



Oregon Daily Emerald

P.O. Box 3159, Eugene, Oregon 97403

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published Monday through Friday except during exam week and vacations by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon.

The Emerald is operated independently of the University with offices on the third floor of the Erb Memorial Union and is a member of the Associated Press. The Emerald is private property. The unlawful removal or use of papers is prosecutable by law.

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Letters

Offended

A Skelly cartoon which appeared in the *Emerald* Feb. 3 depicts George Bush as a plastic surgeon with a large woman standing before him. Skelly labels her "Pentagon Spending" and has her say, "I'd like to improve my image... how about a nose job?"

Behind Bush hangs a sign which reads "Liposuction Specialist." The implication is that, just as the president should gut defense spending, this large woman should gut herself through liposuction to conform to male defined standards of beauty.

In spite of increasing evidence that human beings are supposed to come in a variety of sizes, from very small to very large, persecution and stereotyping of large people continues. This prejudice is not unlike the prejudice directed at

people of color. Her mere existence as a large woman makes her so inherently evil that she can be compared to "Pentagon Spending."

I fail to see the connection between President Bush and a woman who is unwilling to endanger her health through liposuction in order to be what society considers "attractive." Although the media traditionally values "attractiveness" in a woman above any other quality, I was disappointed to see these values perpetuated in the *Emerald*.

The epidemic of eating disorders on this campus indicates that more and more women value thinness above life itself. The woman who rejects these values should be held up as a role model rather than an object of ridicule.

Kathryn Weiss
English

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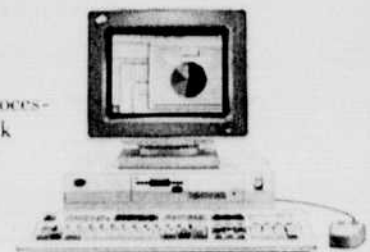
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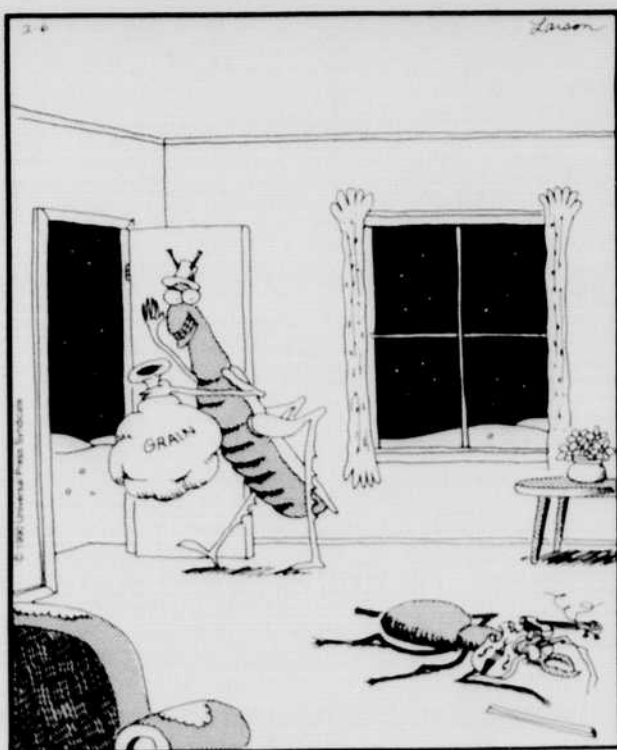
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THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



The untold ending to the fable, "The Grasshopper and the Ant."