

Consider the 'Humble' bagel

I knew it was going to be a problem day when my roommate put sweet pickles in the scrambled eggs. I can eat dill pickles in my eggs, but sweet pickles are nightmarish.

reporter's notebook kim carlson

The day dragged on and in the middle of the drippy, soppy afternoon, I got hungry and blue-feeling. There was only one cure for that...it was bagel time.

Authentic water bagels are, in my mind, a prized gastronomic treat. Certainly, they are too filling to eat every day, but on some days when I'm hungry and blue-feeling they are terrific soothers: filling and tasty, especially when smothered with cream cheese.

So off I went, trotting to the EMU's food service in search of a raisin bagel. Everyone who has a knowledge of bagel lore knows that Eugene's Humble Bagel Company manufactures probably the best bagel around. And what I craved only a Humble Bagel would do.

But alas, I was soon to discover that the EMU does not stock the Humble Bagel water bagel anymore. Instead, on a crummy tray, there squatted a row of white, doughy, fat imposters. And no raisins.

I was crushed, and my sleuthing began. I called Jim Covington, the director of the food service.

"We don't have Humble Bagels because Humble Bagel wasn't humble," he said. He explained that un-

til this summer the EMU food service had been selling about 90 dozen Humble bagels a day. But sales dropped off to about 25 dozen.

Why? Who dropped the bagels? Covington says the bagels were smaller than the standard 3 ounce size. He also says they weren't fresh and weren't cut correctly. He calls them culls. So the EMU quit buying Humble Bagels, and instead put those horrendous excuses on the shelves.

Still Jim Covington did offer some hope, saying that if the Humble Bagel Company can bring back their superior product, the EMU would consider stocking it again.

So I called the co-owner of the Humble Bagel Company, Chuck Bader. He insisted that there was not a lot of hostility between the two superpowers in question, and acknowledged that his company was having some difficulties. He blamed problems with new equipment and problems with one of the suppliers who changed malt-types.

"They (the Humble bagels) tasted good but looked bad," Bader says.

But his testimony also offered a glimmer of hope. He says that Humble Bagel may indeed have ironed out their production problems, and they hope to approach the EMU with the perfected bagel, soon.

So, there you have it, the motives behind the all this Humble madness.

I won't beg. But I will state here and now that I for one, would much rather eat a deformed Humble Bagel than a picture-perfect, but terrible-tasting substitute. Does anyone see things my way, or am I not showing any humility?

Kim Carlson is a journalism student and the Emerald's assistant entertainment editor.

letters

Confused

I must confess to being a little confused about Melissa Barker's ongoing effort to litigate against the federal "Solomon Amendment," the recently-enacted federal law which requires that all federal financial aid applicants submit proof of draft registration or exemption before being eligible for federal financial aid. I refer in particular to Barker's legal standing to file such a lawsuit.

On what legal grounds does she propose to demonstrate that this law deprives her of federal financial aid? She is a female who is exempt from draft registration in the first place, and therefore certainly could not be denied eligibility for failing to register. The several articles that have referred to her case each quote her as saying that she was unfairly "targeted" by the law. Pardon my ignorance, but what in the world is that supposed to mean?

I still maintain that Barker, by virtue of her gender, is exempt from the provisions of the Solomon Amendment and therefore legally unqualified to file a lawsuit.

Secondly, your articles report that Barker would like to file suit against the amendment on the grounds that it violates a provision of the Oregon Constitution which "prevents laws from interfering with rights of conscience." Again, Barker seems to be ignorant of another basic tenet of American jurisprudence (which the ROTC protesters would seem to share): that, in a federal system such as ours, a federal law prevails over a

subordinate state or local law, even if those inferior laws are written into a state's constitution.

Perhaps someone involved with this case would be willing to come forward and clarify these two points.

Thomas Karter
sophomore, history

Straightforward

We would like to address Earl Gosnell's letter of Nov. 9. We, too, feel that the matter of whether or not to close the doors of a Christian church to homosexuals is relatively straightforward.

We would like to remind Gosnell and others who think as he does that Luke 6:37 states: "Judge not, that ye be not judged." God does have preferences as to how we live our lives; however, none of us can claim to completely know God's mind. Clearly, we can interpret God's word as we read it in the Bible, but all of the different interpretations of the Bible today make it obvious that no one person or group of people has a specific key to the way and will of God. We know that God loves us so much that God gives us the free will to live the way we choose to live. Moreover, God does not expect us to be perfect, or to earn salvation by "good works." God grants salvation as a gift, available to all people by virtue of what is written on their hearts, not as a consequence of their sexual orientation.

Sharon Rodgers, David Kisling,
Joan Kisling, Bill Hewgley,
Scott Sunday, Jeff Parsons
episcopal campus ministry

Infidels

Brandon Shepard, once again, is undeniably correct in his recent letter concerning the Solomon Amendment and governmental aid.

It's amazing how infidels against the Solomon Amendment feel the government owes them something.

The government has many duties to carry out; mainly protecting the country, people and instilling law and order. However giving money to potential welchers is not one of them.

Arguments against my view hold that the government makes a profit off the loans' interest rate and is therefore beneficial to the government as well as the recipient. In reality however, many people haven't paid back their loans and most likely won't. And besides I doubt people acquire loans just to help the government.

Liberals love to sponge off the government but when there's a hitch to it they cry "unconstitutional." It seems as if their freeloading tag is as sacred to them as bombings are to Moslem terrorists, and they'll carry it out to its greatest extreme.

Governmental aid is a privilege, not a right — there's no constitutionality involved here. Recycle your signs for another protest.

I believe in the draft and I believe in John F. Kennedy's famous quote when he said, "Don't ask what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." Amen.

Dan Goulet



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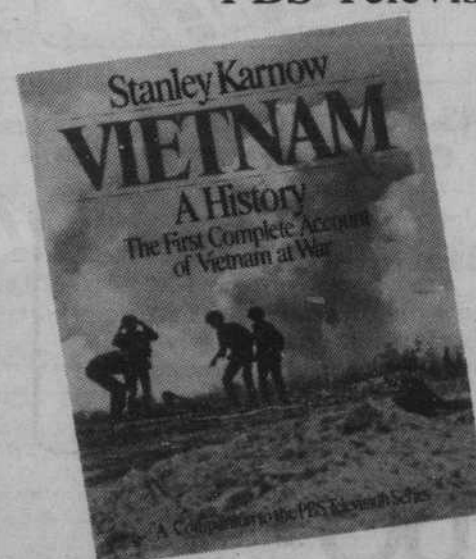
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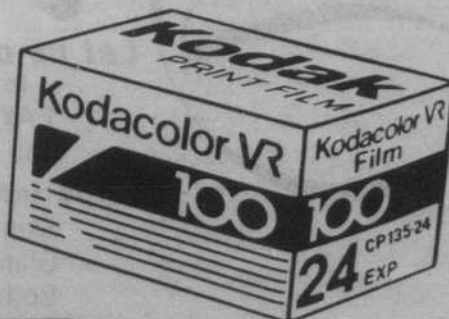
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