

LETTERS

New Habits

I'd like to tell you what I spent my time doing when I participated in the University Day Litter Patrol. I picked up cigarette butts.

As a former smoker who has thrown my share of cigarette butts on the ground, it was fitting that I should spend two hours picking them up. I also have some idea of how smokers think.

There are smokers who throw butts on the ground who wouldn't dream of doing the same with a candy wrapper or soda bottle, who recycle, who voted to shut down Trojan, etc. Many smokers disassociate cigarette butts from "real trash" but you (if it applies) need to be reminded that butts are trash and must be discarded correctly. If you work or go to school here, you are too old not to know better.

I know how inconvenient it is to hold a smelly used butt in your hand or pocket till you see a trash can, but you gotta do it. I know you think it makes your clothes smell to slip it in your pocket, but you already reek of tobacco if you even smoke one cigarette. Trust me.

Here's what I did when I smoked outside: pinch off the light from the cigarette, step on the light and throw the rest in the trash can. It is an easy habit to develop, especially when you remember that leaving the butt on the ground is littering and you are doing the right thing by being conscientious.

Eileen Harris
Architecture Student

Window pain

After all of the letters written in to the *Emerald* against the actions taken at the Federal Building, I wanted to express my support to Brian Hoop and others who took part.

I felt very angry and frustrated from the results of the trial of the four white police officers. I remember earlier that day seeing the rally and thinking, "What can be done to

make someone actually listen?"

It seems every other day we have rallies and marches on the University campus. This was a radical solution, yet would anyone have noticed Eugene's rally otherwise? This was a chance to express how many of us were feeling over the trial of the four white police officers. I do not agree with violence against people, but these were just windows. Windows can be replaced. I wish people would put their energy into working for justice for Rodney King and all people of color, rather than the energy they have spent attacking Brian and Carlos.

Julia Morgan
Student

Piece of pie

I am ashamed and embarrassed about some of our University leadership. With today's rising tuition, budget cuts and dropped courses, Brian Hoop and other University students' actions in the "protest" at the Federal Building give the student body as a whole a negative image to our already luke-warm community support.

As the University must constantly maneuver to protect its receipt of state and local funding, these irresponsible actions by our so-called "leaders" do nothing to help put our school in a more positive light. These events have made many question giving the University a greater piece of their tax-paying pie. They don't enjoy the thought of sponsoring irresponsible, destructive, violent behavior.

Compounding the insanity was the fact that other leading University students tried to defend this criminal behavior by providing support and legal information to these students by using University money. The University has always been a haven for free thought and expression. However, when we begin to let our emotions control our actions, we should be

held responsible for our over-expressions, with no excuses. We should never stoop to the level of the police officers who brutally beat Rodney King. Our community should respect our University, not be embarrassed by it.

Nick Smith
Finance

Sensational

I have the highest regard for Brian Hoop and felt compelled to write after the continuous attempts at character assassination by the media. I believe they have been irresponsible in focusing on the sensationalism of Hoop's alleged actions on

one day and have ignored the "behind the scenes" work that Hoop has done.

He is an example to all of us as someone who not only talks a good talk but "walks the talk" regarding diversity. Hoop is one of the few Euro-Americans to truly attempt to make the University a place with no barriers to people of color.

I had the privilege of working with Hoop on a group composed primarily of students of color who attempted to address racial issues on campus. Hoop was respectful of cultural values and needs and always constructive.

Hoop has been a leader in working on the race and gender


requirements. Hoop has been a mentor to and has helped students of color to secure positions of leadership in the University at large.

I believe that one's character is judged by one's deeds. However, I see the alleged crime of kicking in a window as 1 percent and the above mentioned work as 99 percent. I also believe that when Hoop participated in the rally, he was making a political statement that expressed a long history of frustration, anger and hopelessness in dealing with a system that expresses one thing but does another. As a faculty person of color, I appreciate his efforts.

Sandy Tsuneyoski
Staff Psychologist

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THE FAR SIDE By GARY LARSON



"Well, there they go again. The Stenbergs are always acting like life is one big musical."

HARRISON FORD
PATRIOT GAMES

Not for honor.
Not for country.
For his wife and child.



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THE GAMES BEGIN JUNE 5