

# Time for Bush to focus on home

Oh, what the heck — we didn't need all that crazy ol' money anyway!

In addition to the \$2.5 billion in Soviet Union loan guarantees approved earlier this year, our President recently agreed to hand over another \$1.5 billion in food aid to the strife-ridden country.

No problem! Except that it's getting a little tiresome playing party to these official games of "show-off." Should Bush actually check our balance sheet, he'd see we haven't got the money he is so heroically giving away.

OK, OK, so he's having a little trouble finding his way around the Oval Office with those Ronnie-colored glasses on, but the time for excuses is over. We've got big problems at home, folks, and it's time our fearless leader took a hard look at them.

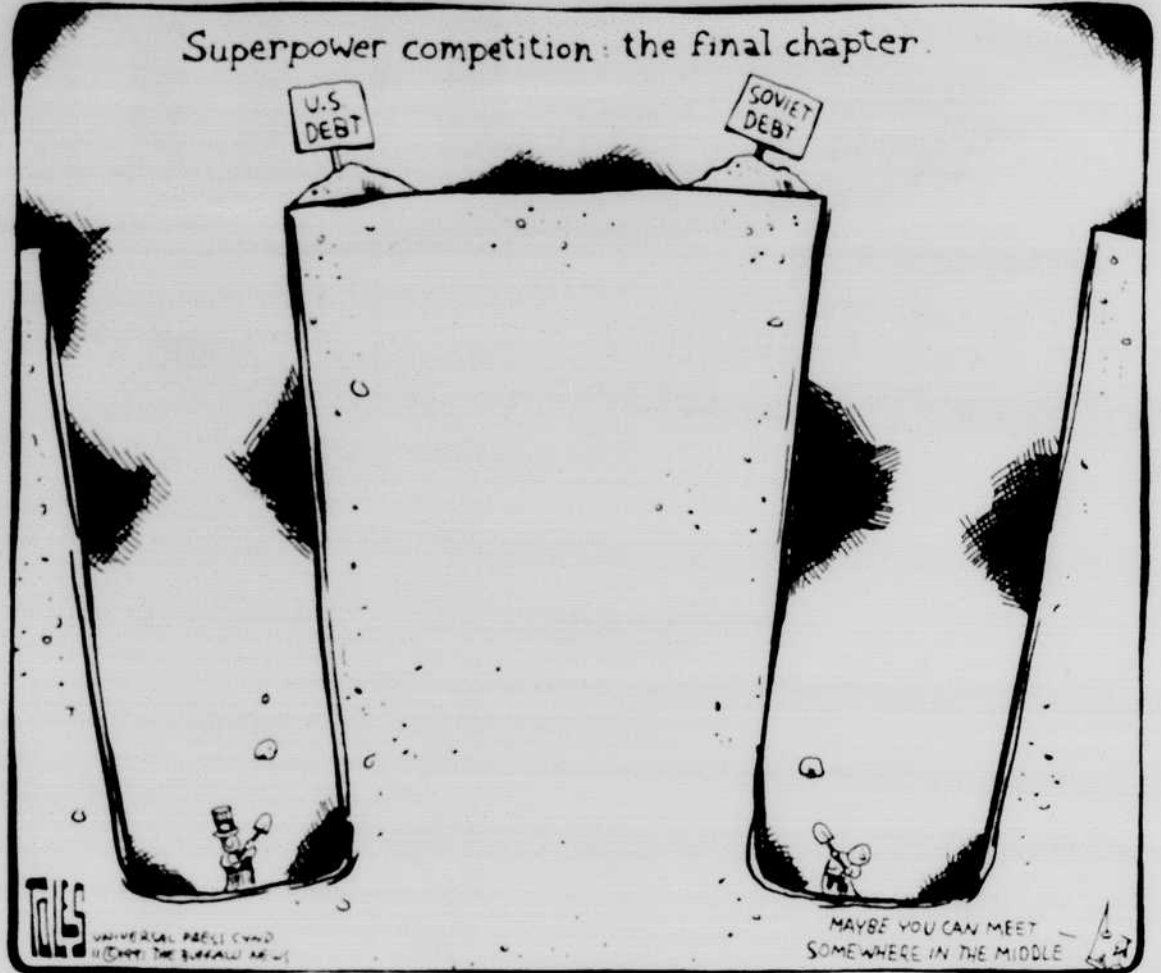
We're the world's largest debtor nation for starters, followed up with things like third-world conditions in our cities, a non-existent health care system, underfunded education and housing programs, a stalled economy, high unemployment numbers and rising poverty rates.

Bush's memory, along with his mind, seem to have escaped him, as evidenced by his long-incessant babbling about a "recovering economy." Always the kinder, gentler beacon for the rest of the world, the man has apparently forgotten which country he lives in. Maybe these brain lapses just come with the office.

It will do no good to say here that Bush needs to pay more attention to domestic affairs — he's already been reminded of this through every possible channel — especially those omnipresent, omnipotent poll results. (Though we all know those wild and crazy pollsters never actually call anyone).

So how about just another generic "Shame on Bush for saving the world before his country" statement? Who knows, maybe it'll finally break through at some point.

**Bush's memory, along with his mind, seem to have escaped him, as evidenced by his long-incessant babbling about a "recovering economy."**



## LETTERS

### JoSonja speaks

I write to clarify the events of the past few weeks. As you all know, last year I was involved in a misdemeanor. The misdemeanor was the result of bad judgment. I will forever regret my judgment in that situation.

As a result of that event, I was brought into court and fined. I was fined a large amount of money and was required to do community service, both of which have been taken care of. I paid my debt to society. Yet, here at the University, I am forced to pay that debt again and again.

When the news articles first appeared that surrounded this ordeal, I was momentarily embarrassed, but I decided not to give up and run away. I decided to come back and deal with the situation. I thought if I came back and talked with my critics, they would understand that I had made a big mistake and paid for it.

Unfortunately, a lot of people seem to feel differently. Due to these feelings, I find myself responding through the newspaper. Not once have any of the people who are being so critical come and talked with me to allow me to respond to their criticisms personally.

If they had, they would truly understand that I am not trying to justify my actions, nor appear unremorseful. I am simply trying to address any misconceptions that may exist.

I especially encourage people to contact me if they have any questions or concerns that surround my job as your vice president.

In light of this, I will remind

you that my personal life is my personal life and any questions you may ask surrounding it may or may not be answered.

I have a duty to perform here as ASUO vice president. I deserve the right to continue to do my work without being disrupted and forced to take the time to repeatedly address these attacks.

To those of you I have let down, I'm sorry, and to those of you who have continued to support me, I thank and reassure you that I will continue to do my job to the very best of my ability and more.

JoSonja Watson  
ASUO vice president

tions. We expect a lot higher standards from our elected leaders.

If Watson were to act in the best interests of the students, she would resign immediately, but I don't expect her to start acting in the students' best interests now. So it's up to us to show Watson and the rest of the student government that yes, they are accountable to the students.

I encourage anyone who believes that integrity is a necessary trait in our elected leaders to sign the petition to recall Watson.

Sarah Mowry  
Political science

### Fooling

Integrity? Where has it gone? It's certainly not in the ASUO student government. The revelations of ASUO Vice President JoSonja Watson's shoplifting, failure to show up in court, and failure to fulfill the conditions of her sentence in a timely manner show a serious lack of integrity and responsibility.

At the time of her shoplifting, Watson was a member of the IFC, allocating millions of dollars of student funds. And now she expects us to believe that her actions don't reflect on her character and ability to perform her job? Of course her actions are a reflection on her character and leadership abilities, and those who say otherwise are only fooling themselves.

Watson has shown a total lack of ethics, honesty and good judgment. I know I am only one of many students who is totally disgusted at her ac-

### What if

The Voice of Reason has a few questions for our friends in OSPIRG:

How many people who were not already sensitive to the plight of the homeless joined your "Sleep Out?" How many people did you enlighten?

How were the homeless folks sleeping out in the rain and cold made better off by a group of OSPIRG supporters joining them in the rain and cold?

Wouldn't it benefit the homeless more if OSPIRG supporters invited them into their homes to get them out of the rain and cold?

Would the eight or nine ours you spent freezing your butts off be better spent collecting food or cooking for the Eugene Mission or Salvation Army?

Things that make ya go "Hmmm..."

Michael Ferron  
Student

# Oregon Daily Emerald

P.O. BOX 3159, EUGENE, OREGON 97403

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published daily Monday through Friday during the school year and Tuesday and Thursday during the summer by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co. Inc., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon.

The Emerald operates independently of the University with offices at Suite 300 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.

<b>Managing Editor</b>	<b>Editor in Chief</b>	Christopher Blair	
<b>Editorial Editor</b>	Pat Malach	<b>News Editor</b>	Chris Bounell
<b>Graphics Editor</b>	Cathie Daniels	<b>Editorial Editor</b>	Don Peters
<b>Entertainment Editor</b>	Jeff Paslay	<b>Sports Editor</b>	Jake Berg
	Layne Lakelish	<b>Night Editor</b>	Daralyn Trappe

<b>Associate Editors</b>	<b>Student Government Activities:</b> Daralyn Trappe	<b>Community:</b> Rene DeCair
<b>Higher Education Administration:</b> Carne Dennett		<b>Features:</b> Lisa Milegan

**Reporters:** Tammy Batey, David Charbonneau, Karen Engels, Jayson Jacoby, Gerrit Koeping, Kirsten Lucas, Hope Neilson, Tim Neft, Coleen Pohig

**Copy Editors:** Christopher Chew, Dan Eisler, Karen Engels, Fridt Hagen, Paul Halvorson, Sheila Mitha, Kathy Sherlock, Kathy Sweney

**Photographers:** Sean Poston, Andre Ranieri

**Advertising:** Jean Bradley, Scott Dana, Leslie Fial, Margy Grassmyer, Britain Kilburn, Tom Leach, Randon Riley, Catherine Royle, Mary Sanderson, Tara Surratt, Vicki Tobin, Sharon Vaz

**Classified:** Peggy McGinn, **Manager:** Kevin Austerman, Alan Curtis, Sheila Lorenzo

**Business:** Kathy Carbone, **Supervisor:** Judy Connolly

**Production:** Ingrid White, **Production Coordinator:** Jennifer Archer, Sarah Clark, Jim Finch, Corine Frier, Kristine Granger, Jennifer Huey, Jim Mason, Dao McCobb, Stacy Mitchell, Matt Morin, Jennifer Roland, Jennifer Smith, Anne Stephenson, Jennifer Viola, Todd Williams

<b>General Manager:</b> Judy Riedl	
<b>Advertising Director:</b> Bryan R. Coppedge	<b>Production Manager:</b> Michele Ross
<b>Newsroom:</b> 346-5511	<b>Display Advertising:</b> 346-3712
<b>Business Office:</b> 346-5512	<b>Classified Advertising:</b> 346-4343

