

Baseball fans realize which choice is best

Viewers of tonight's "debate" between George Bush and Michael Dukakis should tune in with a bag of popcorn and a grain of salt.

As we are in the final throes of baseball season and at press time the Wednesday night final game of the National League championship series has not yet been played, it is with the proper amount of respect for the election that we point out if the baseball game has been delayed by rain, then the debate also will be delayed.

Some people think baseball is boring. Some people hate the Mets. Some people do not like Tommy Lasorda, the manager of the Dodgers, because he is fat and obnoxious.

Some people do not understand the subtleties of baseball. They fall asleep during the long spans of inactivity. All the pitches look the same. After all, if you've seen one baseball game, you've seen 'em all.

However, if the game has been played, and we have to wait until Saturday night for another (when the World Series starts), then all three networks will air the game between King George and the Duke. Some people will rent a movie.

Baseball in this case is being given due respect. Heaven forbid the presidential debate should preempt our national pastime. Should the two events be conducted simultaneously, network telephone lines would light up like warning lights at Chernobyl.

If we had to actually choose between the two, imagine the dilemma of bored students at UCLA, where the debate is being held: Should I drive through all that traffic to attend the final game of the playoffs at Dodger Stadium, or should I walk across campus to witness the face-off between Bush and Dukakis?

Start the car, Bubba. Maybe we'll catch a foul ball.

Shue's comments dig up dirt in wrong backyard

In all fairness to Emily Schue, candidate for the Eugene mayoral race, dredging up the 20-year-old comments of a former mayor clearly appears as an eleventh hour jab, a desperate maneuver.

Monday morning on KUGN-AM, Schue flatly stated that Jeff Miller, her opponent in the mayoral race, is mistrusted by the minority community. She implied that the lack of trust grew out of an endorsement by former Mayor Ed Cone, who in 1968 made a visit to South Africa and returned with the impression that it was "a wonderful country."

Of course, Cone's feelings at that time, misrepresented or not, have little relevance on the upcoming election and should never have been raised. If the minority community truly distrusts Miller, as Schue suggests, then it would be best served to wonder why.

If Schue can offer no better evidence of that distrust than an outdated remark by a former mayor, then she should offer the apology that Miller has demanded.

Apologies aside, the issue could easily be resolved by the minority community. We welcome letters in response to both Schue's tactics and Miller's outrage.

Now that the lines of battle have been drawn, it would be interesting to discover the truth. Is there any basis to Schue's implications, or is she merely digging for dirt in the wrong back yard?



Letters

Fairy tale

Once upon a time, there was a student who ambled along 13th Avenue every day in the early morning hours. Arriving at a local "coffee haus," he would buy a fresh cup of "expresso" enroute to his first class.

Trekking to 150 Geology, the student passed Condon Hall; glancing to his right, he was awed by the ethereal surroundings. Birds gossiping in the trees, the aroma of freshly cut grass on the quadrangle and the squirrels scampering about.

This went on for a year and a half; going to class, studying at the library, and enjoying the companionship of his fellow classmates outside Johnson Hall.

Until one day, he noticed something strange about the land

The once-fertile environment had become vandalized with garbage. Looking around, he no longer saw the birds, for they had flown to a cleaner region; the once-manicured lawn of the quadrangle was now a disposal site for "class notes" and "cigarette waste." The scampering squirrels lay dead from the "diesel exhaust" that pierced their tiny lungs.

Tired and depressed, the stu-

dent slumped beside an inebriated transient outside Condon Hall. Pondering the question of "Why — when there are so many interest groups throughout this institution denouncing such things as toxic waste in their community, nuclear arms and apartheid — why can't they clean their own yard?"

Like a bolt of lightning, the answer jolted him: "Hypocrites!" Similar to the higher government in the land, the people here are so engrossed in dealing with other society's social inequities, that they don't deal with their own

I'm glad this is only a "fairy tale." Aren't you?

Tony Piculell
English

Write-in

The Eastern establishment uses Henry Kissinger and Cyrus Vance to form commissions of non-elected people, answerable only to the elite, to wield government power by bipartisan consensus, headed by Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter ... a Grand Coalition of Fascism ... with either George Bush or Michael Dukakis as a figurehead president ... destroying America's world power, conceding that power to Moscow.

Give Lyndon LaRouche a write-in vote for president. He will stand up to the elite ... replace the bankrupt economy of free trade with our founding father's American economic system. Put people back to work, thus broadening the tax base; back our monetary system with a gold standard with low interest for farmers; industries and infrastructure improvements; freshwater management; transportation; biological research to contain AIDS; balance the budget and restore foreign policy.

A write-in vote for Lyndon LaRouche for President of the United States will save our country. You'll never regret it.

For God, country and future generations

Ruth N. Willis
Salem-Keizer

Parameters

A topic of current discussion on American university campuses is that of values and ethical issues. Here at the University, for example, eminent scholars are again being invited to present seminars on campus relevant to that general theme by the Humanities Center. These efforts are commendable.

At times, however, I've wondered whether some internal scrutiny of the ethical import of certain University faculty policies and practices might not also be a worthwhile undertaking.

The faculty here will soon elect several persons to serve on a newly established "Promotion, Tenure, and Retention Appeals Committee." This important panel shall hear formal appeals on questionable decisions to deny tenure and/or promotion to faculty personnel. Hopefully, this committee will act with integrity and forthrightness to assure that this institution's ongoing judgments relative to faculty retention and advancement in rank will be consistent with our verbalized commitment to appropriate diversity within a defensibly liberal standard of academic excellence. (In point of fact, I am aware of several such cases which should be referred to this panel for review without delay.)

Another area at the University with "murky ethical parameters" pertains to faculty salary policies. I am particularly concerned about what I perceive to be an undercurrent of arbitrariness. For example, apparent disregard for faculty seniority and/or rank variables in determining fair compensation.

So-called "market factors" and the often-heard rhetoric of wanting to retain only those who are "genuinely qualified" can mask much injustice and moral shallowness in academe. I truly hope we can combat these symptoms of internal duplicity.

Ron Rousseau
Professor,
counseling psychology

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