

## Letters

### Persecution

Human spirit is annealed in adversity. Letters from other freethinkers independently confirm they, too, are subjected to persistent persecution by Christian hooligans whenever their controversial views are published in local media.

Many organized Christians are prepared to devote energy, money and leisure to criminally impose their social, educational, political and religious agenda on citizens.

The tighter an area's economy the more pervasive the reach of religion which places many people in employment through church networks.

Atheists who state their views openly find their automobiles vandalized; they stop driving. Their use of public transportation places them under LTD communications surveillance. They are targets of abusive phone calls; they give up their phones. There are indications devout conspirators employed by the phone company are able to exploit the intricacies of electronics to violate opponents' privacy.

Christians trash, vandalize and steal property. Atheists are harassed and sabotaged at work by devout co-workers in federal, state, county and city workplaces so performance evaluations suffer, and they are forced to quit well-paying, but less-than-secure government employment made demeaning by conspiratorial followers of (an inexistent) "God." Even some Eugene police have participated in such harassment.

One is amazed at the ludicrous claims of an "all-powerful" Christian "God," apparently so lazy that he allows his devotees to so disgrace themselves in dishonorable conduct in his name that they put the lie to all claims of Christian moral rectitude when he might resolve the issue himself!

Bert Tryba  
Eugene

### The future

Some of the letters regarding the March 31 party/riot have maligned the character of children. Children do have a place in this discussion, but not as negative examples.

Kevin Dahlstrom (ODE, April 9) tells college students to grow up and act like adults. Why do "adults" act wrongly sometimes? Because as very young, independent-minded, brilliant babies and children, we are all taught to be like someone else: like our parents, our siblings, our parents' role models, etc.

This preoccupation with what others think instead of what our innate inner beings think results in mob psychology as well as very tragic losses of human potential.

Greg Chapman (ODE, April 9) talks about reactions from "junior high kids upon being told by their parents to go to bed." There is no parallel between junior high kids wanting to make their own decisions and partygoers disturbing their neighbors.

If allowed freedom, children might make some mistakes. Ooh, horrors! Adults are allowed to make decisions and mistakes, as long as they don't infringe on others' rights. Why not children?

How can young adults ever take responsibility for themselves when their lives until recently have been so largely determined by their parents' decisions? Are they even capable of handling freedom in a high-stakes world after years of oppression in a lower-stakes world?

People are not born with the unfeeling, antagonistic, power-playing behavior of some police, nor with uncontrollable party drives. They got that way. Grow in, not up.

Alice Berry  
Eugene

### Three points

This letter addresses Rob Jefferson's letter "Presentation" (ODE, April 12). To begin with, I wholeheartedly agree with Jefferson — I'm sick and tired of hearing about the spotted owl.

I do believe, however, the harvesting of old growth must stop for the sake of humans (more specifically, later generations), not for the sake of owls. It is my contention the old growth is more valuable, in the long run, standing.

The argument Jefferson gives ignores three very important points. First of all, timber, especially old growth, is a finite commodity. The 60,000 people referred to in the letter would be taken care of today, but what about the years to come?

The second problem is that technology, not spotted owls, is what has put the most loggers out of work.

The third point is even though jobs dropped continually through the '80s, Oregon's economy was restarted from a major recession and continues to grow. This growth has come and must continue to come from diversification of the economy.

Albeit in a decreasing proportion, Oregon still relies on timber for a large share of its

revenue. But let's use this dwindling resource wisely. And let's not strip Oregon of the few old-growth stands remaining.

Rodney Layton  
Economics

### Failures

As an American studies major, I am extremely upset with the administration's failure to address the problem of finding a replacement for the current AMS director, who has been offered a better position at a different university.

Although the department is small, the field of American Studies is virtually unrecognized as "important enough" to retain as a major with the University. There is a significant number of students and faculty who support keeping the department, yet the administration fails to answer our queries.

Like the Rhet/Com department, which has been severely reduced, the AMS department is facing a similar situation. How many programs will the administration phase out before the University becomes another mediocre school?

Not all of us want to be business or science majors, and it's time that the administration recognizes that fact.

Jobi Cooper  
American Studies

### For OSPIRG

If we, the individual citizens of Earth, wish to work to reverse the trend toward trashing the planet, we need to examine some societal attitudes.

We could start by not assuming that people who ride the bus do so because they cannot afford an automobile. We could also start by not assuming that people who pick up cans merely need the nickel. We could start by thinking of recycling as a necessary part of life instead of something done by a paranoid sector of society.

We need to eradicate the stigmas that these and similar attitudes create so that each of us will be free to do what we can to improve the planet and make for a higher quality of life.

I think Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group is making efforts in this direction and believe that we, as students, should continue to support these efforts by voting for OSPIRG in the upcoming election.

Cheryl Beseler  
Student

## 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.

Editor: Thomas Prowell  
Managing Editor: Alice Wheeler  
Editorial Editor: Don Peters  
Graphics Editor: Mark Ylen  
Encore Editor: Kelvin Wee  
News Editor: Christopher Blair  
Sports Editor: Tracy Sumner  
Supplements Editor: Darla Jackson  
Night Editor: Alice Wheeler

Associate Editors  
Community: Hon Walker Student Government/Activities: Catherine Hawley  
Higher Education/Administration: Chris Bouneff Features: Denise Clifton

Reporters: Jolie Andrade, Peter Cogswell, Ashley Conklin, Dan Eisler, Stephanie Holland, Joe Kidd, Layne Lakefish, Pat Malach, Stephanie Mencimer, Cam Sivesind, Alice Thornton

Photographers: Steve Card, Martin Thiel

Advertising: Maureen Bernadelli, Shellie Hagen, David Hansen, Scott McAvoy, Amy Mittelstaedt, Melissa Nelson, Saum Partovi, Virginia Pearce, Kathy Smith, Kristi Strother, Edward Wenick

Production: Jennifer Archer, Kathryn Barton, Teri Boring, Jed Clark, Alice Cannon, Lotus Child, Jim Finch, Yvette Gill, Jennifer Huey, Linda Kjaastad, Elisa Lichtman, Jim Mason, Wendy Morris, Angela Muniz, Camille Pansewicz, Anna Rambecki, Janet Schober, Ted Shepler, Jennifer Smith, Caitlin Stark, Martin Thiel, Jennifer Thomas, Jennifer Viale, Ingrid White, Kelly Williams

General Staff  
Advertising Director: Susan Thelen Assistant to the Publisher: Jean Ownbey  
Production Manager: Michele Ross Advertising Coordinator: Sandra Daller  
Classified Manager: Tom Bosworth

Accounts Receivable, Circulation, Newsroom: 346-5511  
Classified Advertising: 346-4343  
Display Advertising: 346-3712  
Production, Graphic Services: 346-4381

## Cruise into spring with style.

The sun is out and you want to look your best. A Precision Cut will leave you feeling great! Work, school, or play, we've got your cut!



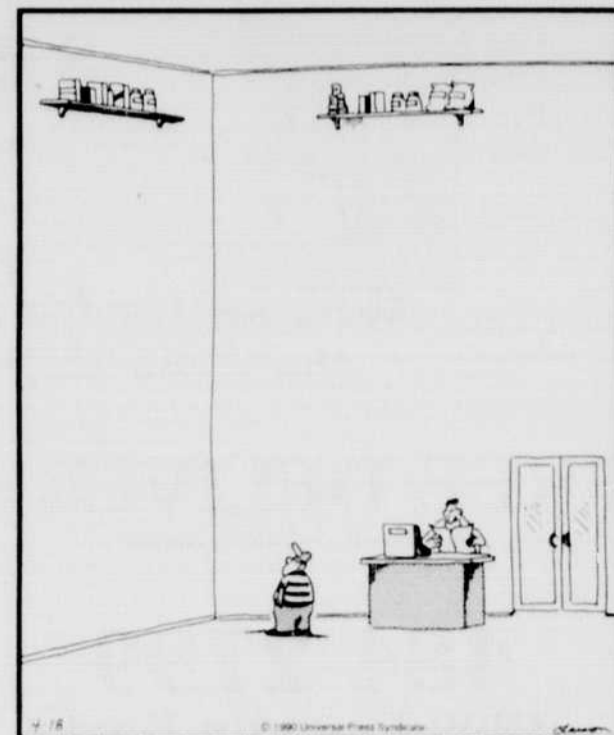
\$9  
EVERY  
DAY

## PRECISION CUTS

AND TANNING  
13th & Hilyard  
484-3143

### THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



Inconvenience stores

## TERIYAKI ALLEY



Japanese  
Chicken  
Curry  
With Rice & salad  
\$2.95

1306 Hilyard • 345-9555

NATURAL  
FIBERS  
QUALITY  
CLOTHING  
AFFORDABLE  
PRICES

INFANTS TO ADULTS



Banyan Tree  
185 E. 13th  
185-0353  
11-6 Mon-Sat  
12-5 Sunday

## Classic World Travel

343-1992

- See Siberia
- Ride the Trans-Siberian Railway
- Departure Date: July 27, 1990

Visit the Soviet Union  
16 day tour

Space is Limited

656 Charnelton  
8-6 M-F  
10-4 Sat