

## LETTERS

### Clear miss

It is apparent that the leaders in Oregon higher education have once again missed the mark.

My impression is that they feel the people of Oregon should give higher education whatever they want, without question, immediately. This elitist attitude is one of the biggest problems higher education has. This perceived attitude will make it difficult for the average Oregonian to want to give any more money, and this is the person who will be making the final decision.

I believe the average Oregonian's tax threshold has been reached, and the only direction they want their taxes to go is down. Being number two in the nation for taxes per capita is not one of our greatest achievements.

As I see it, there are three options. First, attempt to increase revenues from private sources. Second, lobby to decrease the reductions that higher education is responsible for of the total state budget. And third, work to increase the number of taxpayers.

The people of Oregon are already overtaxed and right now, I don't think they are ready to levy more taxes on themselves. Especially since most of us don't have any more to give.

Andrew Schrenk  
Chemistry

### Wrong blame

But what about the thousands of people who read *Playboy* and *Penthouse* and aren't rapists or those who commit sexual crimes? Offhand, I can think of dozens.

If there is so much objectifying going on, why aren't more men victimized by readers of *Playgirl*? Or the *Ad-*

*vocate*, for that matter. And does this mean readers of *Parents* reduce all women to baby machines? Do readers of *Mad* and *Fantasy/Sci-fi* really see the world that way? I don't think so.

We should be so lucky as to ascribe the power given to *Penthouse*, to *Mother Jones*, and similar publications. Arguments for free speech aside, it is just not valid to blame all of society's ills on a bunch of pictures.

Wendy Hinrich  
Student

### Force

On Feb. 24, I witnessed a confrontation of an older man, Professor John Beebe, with an OPS officer, Otis Scarborough.

What I saw was the OPS officer stop a man for riding on the sidewalk. The man and officer argued about the citation being given, and both got their backs up. Angry, Beebe got on his bike to ride up to the post office. He did not hit the officer, but Scarborough ran and got in front of the bike, knocking Beebe off. The officer then wrenched Beebe's arm behind his back, using excessive force, and kept pushing his arm further up his back before finally putting on the handcuffs.

Beebe deserves the citation for riding his bike on the sidewalk, but not the charge of assault. Beebe did not assault Scarborough; Scarborough jumped in front of Beebe's bike and hurt himself — probably on the pedal or some other object off the bike.

I am disturbed with this incident. I know the officer could have avoided it by stopping Beebe in some other manner, like grabbing the handlebars or seat of the bike. There was no need to jump in front of Beebe and knock him off his bike,



THEIR DOMESTIC ECONOMY A SHAMBLES, WORKERS STREAM ACROSS THE RIO GRANDE IN SEARCH OF WORK.

since he was riding up the sidewalk toward the post office and not trying to get away. And the officer did not need to use excessive force on this man!

Jennifer Eustis  
Eugene

### Attitude

I was astounded after reading Dave Charbonneau's "Olympics a cold shot to big American egos" (*ODE*, Feb. 25).

Dave, you reminded me of one of those annoying commentators who pass judgments and gossip during the events to fill air-time.

Are you a former gold medalist champion figure skater or hockey player? You definitely are not an analogy king. Your comparison between the elegance of skating and ice-hockey was a [bad] joke.

So, you were once proud of knowing Tonya Harding? Why? your judgments on her person-

ality and ability seem to suggest otherwise. I find it unfair that you would suggest she "didn't want to do the work to get to the next level." It seems foolish that you would make such assumptions without some concrete evidence; like you said, you were only acquaintances in junior high.

By the way, what is the "next level" anyway? According to you, it seems the "next level" equals gold medals. You imply that the Olympics is simply about winning medals rather than a worldwide sports event for competition and personal achievement.

I don't agree that the U.S., or any other country, are the greedy, medal-hungry nations you make them out to be, nor do I feel you are competent to judge athletes on their skill or personalities. Your generalizations are gross, as are your judgments; it appears you are

the one with the attitude.

Debbie Weisman  
Journalism

### Idea

Well Kronda, in the past your letters have been so vile and ill-advised that they made me giggle, but your latest (Big "C," *ODE*, Feb. 25) must surely take the cake!

Here's an idea though: How about auctioning the rapist's parts for charity? The proceeds would benefit the victim, and another like yourself could use the genitals to battle the symptoms of her displaced sexuality. Therapy for everyone. Whad'ya say?

Bryant Howard  
Sociology

## LETTERS POLICY

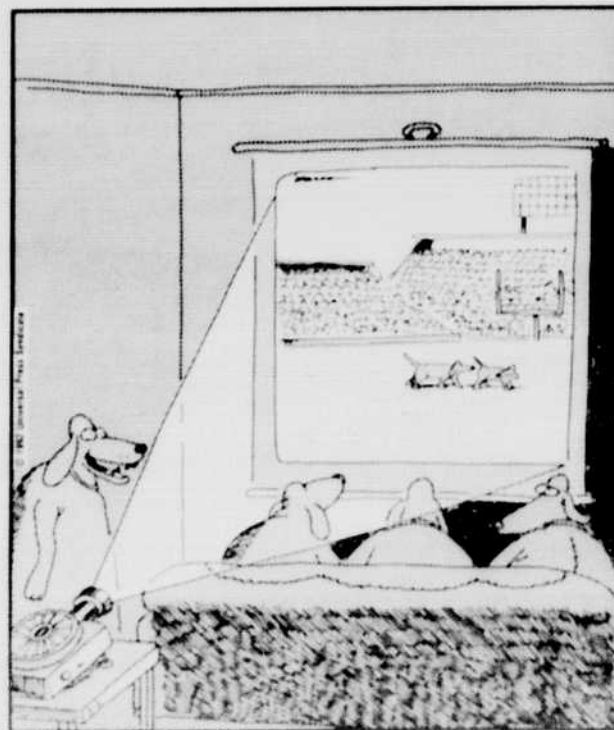
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Letters to the editor must be limited to no more than 250 words, legible, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is submitted.

The *Emerald* reserves the right to edit any letter for length or style.

### THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"Oh, Misty always hates me showing this slide. ... It's halftime at the '88 Detroit-Chicago game when we met."

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