

Brand should share with the rest of us

It may not be a heck of a lot, but it's the thought that counts.

University President Myles Brand will soon receive a 3 percent raise if the Oregon State Board of Higher Education's recommendation is approved. The proposal, submitted as part of the board's annual salary report, requests a cost of living salary increase for Chancellor Thomas Bartlett and the eight state institution presidents.

The raise is the same 3 percent increase all state employees receive.

Now we won't say Brand doesn't deserve it; that's not the point. The issue here is that only one kid out of the entire kit-and-caboodle will get an extra cookie.

No one needs to be reminded the University is in a financial bind — everyone's suffering. Students are required to keep up with astronomical tuition and fee hikes; faculty and staff members are lucky if they've hung onto their jobs thus far, and programs are getting axed by the minute.



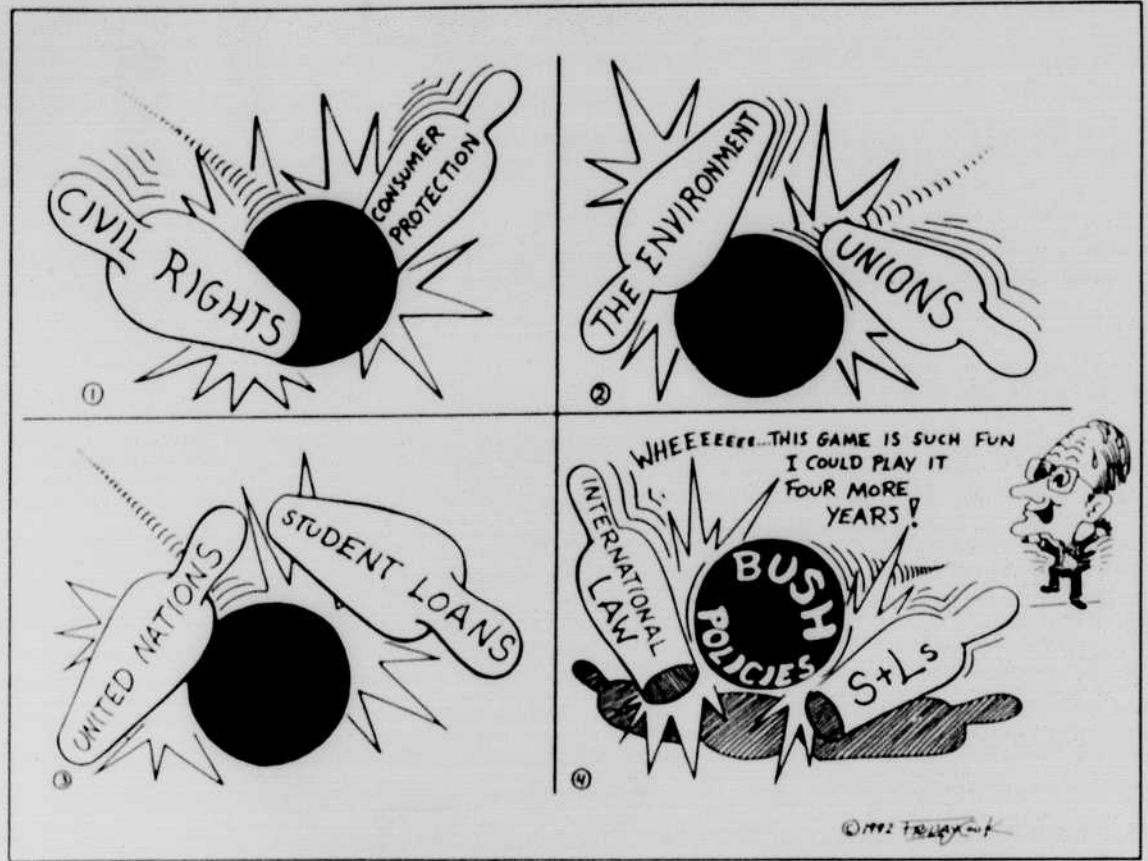
Myles Brand

So how does it feel when the University president gets a raise, even if it is the same one all state employees get? Not good, to say the least.

It's not a whole lot — about \$3,744 to be exact. It could only go so far at this University. Oops — was there the fluttering of an idea in there somewhere, that the president should perhaps allot the extra dough; share his cookie with the rest of the family?

Yes — that's exactly the idea here. During these hard times at the University, it would be a great move for Brand to put his raise into the system. A scholarship, perhaps? Staff awards? Bonuses? The possibilities are endless.

I'm sure Brand could use the extra bucks, but so could the rest of us. During these lean times, is it asking too much of the president to share with the rest of us?



OPINION

The Super Bowl Party Dictionary

THE FINE PRINT
BY DON PETERS

Like many people around the world, on Sunday I watched the Super Bowl.

Though I am a true football fan, I really didn't care who won. Neither team, the Buffalo Bills nor the Washington Redskins, struck much of a chord with me; I was ambivalent. I just wanted a good game. I didn't get it.

Though the score seemed close (37-24), it really wasn't. Just another AFC slaughter at the hands of a dominant NFC team.

But because this column isn't on the sports pages, I won't go into that. Rather, I will concentrate on a much-ignored aspect of the big game: The Super Bowl party.

Most years, I sit down in front of my own TV, Doritos in one hand and a Henry's in the other. But this year, I was invited to watch the game at a friend's house.

Super Bowl weekend is a lot like New Year's. People who don't know a goal post from a fence post watch the game. Why? I suppose it's because football is a slice of Americana. Apple pie, mother and all that. Or maybe it's just because football leads to some serious sud sucking.

Football neophytes of all types show up at Super Bowl bashes. Don't believe me? Witness the conversation I had with one of the party guests af-

ter Washington had its first touchdown called back:

"Why don't they get the points?" she asked.

"He was out of bounds," I said.

"But he caught it."

"He was out of bounds," I repeated.

"Well, that's not fair."

And so on.

But watching the game (and the party guests) did lead me to a deeper understanding of football. And after several hours of research, I have come up with some definitions for things commonly found at a Super Bowl party:

First down — usually the guy who drank the six-pack before the game even started.

Illegal procedure — stealing the last bite of bean dip while your buddy wasn't looking. Sometimes, this penalty is coupled with...

Unnecessary roughness — what your buddy does after finding out he's been cheated out of the last bite of bean dip. Also known as the forearm shiver.

The rush — the stampede to the bathroom during commercial breaks.

Extra point — the one you foolishly gave when you bet on the Redskins minus 14.

Pass interference — securing the plate of nachos before it gets to the end of the line. Often leads to...

Roughing the passer — threatening bodily harm if the nachos don't continue on down the line.

Tackle — maneuver used on holder of remote control be-

cause he won't change the channel when yet another Pepsi commercial comes on.

Illegal use of hands — done at the end of the party. Usually followed by a head slap.

Half time — convenient interlude for going on a beer run.

The sack — bag of chips host makes you take home because you "haven't eaten enough." Translation: We don't want any more of this stuff for a long time.

Handoff — used to get beer from refrigerator to thirsty guest.

Interception — what invariably happens to beer before it gets to thirsty guest on a hand-off.

Block — full-body check used to prevent interception.

Holding — what the guy next to me does with the nachos.

Incomplete pass — what happens when somebody across the room says, "Hey, toss me some pretzels."

Personal foul — stealing my chair when I go out for more beer at half time.

Place kick — artful move used to dislodge errant patron from your seat.

Clipping — what you feel like doing to the ears of the punk who drank your last beer.

Study these definitions so you can avoid making an embarrassing faux pas at your next Super Bowl party.

Like stealing my chair.

Don Peters is an editorial editor for the Emerald.

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