

Obey the court order, return doctor to Mexico

WANTED — James Bond-type agent needed for covert kidnapping of foreign nationals who have done something bad. Must have own weapon, transportation, references. If interested, contact the White House, Washington, D.C.

Sound crazy? If Bush & Co. gets its way, such a classified ad could soon be running in finer newspapers everywhere.

In 1985, a U.S. narcotics agent, Enrique Camarena Salazar, was tortured and murdered in Guadalajara, Mexico. Evidence pointed to a doctor, Humberto Alvarez Machain, who allegedly participated in the crime. Two years ago, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency ponied up \$50,000 for his capture, and several Mexican bounty hunters went for it, lifting Alvarez, as he is known, from his office and delivering him to El Paso.

Mexican authorities were irate, demanding Alvarez's return (they want to try him, too) and charging the United States with violating the two countries' extradition treaty. Last year, a U.S. District Court judge in Los Angeles agreed, ordering the Bush administration to hand over the doctor.

As can be expected, Bush & Co. disagree with the ruling. Vehemently.

The lawyer who represented the administration in the case called the extradition treaty "a tool — a valuable tool, but only a tool" and went on to say governments had the right to pursue so-called international terrorists and such.

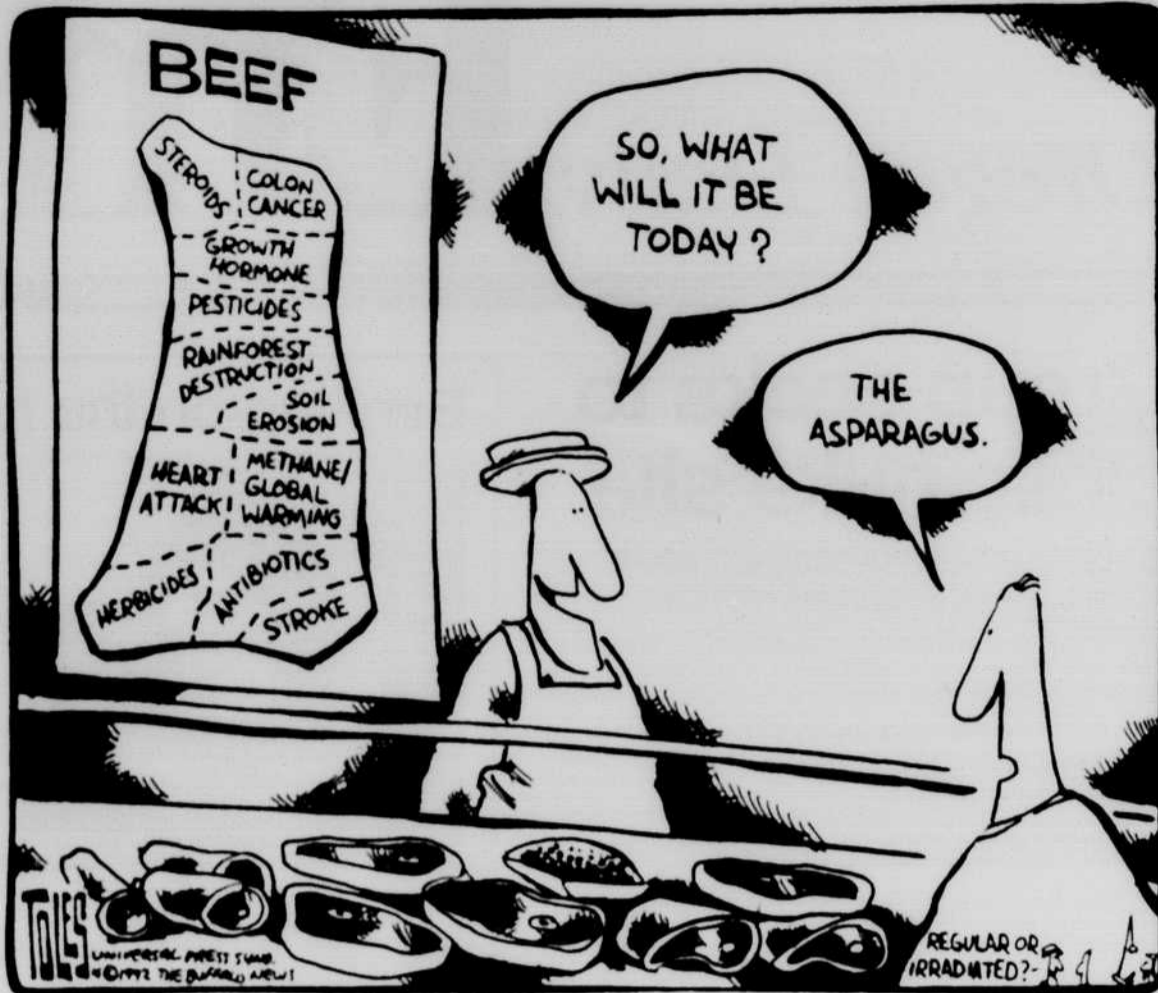
Should Bush & Co. refuse to heed the court's order, there could be catastrophic results.

First, even though Mexico is a strong ally of the United States, not returning Alvarez could wither the relationship. Countries don't take kindly to seeing their citizens kidnapped by a foreign nation — no matter what the circumstance. There can be no doubt that if the situation was reversed, a U.S. citizen taken to Mexico, the administration would spare no option in getting him or her back — up to and including sending in the Marines.

The case also sets a dangerous precedent. Where do you draw the line on what is a kidnapping-option offense? Torture and murder appear to be on the list, but what about drug smuggling? Traffic violations in front of a U.S. embassy?

Silly perhaps, but the concern is real. The idea the administration has of being able to do whatever it wants in the world community is dangerous and inaccurate. If Bush & Co. truly want peace, as it has claimed, being the block bully is surely not the way.

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LETTERS

Cute

I thought the letter by Bryce Ingman about the story of Myles Brand being a student for a day was cute, too (*ODE*, April 6). I especially like it when Ingman wrote that he liked it when Brand put on a T-shirt to be a student. That was a good idea for a sentence.

I used to hate Myles Brand, too, but after reading Ingman's letter, I think Brand is a lot of fun as well. Please do more stories about Brand being a student for a day, so I can read more letters about him by Ingman.

Scott Cleland
English

Go Bush

The press has recently referred to how low George Bush has fallen in the polls. I believe the real story is just the opposite, how amazingly high his ratings have remained under the onslaught of the leftist media.

Bush's magnificent and remarkable accomplishments in creating the coalition that defeated evil in the Middle East was the embodiment of everything that liberals had ever dreamed of. Combine this with the unparalleled military victory that drew obvious comparisons (the Democrats had a war — Vietnam; the Republicans had a war — Persian Gulf) and the leftists knew they were in trouble. In fact, the entire leftist/elitist/democrat establishment was on the verge of extinction. Bush had to go.

Their envy and need to cover up foolish pre-war congressional and media statements led them to the seditious treachery witnessed over the last nine months. They hijacked our press and began a withering and relentless attack on the presidency. Pariahs like Fonda, Gartner, Tisch and Moyers used every cunning, derelict and devious tool available to turn an altruistic American accomplishment into something less.

Noble became malicious, magnanimous became maligned. To refer to the propaganda stooges at CBS, NBC and CNN as newsmen is a perverted mockery.

All Americans should be alarmed and offended. Our once free press has been snatched by a small evil gang with a powerful determination to grab control of our republic. Thomas Jefferson forewarned us about such malcontents. They lost in the U.S.S.R. and Eastern Europe, but their con-

John B. Thosteson
Roswell, Ga.

Not constant

Don King's proposed 10-percent cut in incidental fees is not only a University-level Measure 5, but it doesn't work on a much more basic level. Incidental fees are based on enrollment, which changes from term to term. When enrollment goes down, fees go up, and vice-versa. This means that talking about changes using percentages doesn't work because there is no constant number.

I cheated on my high school algebra final, and I still flunked it, but something in this equation just doesn't jive.

Vote in the election or watch as your student organizations crumble and dissolve, leaving the University a smoldering crater. And don't forget our flyers are bigger.

Police records available upon request.

Chris Pharis
Candidate
ASUO president

Getting his way

To Leslie Galliano (*ODE*, April 6) and all of the others who are "increasingly disturbed" and appalled by Bryan Westby's "attitude" toward rape. Just stop.

Westby is only saying what he is to get a rise out of all of you, and he is getting his way.

If he wants to look like an ignorant buffoon on the issue of rape, then so be it. Don't feed his laughter by responding to his disrespectful letters. And I assure you that what he's doing is laughing at your frustration.

Tracy Jardin
Student

Imposition

Since when do we grant convicted criminals "the constitutional right to freedom of association" and protest their sentences on the grounds that they would have to be around people and institutions they might otherwise wish to avoid? This seems to be the Washington Legal Foundation's objection to the sentencing of Donald Bohnert, who has been "convicted of 219 counts of illegally transporting, storing and dumping hazardous waste." (*ODE*, April 7).

Don't get me wrong. I don't like the sentence either. It is unfair that a successful (probably white) businessman should be allowed to expose the community to such harm with no more substantial sentence than a temporary Sierra Club membership. At a time when one of our Supreme Court justices thinks it is not cruel and unusual to beat prison inmates as long as the resulting injuries are not critical, forgive me if the temporary suspension of Bohnert's right to freely associate does not outrage me by its inhumanity to Bohnert.

If anything, it is an imposition on the Sierra Club, yet another unequal treatment of law-breakers on the basis of social status, and it does not do enough to mitigate the harm. Why not make him clean up his messes?

As for having to advocate a position — isn't that what drug-abusers often have to do? Or drunk drivers who have to take traffic classes? What about their rights to "freely associate?"

Shanta Kamath
Comparative literature

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