

Bush puts Congress on ropes once again

If George Bush were a boxer, he'd be ready for a title shot. With a record of 24-0, all by knockout, he has amassed a most impressive record.

Of course, he keeps beating up on the same opponent — Congress, which has never been known for hand speed or quickness of foot.

When the House failed Tuesday to override Bush's veto of a \$205 billion spending bill that would have stymied the administration's "gag rule" during the coming year, Bush gained another political feather for his cap. Since he took the oath, he has vetoed 24 times; 24 times Congress has failed to stop him.

Before Tuesday's vote, House Democrats really thought they had a good chance to overturn the veto. Speaker Tom Foley, D-Wash., ferociously lobbied his fellow representatives and even took the floor in the 11th hour, but it was all for naught. The 276-156 vote fell a mere dozen votes shy of sending Bush to defeat.

Had the House felled the veto, the Senate, which passed the original bill 72-25, would have been sure to follow suit.

For those unfamiliar, the "gag rule" prevents federally-funded programs from giving advice about abortion options.

Not urging abortion, not condoning it, just counseling. Bush, who's tilt to the right now resembles the Leaning Tower of Pisa, has let his arch-conservative supporters dictate his abortion policy, and have led him into the biggest political blunder of his administration.

For someone who claims adamant support of the Constitution, Bush has stepped dangerously close to violating free speech rights. In effect, the president has decided "free speech" in federally-funded programs means whatever the current administration decides is morally correct. That sort of thinking smacks of black uniforms, jack boots and large party rallies in Nuremberg.

One more founding stone has been taken from *Roe vs. Wade*. One more brick removed, making it easier for the Supreme Court to topple the entire structure.

Yes, Bush did manage to KO Congress once again. But from this corner, it is an extremely hollow victory.

In effect, the president has decided "free speech" in federally-funded programs means whatever the current administration decides is morally correct.

HEY KIDS TIME TO PUT ON YOUR THINKING CAPS BECAUSE IT'S ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE

COLLEGE REPUBLICANS' BRAIN TWISTERS!



WHO IS THE MOST COMPETENT VICE PRESIDENT?
CORRECT RESPONSES WILL GET ASUO NOMINATIONS *Adrian Wallace OREGON DAILY EMERALD '99*

LETTERS

Low blow

Apparently the College Republicans feel that any student leader who has committed a misdemeanor is unfit for duty.

Knowing that everyone, including all student leaders, have broken the law at some time in our lives, one might expect the attempt at ousting Jo Sonja Watson to be the first in a long line of petitions to regain "justice."

It would be true justice to also bring petitions against myself and every other student leader and faculty leader on campus.

The fact that the Republicans have singled out Watson shows me they have more on their minds than merely justice.

To question a leader's ability based on the individual's work (or lack of) is legitimate. I believe it is almost a testimony to Watson that the Republicans cannot criticize the great work she has done, but must resort to below-the-belt antics to try to swing the student body toward their political beliefs.

John Thomas
ASUO Student Senator

Drink your ilk

So the College Republicans and their ilk have mounted a recall campaign against the ASUO vice president because they're angry at the ASUO for not allocating enough money to them.

Their lack of funding shows it just isn't cool to be a sexually repressed square anymore. It is irresponsible for the College Republicans and their id-repressing ilk to vent their frustrations out against a particular ASUO official.

Instead, they should realize they will never attain political clout on campus because mainstream society is too hedonistic to adhere to their outdated, repressed suburban "morality" (a "morality" that doesn't reflect any painful soul-searching on their part, but instead results from believing one too many early 19th Century Sunday school books about bad boys named Jim).

It is ironic that this hedonism that locks College Republicans and their ilk out of power on campus is perpetuated by the very same economic forces they ally themselves with in their campaign against shoplifters. It is Madison Avenue that's manufactured the very insatiable, libidinous appetites in the masses that make them highly disinterested in the simplistic platitudes of the Eisenhower-era venters of sexual frustration.

Jason Keuter
Student

Glass houses

Hypocrisy at its finest! Excuse me while I wipe the tears from my eyes from laughing so hard.

"Members of the College Republicans believe Watson's actions and failure to inform students before the election are signs of irresponsibility." (*ODE*, Nov. 13)

Republicans never cease to amaze me. If candidates actually informed the voters of the past crimes they've committed, certain U.S. presidents (need I name them?) would not have been elected.

Who are the real criminals anyway? Here's some advice: If your house is made of glass, it's not a good idea to throw rocks in your own neighborhood.

Am I the only one laughing? This recall is a joke, right?

Steve Evans
Science

Pvt. Magic

The next time the United States wants to go to war, let's send Magic Johnson to the front. Perhaps then we will realize how serious war is.

Robert Ward
Eugene

Looney tunes

In response to "Racist Issue" (*ODE*, Nov. 13): Brian Hoop, I

haven't looked for, yet still have seen many good things you have done around here. I have agreed with most of your opinions.

But if you expect me to believe the controversy surrounding ASUO Vice President Jo Sonja Watson is due to her skin color, you must be crazy.

Jeffrey Hawkins
Student

Hoopla

Congratulations Brian Hoop for following the *Student Insurgent Oppression Handbook* to the letter (*ODE*, Nov. 13). Step #1: If a non-white is criticized by a white immediately cry racism. Step #2: Blame Mike Colson and his cronies for everything.

The Jo Sonja Watson recall effort is motivated by her pattern of poor judgment, not by the color of her skin. Jo Sonja's race was never mentioned by either the *Commentator* or the *Emerald*, because both publications knew that race is not the issue. It is you who has made this a racist issue. I thought that it was cheap when Clarence Thomas used the race card to get confirmed to the Supreme Court, and it's a cheap trick now. At least Jo Sonja hasn't wrapped herself in the flag of oppression.

Brian, it must be hard being born a white male when you are so politically correct. You say the right things, you dress the right way, you join all the important protests, but every morning you wake up with the knowledge that you are not "oppressed." Apparently you are one of those people who has a martyr complex, wishing that you could relive the life of Jesus by suffering for the political sins of the whole world. I see it now: The life of Brian.

Ed Carson
Student

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