

opinion

Center of Eugene

You can take Eugene out of the Center, but you can't the Center out of Eugene.

That is the crux of the matter for many Eugene taxpayers and bondholders who are proud of their new performing arts center. The idea behind naming the Eugene Performing Arts Center was to thank all \$18.5 million worth of taxpayers' "contributions" and to sell Eugene as a place where the citizens are willing to risk their funds to improve their city.

The emphasis and praise for the Center was supposed to be on Eugene, not private donations. Petitioners for a reconsideration of the naming of the Hult Center want Eugeneans to have the benefit of naming their performing arts center.

Most petitioners are grateful for the \$3 million that Nils and Jewell Hult have donated to the arts foundation for the Center. Should the city council with full hearings choose to verify the name of the Hult Center for the Performing Arts, the petitioners would be satisfied.

The point is Eugeneans as a whole had the right to name the Center. The petitioners dislike the way the Center was named. The 11th-hour decision by the City Council following the private dinner where the Hults announced their donation was not open an open forum.

Rumors that the naming of theatres or even the whole kaboodle were the impetus for individual donations seems rather exaggerated. Immortality can be purchased many places, including various parts of the whole Center.

Eugeneans have a legitimate gripe. The power of nomenclature was stolen from them one night.

mike riplinger the vital game

It's more than just a game.

That's the way most armchair quarterbacks feel about football. With the NFL Players Association strike on, the fans have lost a vital part of American life.

For us non-athletic types, watching the mammoths smash each other is a great way to get rid of our own frustrations. Watching somebody smash a home run is heart-rending, but it just doesn't carry the same animalistic thrill as watching your favorite team's defensive tackle crush a quarterback you can't stand.

It's a great way of letting out emotions.

Watching your team destroy a rival is a great feeling. Even when your team blows a big lead and loses a game, you still end up yelling and getting rid of some tensions.

A great NFL football game makes you feel great one moment, a manic-depressive the next. But regardless of how you feel, you do feel something while watching the game and that is what's important.

For many, football is more than a game of winning and losing. It's an allegory of life.

The story of the underdog

coming back and beating the favorite is like telling your boss off, getting fired and then rehired as the boss.

A pass thrown into the end zone, intercepted and returned a 100 yards for a touchdown is like having the bank ready to foreclose the mortgage on your house, you decide to have one last spree in Las Vegas and end up winning \$100,000.

Sure, it never happens in real life, but there aren't enough old movies on television to get all the necessary fantasies. So you have to find them where you can.

And now, there are few alternatives to let out these frustrations and play out these fantasies.

You could watch only college football, but there isn't enough of it. You can always try Canadian football — the game is a little different and the names are a little strange, but it is basically the same.

But, if you're a true NFL fan, nothing short of the weekend game will do. You're left with your frustration and no place to displace it, unless, of course, you decided to get the old cleats and shoulders pads and try a little scrimmage yourself.



letters

Snobbery

I have been in Eugene for a little over one year and upon my departure feel I must speak up and say that which has been on my mind before I leave "God's country."

First, let me say that I feel the state is beautiful (although it seems to me that all country is God's country) and I in no way regret coming to Oregon to attend graduate school. Not only is the state beautiful but the people usually are also. I do not imply that they are all physically beautiful (although many women are very attractive) but they seem beautiful within. People here are, as a fellow student (also from the east) once said, classless.

Perhaps it is the beauty of this state that is the cause or reason behind the resident's snobbery. Yes, snobbery. Although I have resided in Eugene for more than one year, I have yet to feel welcome here. That's not saying that I am told to leave directly but it seems that the message is implied behind residents' exterior. I believe a past governor said something about it being fine to visit Oregon but please don't stay. Well, I'm leaving.

One thing that has bothered me through my stay here has been the condemnation of the east by people who obviously haven't seen the beauty of southern Maine, Vermont, the White Mountains of New Hampshire or have hiked the Appalachian Trail through the Green Mountains in Vermont into western Massachusetts.

Which brings me to another point I have had training in. I too enjoy the outdoors and nature but this must not be done to the

exclusion of everything else.

Oregon has gone overboard with its planning and land-use regulations to the point that no industry wants anything to do with this state. Diversification, my ass! A state doesn't just get the perfect "clean industry" alone.

People in Eugene are more friendly than I've been used to and they generally seem more caring. More caring about their precious land but with the divorce rate being what it is in Eugene and Springfield, I would hardly say more caring about one another.

By becoming more friendly or call it laid-back, I have lost many of my inhibitions but in doing so I've been taken advantage of just as I have been back east. People back east aren't cold, as they are typically referred to as being. They are merely more cautious before establishing relationships. Now, I ask you, what's wrong with that?

I've made several trips to California, the state many of you are originally from, and have found that Californians regard Oregonians with the same attitude you regard them.

I have talked with many native Eugeneans who believe the word snob describes Oregonians best. In fact, I got that description from a native.

Gary Zahorsky
Eugene

Jejune letter

Many thanks to David DeVries. His jejune letter was one of the finest pieces of sesquipedalian tergiversation the Emerald has ever seen.

Richard Ludescher
Chemistry

Set straight

The article in the Oct. 1 Emerald about "student-faculty committees" contains a gross error. The Faculty Personnel Committee includes two students members who participate fully in all the committee's deliberations. They vote on every issue that comes before the committee, and their votes become part of the official record, along with the votes of the faculty on the committee. I can't imagine where Lori Kleinsmith got the idea that students on the FPC do not vote: had she asked any student who has previously served on the committee, she would have been set straight promptly.

Peter Bergquist
Faculty Personnel Committee

Void reporting

Concerning the article entitled "VOID" in Friday's Emerald, something should be said in favor of more accurate reporting.

To begin with, "Romeo Void" did not play two songs, but three songs for their encore.

Secondly, their final number was not "Pump it Up" by Elvis Costello, but their own original number called "Wrap it Up." Being such obvious mistakes, one might question if the reporter had even attended the concert.

In the future, the Emerald might want to pay more attention to the accuracy of their reporting. Although this is a small article, errors such as this might distort the meaning of important news articles.

Mark Howerton
Junior, telecommunications

oregon daily emerald

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