bar skanks and create drama. Believe me, drinking elsewhere is just fine.

With bars being out of the question I would suggest getting an older friend to buy booze for you. You should not wait until nighttime to get a hold of someone to buy you booze. They will be pissy about waiting until the last

second and expecting them to jump to and will likely leave you hanging as punishment for your inconsideration.

So arrange it as soon as you can. Your booze supplier can be older friends, siblings of friends, whatever. Don't bribe a bum, they're unreliable. Also, it is alright to kick your supplier



an extra five-spot to grab something for themselves, but if they tell you a bottle of Burnett's runs around \$20, get another supplier. It isn't tough to get a booze supplier if you think ahead. If you don't, you will be stuck in the hell that is illustrated in enumerable teen comedies.

## ADVICE

Last but not least, learn to adapt. Adapt to everything. Learn to function with little or no sleep. Learn to take a nap, even if you're not tired in anticipation of a tough week ahead. Drink on a school night, stay sober on a Saturday. People who are rigid in their ways try to develop a way of approaching college that is entirely too unyielding. Be prepared for last minute papers you forgot about and expect to blow off inconsequential assignments in favor of an impromptu hang-out that has the markings of being the beginning to a great "you should have been there" story. Enjoy yourself.



*Greg Campbell is a contributor to the Oregon Commentator and is a wise, wise man.*



# pub crawl



The oregon commentator goes pub crawlin' and scrap bookin'

**WHERE WERE YOU:** Rennie's Landing  
 "The Mount Olympus of bars"  
**WHO WAS THERE:** Dane, Guy, Bryanna, Cj, Lyzi, Carly, Vincent, Nicole, Ted, Andrea, Drew.  
**WHAT DID YOU DRINK:** A mean G&T which obliterated Nicole. Pitchers of Drop Top (Dane's favorite and don't you forget it) and Ninkasi Total Domination IPA. And Vincent was ordering double grey hounds.  
**FAVORTIE THING ABOUT THE BAR:** It's not Taylors. Just kidding. Rennie's convenient location, 2 secluded outdoor decks, very friendly staff, great bar food, and eclectic plethora of people, makes it our favorite bar by far.  
**LEAST FAVORITE THING:** Nothing  
**SPECIALS:** Happy hour Sunday through Friday 4-7 and Sunday through Thursday 10-midnight. Micros \$3 pint, \$7.95 pitcher, Domestic \$2.25 pint, \$5.50 pitcher, Well drinks \$2.50 single, \$4.50 double. Red Bull and Absolut \$6.50 all the time.



**WHERE WERE YOU:** Starlight  
 "The Pinnacle of Average"  
**WHO WAS THERE:** OC Crew minus Vincent (he was too old and serious to come out to pub crawl)  
**WHAT DID YOU DRINK:** \$2 Hop Valley Red thanks to Niedermayer Inc., plus a few cocktails.  
**FAVORTIE THING ABOUT THE BAR:** Comfy couches, good specials, decent service.  
**LEAST FAVORITE THING:** No food in-house and you can't buy beer in pitchers here. Not good.  
**SPECIALS:** \$2 Nargaritas, \$2 Oakshire and \$2 Patron Shots from 9:30pm to 10:30pm



**WHERE WERE YOU:** Jameson's  
 "Home of the Hipster"  
**WHO WAS THERE:** The OC Crew  
**WHAT DID YOU DRINK:** Couldn't make it to the bar. Too crowded and we only saw one bartender  
**FAVORTIE THING ABOUT THE BAR:** Leaving  
**LEAST FAVORITE THING:** The absence of consumption  
**SPECIALS:** Unknown





**WHERE WERE YOU:** Horse Head  
 "Geezer Central"  
**WHO WAS THERE:** OC Crew plus OC Alum Bryan Roberts, who was boozin' as usual  
**WHAT DID YOU DRINK:** Again, this place does NOT sell pitchers. Drew did get a pint of Ninkasi, however.  
**FAVORTIE THING ABOUT THE BAR:** Lots of covered outdoor seating  
**LEAST FAVORITE THING:** No pitchers. Also the crowd looked a bit weathered and haggard.  
**SPECIALS:** Does it matter? NO PITCHERS



**WHERE WERE YOU:** John Henry's  
 "The Not A Dive, Dive Bar"  
**WHO WAS THERE:** The OC Crew and a guest appearance by former ASUO President Adam Walsh  
**WHAT DID YOU DRINK:** Shots of tequila. Fighting sobriety and the place was empty  
**FAVORTIE THING ABOUT THE BAR:** Tiered booths, big dance floor  
**LEAST FAVORITE THING:** This place is trying too hard to be a "metal dive bar"  
**SPECIALS:** \$4 bottles (32oz) of High Life, \$1 domestics and wells on Wednesdays, \$2 wells on Thursdays



**WHERE WERE YOU:** Back at Rennie's  
 "Home Away from Home"  
**WHO WAS THERE:** Ted, Andrea, Drew and Nicole  
**WHAT DID YOU DRINK:** A pitcher. The night get's fuzzy here, so don't ask what kind it was.  
**FAVORTIE THING ABOUT THE BAR:** Everybody knows your name  
**LEAST FAVORITE THING:** Being away from it...



**A NOTE FROM THE COMMENTATOR:** You may have realized we did not cover the rest of the seemingly endless list of bars in the Eugene area. This is for two reasons. First, the rest of the places in Eugene suck. That will not stop you from going to "The District" at some point during your stay in Eugene. We just didn't want to condone it in the pages of our magazine. Also, the other reason we didn't cover more bars was because Rennie's was calling our name. Absolutely irresistible.

# Ye Olde Booze Review

*As a freshman you will make a lot of mistakes. You will go to parties where you know no one and you will get busted by the cops. You will roam the streets desperate for beer, finally getting a sketchy bum to buy for you. The most egregious mistake a freshman can make is drinking shitty beer. This guide will help you avoid making that mistake.*

## The Good

Pabst Blue Ribbon or "PBR" - \$9.00/12-pack

There's nothing better than a cold PBR during a nice kickback with some close buddies. It's a cheap beer with a decent taste. You may occasionally get a bad batch, but don't let that sway you.

Coors Light - \$10.00/12-pack

It'll get you drunk and it's cheap. Need we say more?

Corona - \$18.00/12-pack

Nothing looks classier than beer in a bottle. Add some lime wedges and exponentially increase this beer's deliciousness.

## The Middle

Budweiser, MGD, High Life etc.

These beers are middle of the road. You've got a 50/50 chance of them being good when you drink them.

## The Bad

Natural Ice or "Natty Ice" - \$8.50/12-pack

This is a "get drunk" beer. Unfortunately, it also tastes terrible.

Drinking it says "I clearly don't appreciate beer because I'm drinking this piss water."

Busch or Busch Light - \$8.50/12-pack

Really? You couldn't have sprung for the Natty Ice?

## The Ugly

Milwaukee's Best or "The Beast" - \$8.50/12-pack

Let's just not go there, alright? Have some standards.



# Micro Brews

*Micro brews are what separate the men from the boys. Don't get pretentious about your micro brews and you won't go down the road of the hipster. Appreciate the micro brew for what it is: A good, wholesome beer that can compliment a meal just as well as it kills brain cells. Oregon currently has the highest ratio of micro brewerys per capita in the United States. Drink up.*

## Belgium's Fat Tire Ale - \$16.00/12-pack

A good, hoppy beer with very rich flavor and essence. You can't go wrong with this one.



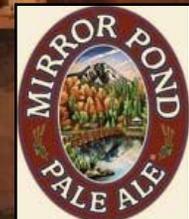
## Rogue's Dead Guy Ale - \$9.50/6-pack

This is a personal favorite. It feels good to get a touch sloshed on it, but I can just as easily sit down and have a few after a long day. I promise you, this one won't disappoint.



## Deschutes Mirror Pond - \$15.00/12-pack

This one is a little hoppy and bitter at first taste. If that's not your thing, then don't do for it but I have to say that this beer definitely grows on you as you drink it. Goes great with dinner.



## Widmer Drop Top - \$17.00/12-pack

Grab a pint of Drop Top down at Rennie's and settle in for the night. It's a great beer to start off on, and as an amber has a sweet, rich taste with medium body.



## Ninkasi

Find a keg or bottle of Ninkasi and hold on for dear life. This is Eugene's finest local brew and in my opinion one of the best beers in the state of Oregon. Grab a glass at almost any bar in Eugene, as they are all beginning to carry the brand.



# A Modern Day Survival Kit: College Freshmen

CJ Ciaramella

*In our modern, post-industrial society, filled with gadgets like Blackberries and fax machines and hoola-hoops, it's sometimes hard to know what's essential to bring with for your day-to-day life. We at the COMMENTATOR have a lot of experience in the field of high-risk, low-income living, so take a few tips from us. These are things you should have on your person at all times, at least in your backpack.*



**A Lighter:** Even if you don't smoke, there's plenty of other things that need to be lit on fire, such as charcoal, trashcans, fireworks, attractive people's cigarettes and effigies of political figures. If you learn to open a beer bottle with a lighter, you can double its utility.



**A Sharpie:** Because you never know when your friend is going to pass out drunk (especially if you have friends like ours). Also good for tagging bathroom walls and the property of people you dislike.



**A Knife:** While other people ineffectually tear at boxes, letters and price tags, you are a high-functioning, tool-using mammal. The opposite sex will instinctively be attracted to you when they see your advanced evolution. Just don't be That Guy With The Knife.



**A Spare Pair of Underwear:** Accidents happen. Hope for the best and prepare for the worst.



**A Condom:** Hope for the best and prepare for the best. Pro tip: The underwear also comes in handy if you can't find your original pair.



**A Notepad and Pen:** Cell phones fall into the toilet, and then all the phone numbers of attractive people you vaguely remember are lost forever. Notepads are also good for remembering the crude things you and your friends said last night.



**The Go-To Number:** When all else fails, this is the number you call. This is the friend who will find you when you're lost, bail you out of jail or let you crash on the couch. If you don't have it memorized, the number should be written largely and clearly in your notepad. If you tend to lose your pants a lot, consider writing it on your forearm (with your Sharpie, not a ball-point pen.)



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From the desk of: Carly Erickson  
To: University of Oregon Freshmen  
Cc: The Oregon Commentator  
Subject: Beware of Hippies!!

October 1st, 2009

Dear Freshmen,

I'm so glad that you have not only found your way to the good ol' U of O, but that you made the wise decision to pick up this publication. You've got a lot to learn about college life and how to survive it (and no, I'm not talking about your classes). You will come across different groups of people who will all want you to join them in expressing their ideals.

Now, I must warn you about a particular group of people: hippies. We need opposing political views in this country, that's what makes America so dang grand. I Hippies are like zombies, only they smell worse. Once they've bitten you with their dread covered heads, you will soon be wearing tie dye and trying to convince everyone you know to "kill their TV." Anyone who hates television is in serious denial about the day and age that we live in. Hippies just know that once they turn on the television they might actually become informed about how the world works. They may seem like an open and loving group of people, but it is actually the opposite. They think that anybody who doesn't wear clothes made of hemp and scorn "the man" is an ignorant drone. Not to mention I've seen homeless people who shower more often. I know that you're just getting to college, you are getting your first taste of real freedom and you've got four (nearly) responsibility-free years ahead of you.

All this excitement may lead you to jump into new groups of people who may seem different or exciting. There are many ways to fulfill your need for a change of pace without having to use the words "man" or "dude" in every sentence. Take a shot of Tabasco, that's new and exciting. Wade into the river in January, that's different. Just don't automatically trade in everything you've ever believed in for a spot in the local drum circle.

Now, I'll admit there are a few gray areas when it comes to determining who is a real hippie and who is not. The first is in terms of music. Just because you like Jimi Hendrix does not mean you are a hippie. Enjoying classic rock does not mean that you have to put a stop to your personal hygiene. If somebody is wearing Birkenstocks, they are not necessarily a crazed hippie. I am telling you about these fuzzy lines and distinctions because I want to make it clear that I am not denouncing all people who might just sort of look like wannabe hippies, I'm telling you to avoid the real, hardcore hippies. The ones that live in dirty houses with forty other people and treat anyone who isn't just like them with as much respect as they'd give to a fly buzzing around their filthy selves.

Do not believe their tall tales of tolerance and respect, because unless you sell all your worldly possessions to follow some Grateful Dead tribute band around the country, you will just be another worthless sheep. So, freshmen, take into consideration what I have told you. Take caution in who you decide to associate yourself with, you can have a great time in college without finding some great super new identity that you think will set you apart. Just drink some beer, and enjoy your college years.

Cheers,  
Carly

# Gun control really about all civil liberties

*You've heard why the right-wing wants their 2nd Amendment rights, you've heard why the left-wing doesn't. Now hear why the OREGON COMMENTATOR fears the suppression of gun ownership.*



T. Dane Carbaugh



Is owning a gun a civil right? Depending on who you ask this volatile question to, the answer will undoubtedly vary from person to person. Yet this is a question that seems to have a rather shocking answer to those concerned with the Constitutional nature of our government here in America.

I've recently had several conversations with proponents of gun control and their answers seem to be rather uniform; proponents of gun control do not believe that owning guns is a civil right. This fact absolutely boggles my mind when considering they *do* believe that freedom of speech, freedom of press and the pursuit of life, liberty and happiness are all natural rights.

Unlike my personal fear of not wanting to accidentally shoot myself in the face, proponents of gun control seem to have their argument based in the irrational fear of firearms instead of the legal nature of civil rights. That is to say, they are afraid of the possibility of criminal gun violence. Coupled with the inherent "keep kids safe from guns" argument, "progressives" end up believing they have a rather solid argument against gun control. Why not take away the means for those wanting to commit violent crimes as well as removing "accidental" danger from the irresponsible hands of a child? Or take the weapon out of the hands of a legally carrying, but nervous and trigger happy citizen to prevent accidents? It's a win-win situation, right?

People seem too quick to forget that the 2nd Amendment is a part of the Constitution we call "The Bill of Rights"--and the weight that label places on the right to bear arms as a civil right. Apparently it is the common assumption among gun control-ers that James Madison and Thomas Jefferson had the incredible foresight to know what rights Americans would need throughout the history of the nation, with the exception of the right to firearms. Now whether or not you disagree with the Lockean nature of the 2nd Amendment has no relevance--the fact remains that as long as the 2nd Amendment is part of the Constitu-

tion of the United States, it will remain a *civil right*.

Unfortunately, the reason that firearms often get overlooked as a civil right is their role in crime. It's from this margin that gun control proponents bring to the fore their argument: Guns give people an easier means to commit violent crimes against other human beings. Yet the 2nd Amendment doesn't say anything about the right of people to bear arms *and suppress the civil rights of others*. Those committing crimes with the assistance of a gun are doing just that, committing a crime. And perpetuating the myth that a civilization devoid of firearms will inherently be devoid of crime is just that, a myth. Are criminals committing crimes *because of their guns*, or in addition to them?

If the government were to ban guns, another tool would only present itself in order to perpetuate those crimes. Would the banning of firearms really make the *motivation* for crime less persistent? Or would it simply be a roadblock to those driven to commit crimes due to other forces, like poverty?

Before I go any further, let me explain something about myself. I am personally physically afraid of guns. I hadn't held or fired one until recently, and Guy Simmons can attest to my timid nature (or what he referred to as my "domestication"). I was raised in a suburb and have no experience with guns of any kind.

So why am I wary of the regulation of firearms?

First is its *de facto* widening of the scope of our government. Historically, giving government more control over what has been legally established as a "right" in *any* country has been a grave choice. This is especially concerning in a country like America where the power of the federal government has skyrocketed out of control both in its jurisdiction over its people and in its relative differing weight amongst its branches. I find myself hard pressed to understand the expropriation of more power to the government.

The second thing that worries me are the pro-gun control people themselves. Their inability to see the fallacy and indeed hypocrisy in their own rhetoric is

rather unsettling. The liberal proponents of gun control have been overheard in recent years complaining about the corruption within the government--Bush, Cheney and any number of legislators. What I just don't understand is the ability to complain about governmental corruption on one hand, and then promote government control of a civil right on the other.

Trusting the government with civil liberties is not something to be taken lightly, and the idea that the government has the ability to regulate such a thing is absolutely beyond naive--it's insane. History has never proven that governments have ever had the ability to do so. (Ask anyone from Latin America who was alive in the last century, or anyone from the USSR.)

So why do I believe in the deregulation of guns, especially when I will never own one myself? It really comes down to whether or not I want the civil liberties I *do* actively use, like my right to free speech, to be repressed. As long as the 2nd Amendment is considered a civil right here in America, *which it is*, its suppression or brutalization by the federal government can only be seen as an encroachment on our civil rights as a whole.

It may seem far-fetched to some of you liberals out there, but once the suppression of our right to guns happens one has to ask, "What's next?" You may remember that you (and indeed, I) were asking the same thing when Bush started wire-tapping people and suspended the writ of habeas corpus.

I am therefore afraid of gun control for the simple fact that it has the ability to usher in an era of suppression concerning the rights so many of us cherish; whether or not you are from the left or from the right, for guns or against them.




---

*T. Dane Carbaugh is the Publisher of the Oregon Commentator and has tickets to the gun show (Flex).*

*War on Toner  
update:  
Mission  
Accomplished!  
Expect complete  
troop withdrawal  
by 2018.*

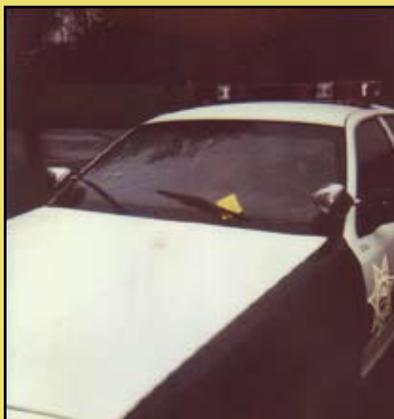
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# BEARD OF THE MONTH BENNET SMITH

*University of Oregon GTF and man-purse aficionado is the winner of the Oregon Commentator's Beard of the Month Contest.*

*If you'd like to submit your beard or mustache please e-mail us at:  
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Winners receive a free Sudsy t-shirt.*



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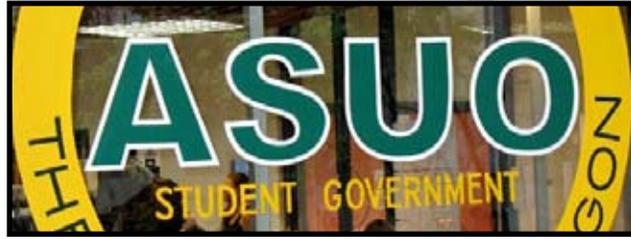
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# Another Perspective



Emma Kallaway

*Another Perspective is the place the OREGON COMMENTATOR gives to students who are not connected with any campus media outlet a chance to make their voice heard, regardless of political affiliation, race or religion. We do not edit the submissions--they are printed as they are received and are accepted even if your ideology differs from ours. If you would like to write for AP, please e-mail us at ocomment@uoregon.edu*

If you've ever read the *Oregon Commentator* before, I'm sure you're aware of how this publication views student government at the University of Oregon. Each year, the publishers of the *Commentator* fill up countless column inches and blog posts criticizing the Associated Students of the University of Oregon (ASUO) from every conceivable angle. They ridicule and impugn the motives of the students that choose to participate, they condemn many of the decisions made by the ASUO, and often question whether students can or even should be trusted to allocate the fee money paid by their peers.

Why the big debate? The ASUO is the student government on campus, and is primarily responsible for allocating the funds collected through the \$195 Incidental Fee paid by students to the various student programs, departments and services that students utilize. With that much money at stake, there are bound to be disagreements about spending.

To be honest, at times the ASUO deserves the *Commentator's* criticism. Student government at the University of Oregon is composed of people who, just like everyone else, are imperfect and capable of making poor decisions. The publishers of the *Commentator* are right to shed light on these decisions and do a service for University of Oregon students and for the ASUO itself by holding us accountable when we err. Though I often don't agree with the manner in which the *Commentator* expresses its criticism, I appreciate the service they provide.

However, I wholeheartedly believe that

students deserve the responsibility to control where their money goes, and that they are capable of doing it effectively. Decades of University of Oregon students have fought for the right of students to allocate Incidental Fee money, and it's because of this effort that the ASUO's founding documents spell out our legal right to determine where our fee money goes.

Many of the services that you enjoy as a student at the U of O are funded either partially or wholly by the ASUO. The student tickets to football and basketball games that you are provided are actually purchased from the athletic department by the ASUO each year. Your ability to ride any LTD bus simply by flashing your student ID is a result of the contract that the ASUO negotiates and signs each year, resulting in a drastically lower price per student than if you were to try to purchase an individual pass. The entire EMU gets about half of its funding from the ASUO, and is governed by a student-lead Board of Directors. Voter registration drives, lobbying efforts on behalf of students in Salem, the bike loan program, campus recycling, access to the Student Recreation Center, a subscription to the Oregon Daily Emerald, and funding for over 100 student programs (including the *Commentator*) are all annually provided by the ASUO using student fees.

All of these programs and services are funded through an exhaustive budgeting process that is comprised of four different budget committees, as well as the ASUO Senate and Executive - all run entirely by students. The benefits of students allocating this fee instead of the ad-

ministration or state legislators are obvious: Students are more likely to have direct experience with the services on campus and know what is working and what isn't. More importantly, because the people who determine the budgets are elected (or appointed) by students, they are much more likely to be responsive to student needs.

For example, students were long frustrated by the Knight Library's early closing time during the school year. As a result, the ASUO Executive and Senate researched the plausibility of keeping the Knight Library open around the clock throughout the week, and provided the funding necessary to make it happen. Similarly, when students complained about a lack of late-night transportation options from campus to the apartments around Autzen Stadium where many students live, the ASUO again provided funding for late-night LTD bus service from campus to that neighborhood. It's unlikely that these services would have been offered in the first place if students were not able to control their own budgeting process. The ASUO gives students the ability to change and improve all aspects of their University of Oregon experience.

This year, the ASUO is going to continue to strive to improve the student experience at the U of O. Throughout this summer, we have already been hard at work negotiating the new LTD contract for this school year and trying to secure permanent funding for the 24-hour library service. We have introduced a new distribution system for football and basketball tickets that should be much more efficient and reliable than last year. We will also be unveiling a "Know Your Rights" campaign in coordination with the Department of Public Safety that will aim to educate students about their legal rights at the U of O.

We are also going to be working harder than ever to demonstrate to students how hard the ASUO works for them. Throughout the year, we will be implementing a new ASUO branding campaign that will increase the visibility of where your fee money goes and what services it pays for. This campaign will introduce a new logo, increased utilization of social networking tools like Twitter and Facebook, and an improved online presence, including a revamped

Web site and a new ASUO blog. We believe that you don't just deserve a student government that works for you, but one that effectively communicates the work it accomplishes.

The ASUO is far from perfect, but it's hard to deny the positive influence that student government has at the U of O. You can't walk from one side of campus to another without seeing something that has been funded or sponsored by the ASUO. Every time you ride a bus, go to a Ducks game, get something to eat in the EMU, study late at night in the Knight Library, or pick up the latest edition of the *Oregon Commentator*, you're enjoying a service that your incidental fee helped fund.

And if you there's something that you think the ASUO could do better? Come help us! There are almost always open positions all around the ASUO that need to be filled by students like you. There are also ASUO elections every spring term that are open to all fee-paying students. If you don't have the time or inclination to serve in the ASUO, come talk to us directly. Weekly meetings of the ASUO Senate are open to the public, and all members of the Senate and Executive are required to hold weekly office hours in the ASUO office on the ground level of the EMU.

Our job as student leaders is to represent you – if you feel like we can do a better job, please don't hesitate to let us know.




---

*Emma Kallaway is the ASUO student body President*

# SPEW...

and back to school, back to school...

## ON NEEDING TO CUT BACK

---

"Meth is a perfect drug on which to commit atrocities, feel good while you're doing them and forget about them afterwards."

*-LCC Instructor and Dave Matthews Band member Mark Harris somehow relates meth addiction to racism in a recent Eugene Weekly column. Nothing like shooting up on intolerance!*



"Locally, Irving Grange is having an alcohol-free pirate costume party at 6:30 pm Saturday, Sept. 19. Bring a Caribbean pirate-type finger food for potluck snacks. There will be pirate games with pirate treasures and pirate punishment for those not in costume. Tickets are \$2."

*-A recent news blurb from the Eugene Weekly. So adults are dressing up as pirates... there's no alcohol involved... and presumably there are no scantily-clad sorority "wenches"? Sounds like a great time.*

## ON A LEAP OF FAITH

---

"Somewhere Orwell shakes his head, and somewhere Jesus weeps."

*-In a letter to the EW denouncing the nature of healthcare debate between Democrats and Republicans, Scott Michael Perey decides that yes, he is going to make that jump.*



## ON THE GOOD OLD DAYS

---

"I miss the real conservatives... they were people with whom you could agree on the facts even if you disagreed on what to do with them.

...Old-school conservatives helped sort out what's actually true instead of denying it. We're all poorer for their extinction."

*-Peter Stranton in a letter to the Register-Guard. Wait... we're extinct? Holy shit, call the police! No, wait--the Guinness Book of World Records! Don't worry, baby. We're not going anywhere.*

## ON SELECTIVE READING

---

"On a very recent road trip to southern Oregon we pulled into Eugene to have breakfast at one of the key restaurants in town. We finished up breakfast, and pulled the bicycles off the van and rode down to the much talked about Farmers' Market to take in the colors, flavors and sounds. We were impressed in every way and dropped a benji into various vendors' pockets and headed back to our locked-up bicycles. Much to our surprise the rear wheel was gone off my partner's Univega. She was quite shocked, as was I. It was the act of a local crumb bum who desperately needed a fix of aluminum and steel. This really put a sour taste in our mouths and gave Eugene's reputation as a bicycle friendly town a whole new twist.

On our future travels to southern Oregon, we will take our money and bicycles elsewhere."

*-A whiny resident of Tacoma, Peter DeGray, writes to the Eugene Weekly. Mr. DeGray apparently read about how many bikes there are in Eugene but somehow missed the fact that we have some of the highest property crime rates in the state.*

## ON JUST A BUCK O' FIVE

---



"Freedom does not mean doing whatever the hell you want. Certain responsibilities come with freedom. There are also too many people to do whatever you want and a limited amount of resources as well.

In order for us all to live together in society, we agree to live by certain rules like stopping at red lights and wearing clothes. We employ government, hopefully, to create a greater structure within which we can operate without hurting each other and in which we could possibly take care of the earth for future generations, maybe even two.

Instead of driving the biggest vehicle you can, naked with a gun, try having freedom of thought instead and opening your mind to other ways of thinking. That's where true freedom lies."

*-A letter to the Eugene Weekly titled "What Freedom Means" from Nikky Calvert. Apparently Nikky hasn't the slightest clue that there's a difference between "natural rights" and "freedom of choice".*

## ON POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

---

"While older adults have long continued their educations or taken personal enrichment classes at LCC, the colleges new Successful Aging Institute offers classes especially designed for seniors and those who work with them."

*-Emily Smith from the Register-Guard details LCC's new program. Looks like our name for the program didn't win out. We thought "Octogenarian Money Plunder Program" sounded better.*

