

Three Sisters logging deserves punishment

Once again, the Three Sisters Wilderness is back in the news, and once again, it concerns illegal logging.

On Tuesday, Willamette National Forest sources revealed that seven acres of the protected wilderness were logged in 1985. This is the second such announcement made in the space of a month. Earlier, officials said 12 acres were inadvertently logged around the same time as the 1985 cut.

The Three Sisters Wilderness is protected under a 1984 law sponsored by Sen. Mark Hatfield. It established strict rules governing logging around the wilderness, and specifically prohibited some areas from being touched.

Now it seems the Forest Service has violated that law not once, but twice.

WNF officials claim the mistakes were unintentional, that the exact logging boundary was unclear. It doesn't matter if the specifications were lost in a bureaucratic shuffle. If there were any doubt over what should and should not have been logged, the prudent course would have been to not cut at all.

Mistakes will happen, and to their credit, the Forest Service has tried to rectify their errors by replanting the logged areas. But the "inadvertent mistake" plea wears thin. A pair of such errors, revealed within a month of each other, doesn't exactly lead one to think it's a coincidence.

Environmentalists are calling for a full Congressional investigation of the two incidents, and they are right. It may be too early to say the logging was done deliberately, as some people are charging, but the Forest Service should be held accountable for what happened.

At a time when the entire timber industry is suffering from vast quantities of negative PR, the recent debacles will not calm the waters. This is just another example of public timberland abuse.

The entire Oregon timber industry needs to change. What is needed is simple, though it will be a strain for a while. No more old growth logging. Ban exports of raw timber. Give tax incentives to mill owners to retool for second-growth. Preserve the sanctity of state and federal parks and wilderness areas.

Oregon can no longer afford the current timber industry practices. If the state is going to make it in the 21st century, other, more stable sources of revenue must be found.

Any more mistakes like the ones in the Three Sisters Wilderness should be dealt with in the strictest means possible.

George Bush in the Virginia House of Burgesses



Egg throwing incident not an accident

Former University student Colleen Smith may have been blinded in one eye last weekend when someone hit her with an egg from a vehicle. Smith has undergone surgery to repair the damage to her eye and she will still need further treatment.

No one has been arrested in the incident and police have little information on the case. The most likely method of the police finding the perpetrator is if someone comes forward with specific information.

Besides the obvious senselessness of the incident — a 22-year-old woman may lose sight in one eye because of a thoughtless act by some irresponsible moron — there is a less obvious problem.

Smith has no medical insurance and cannot afford the cost of her needed treatment.

The community has responded to Smith's dilemma in more than an appropriate manner. On Tuesday a bank account was opened in her name to help pay for her medical expenses.

It is more than sad to see incidents of

this kind in Eugene. Many people see this area as unique and special. But in reality we are still plagued with the same problems as other American cities.

A Springfield man on Tuesday spoke up and offered a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the person or persons involved in the egg throwing. He also is concerned about responsibility. He does not even know Smith, but he was so outraged at the incident that he felt compelled to do something.

We should also feel compelled to contribute in some way. Hundreds of University students ride their bikes daily. It could have been any one of us. If it had, we would want and need the support of our community.

Donations to Smith's medical expenses can be dropped off at any Willamette Savings & Loan in the area. Medical expenses are extremely high, so any contribution will help.

Also, anyone with information about the incident or similar episodes should contact the police at 687-5121.

Speech

I couldn't believe my eyes when I read that an issue "far outweighs an industry's right to freedom of speech." Especially when it was written by a journalism major, Valerie Ebner (ODE, May 18).

How can anything outweigh the freedom to speak? Ebner, as a journalism major, you should know all of the important victories that freedom of speech has given to women.

Without this freedom, women wouldn't be voting, working, attending universities or writing editorials.

While I agree that I don't like having *Playboy* and *Penthouse* in the EMU, I'm content to allow it to present the freedom of speech so essential to our democratic system.

Also, pornography does not "lead women's inability to be taken seriously be men." It is women that do. Women must command and earn respect to be taken seriously, rather than posing for *Penthouse*.

Just remember that "wom-

en's rights to live discrimination-free lives" depends on open minds and the freedom of speech.

Jenny Kane
Journalism

Having fun

Tom Ribe (ODE, May 17), you mentioned in your letter that the greeks have nothing better to do but be happy, sing and dance. For your information, the greek system is involved in the political issues around us, and we do show up to listen to speakers on campus.

I don't think that the fun you witnessed has anything to do with the political issues you mentioned. There are a lot of people all around us who aren't involved with politics. Does that give you the right to blame the greeks just because we were having a moment of fun?

Tammy Brenton
Vice president
Gamma Phi Beta

Mural

I like the beautiful new mural on the mezzanine floor of the EMU. Have you done a background story on it yet? I'd be interested in finding out more about the artist (Marta '89) and what she depicted.

I understand "Aztlán" is the mythical place where the Aztecs supposedly came from, but I couldn't find "Topializtli" in Remi Simeon's *Dictionnaire de la langue Nahuatl*. Who can enlighten me?

Helmut Plant
German department

25 cents

Do you have 20 seconds to spare? Consider being abducted, tortured, imprisoned and killed by your government. It's not pretty. It's not fun. But give it a try for just 20 seconds.

There. No so hard, huh? Now consider life in El Salvador and dealing with this all day, every day. Your friends disappear.

Your family is tortured before your eyes. If you complain, you're next.

As good, loyal U.S. taxpayers, we all have a part in this brutality. We supply the money, guns, cattle prods and other fun toys. Our CIA teaches their government the best ways to torture "subversives."

Do you have 25 cents to spare? Write to Pete DeFazio, Mark Hatfield, Bob Packwood, or our pal George. Explain that you don't like to support torturers.

This will cost you several minutes and all of 25 cents for a stamp. Or do nothing. Ignore it. Maybe our government will suddenly realize the error of their ways. Yeah. And maybe George will dye his hair purple.

Jon Knight
Fine Arts

Good work

I want to express my appreciation to William Moore for

Letters

his thoughtful contributions to the *Oregon Daily Emerald* (May 16) and the *Oregon Commentator*. I enjoy his rational and articulate presentations of conservative opinion and find his reflections to be a refreshing counterpoint to the rhetorical din of those among the socially and politically "correct." Thanks and keep up the good work.

Mark Watson
Library

Read on

Try reading beyond Leviticus — you'll find some interesting stuff when Jesus speaks in the New Testament. "Neither do men put new wine into old bottles, else the bottles break" (Matthew 9:17); "Judge not, and ye shall not be judged; condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned." (Luke 6:37)

Jeff Harrison
English