

opinion

Pump your own gas

Pumping gas for your car is not exactly a constitutional right, but it sure might save time and money.

Ballot Measure 4 would permit non-service station personnel — car drivers — to pump gas in retail sales gas stations.

Excluding New Jersey and Oregon, all other 48 states have self-service gas stations. The other states don't complain, in fact, out-of-state visitors pull into Oregon gas stations, jump out of their car and begin pumping their own gas — only to find they are breaking the law. Oregon — that state with only one professional sport and no self-service gas stations.

Self-serve stations have no higher number of accidents. Insurance companies rates are exactly the same for self-serve or gas-jockey stations.

The options of full-service and mini-service should remain for elderly, handicapped and other drivers who prefer not to pump their own gas.

The self-service option is a good one and it is an option in 48 states, where still only 40 percent of gasoline stations are self-service.

Will the measure eliminate jobs? Perhaps, if low profit stations decide to turn to self-service rather than shut down. Will the measure lower gas prices? Opponents say no, the savings in personnel will be made up in profits. The proponents say yes, consumers will save from one to four cents a gallon.

Yes on Ballot Measure 4 means voting for an increased convenience.

joan nyland

suitable for comment

This is the story of Jane Q. Student, an imaginary returning music major at the University.

Jane arrived on campus Sept. 26 to register for classes she knew would cost her \$460, plus \$45 in fees and \$20 for P. E.

Like a good student Jane paid her deferred tuition (at a cost of \$6) and bought her books — all \$80 worth.

Then the trouble began.

During the second day of registration, Jane drove her car to campus to attend a choir meeting. Parking in front of PLC, Jane plugged in a dime and presumed she'd be back in two hours. Wrong, Jane.

The city meters that used to be 5 cents per hour are now 25 cents per 75 minutes. Jane returned to her car two hours later to find a \$6 ticket on her car.

Jane also found out while at the music school that her flute lessons would cost her an extra \$140 a year and her practice room \$5 for the year. The arts are expensive, Jane.

But no matter, Jane, like Eugene, knows her priorities. She merely checked out a novel to read the first homeworkless weekend of school.

Jane solidified her schedule after a few days in class and realized that 18 hours would be academic suicide, especially with her lucrative job raking

leaves.

So Jane dropped Imaginology 301 and returned her books to the bookstore. Lo and behold, a 50-cent charge for "processing" each returned book.

What more could they charge her for?

Jane returned to her car, parked in student parking, to find a \$5 ticket upon her unpermitted vehicle. She's a dutiful student, really. So Jane marched up to campus security and bought her \$27 car permit and \$2 bike permit.

Jane phoned home.

Mom of Jane said don't worry we'll mortgage the house. Jane foregoes monster cookies at 55 cents a munch.

Right now Jane's getting upset and developing a rash. So she goes to the Health Center where a doctor prescribes her medicine, but Jane won't know until November the cost of that prescription.

Jane doesn't care anymore.

What will she do when she realizes her novel so nicely misplaced in her apartment for the last 10 days is costing her 25 cents a day?

So far, Jane's spent \$709 this term on campus, not counting school supplies or food.

Consult the counseling center, Jane. It's still free.



THE NOT-SO-GOOD SAMARITAN

letters

Reflection

Debbie Howlett's editorial concerning the high school journalists' clash with the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade last Wednesday is worthy of additional reflection.

Four years ago I attended the same conference as a high school journalist myself. Coincidentally, a similar scenario took place — similar, but far from identical.

The RCYB was out in full force that day, too. The faces were different, but the rhetoric was the same. What wasn't the same, however, was the atmosphere. Rather than throwing garbage and yelling meaningless insults, my peers and I partook in what Debbie has called the free "evaluation and exchange of ideas."

We believed then, as I still believe now, that the free exchange of ideas is what journalism, or for that matter democracy in general, is all about.

The RCYB didn't win any more support with their presentation four years ago than they did last Wednesday. But they did learn that American democracy, and the freedom of expression that goes along with it, was alive and well.

It would be nice if last Wednesday's confrontation could be explained away as just an isolated incident egged on by a few immature high school students. But the extremely conservative movements of our country today seem to indicate that the confrontation was more of a "sign of the times."

Rather than grasping the opportunity to constructively discuss the merits and faults of two contrasting ideas, the

crowd chose to close its ears and raise its voice in intolerance. What's the term those activists use for that? Oh yes — "American fascism."

Randy Cook
junior, journalism

Pragmatist

Gunther's letter in the Oct. 12 Emerald contains several misstatements about congressional candidate Ross Anthony to which I would like to respond.

First, Gunther erroneously claims that Anthony is a supply-side economist who unequivocally supports Reagan. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Time and again, Anthony has publicly explained that he is a pragmatist who, unlike Reagan, supports eliminating taxes on savings; who, unlike Reagan, supports reducing military expenditures by at least \$35 billion and who, unlike Reagan, supports changing our tax system to eliminate loopholes and subsidies for special interest groups.

Second, Gunther asks how Anthony will balance the budget; and third, trim federal programs and maintain our obligation to the truly needy.

Obviously, Gunther has not been listening! Again, Anthony has publicly stated that we must choose a target date for balancing the budget and consistently move towards that goal by greatly reducing our defense spending, collecting taxes and debts which are currently unpaid, changing our tax system to eliminate loopholes, and promoting environmentally sound growth so that unemployment will fall. He publicly supports adequate funding for education, health care, and ba-

sic research which provide for long-range solutions to our problems.

Anyone who wants further clarification of Anthony's positions should join the public demand, so far ignored by Mr. Weaver, for public debates between the incumbent Weaver and his challenger Anthony.

James Anderson

Being booed

I am troubled that our University athletes are being booed. I think it is important to remind the student body that these are not professionals, but fellow students.

Theodore Roosevelt expressed beautifully a philosophy that applies not only to the larger arena of life. He stated:

"In the battle of life it is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled or the doer of the deed could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly, who errs and comes short again and again because there is no effort without error and shortcomings; who does actually strive to do the deed; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those timid souls who have never tasted neither victory nor defeat.

Alan Schlosser
Lake Oswego

letters policy

The Emerald will attempt to print all letters containing fair comment on topics of interest to the University community.

Letters to the editor must be limited to 250 words, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is turned in to the Emerald office. The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length, style or content.

"Your turn" is an Emerald opinion feature submitted by members of the University community. "Your turns" must be limited to 500 words and typed. This editorial column will not be edited by the staff, but selection will be based on appropriateness.

Letters to the editor and "Your turns" should be turned into the Emerald office, Suite 300 EMU.

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