

**Fishy**

When Kevin Hornbuckle goes fishin', watch out, if your name is Martin Fisher. *Emerald* columnist. Fisher verbally attacked Councilor Hornbuckle in a March 3 column. Hornbuckle responded May 25 with a logical net: Hornbuckle argued that never once did Fisher mention a position or vote taken by Hornbuckle. Ward voters apparently agreed with Hornbuckle, refusing to waste taxpayer money on a spiteful recall.

What's hilarious is that Fisher is the very same columnist who recently, passionately defended Sen. Bob Packwood from being kicked out of the U.S. Senate! Packwood votes to cut down old-growth forests and hand the cash to the rich. Kevin Hornbuckle, on the other hand, points out impolite facts, such as a class war going on against the poor. So who does Fisher embrace? Packwood.

Fisher could get a high-paying job writing for someone like Sen. Packwood. Voters often complain about fake, lying politicians who obey monied interests and never rock the boat. Hornbuckle, we can all agree, is willing to make waves.

If you want to rock the system, attend Hornbuckle's next fish-fry. If you want boredom, wipe your mind with a column of Fisher's fish-wrap.

The way the *Emerald* is going makes me wonder: Is the University increasingly the home of upper-crust oriented people more interested in personal greed, than the people's need?

David Oaks  
Eugene

**Cop-out**

In Peter DeFazio's May 24 commentary, the Congressman

emphasizes the need for "more cops on the beat." His simplistic call for more cops is a simplistic cop-out.

It simply isn't true, as DeFazio states, that "more police officers equals less crime." America already has more law enforcement personnel per capita than almost any other industrialized nation. At the same time, we have rates of violent crime and incarceration among the worst in the world. One of the prime reasons we have too much crime is that we have criminalized too much innocent activity.

DeFazio states, "There simply is not enough prison space today to keep violent criminals in jail." This is not precisely true. An absurd percentage of the country's prisoners are incarcerated for non-violent offenses — primarily drug-related. Our society can no longer afford to wage a morally bankrupt "war on drugs," which drains societal resources, exacerbates street violence, and erodes our constitutional rights. Peter, until you and our other political representatives come clean and "cop" to these basic law enforcement facts, your "revolutionary" crime bills will amount to nothing more than reactionary posturing. We deserve better.

John Davidson  
ASUO Legal Services

**Good riddance**

Well, I just finished reading Dave Charbonneau's last column (*ODE*, May 31). The only sad thing about it is this letter won't be titled "Charbonneau must go" because he's already gone. In this sad farewell article (that wet spot on this letter is neither a tear of joy nor remorse; it's just a sample of that excellent Oregon spring rain), Dave

again says he has nothing to write about.

I agree that the NBA playoffs aren't too exciting, and I didn't watch the Indy 500. But how about writing about something that most of the world has been waiting years for — the World Cup?

The single greatest tournament in the world of sports is coming to America (for the first and probably last time). But I see Dave is like many in our country who don't know enough about soccer to appreciate soccer. I'm just glad I will be able to watch a couple games in person, and also be able to read some articles about the World Cup this summer back in the Bay Area, where all sports are covered. That's all for now.

Dennis Gubbins  
Anthropology

**A request**

If you are going to speak, be sure there is a point and purpose behind the words that escape your lips. If you belong to any of the upcoming categories, please don't talk to me:

*Minorities* - Stop talking to me about racism and suppression. I'm not a racist, and I'm tired of hearing that I am.

*Feminists* - I really would

rather not hear about the exploitation of women. It's getting old.

*Males (age 19-25)* - I don't need to hear how many beers you can drink or the amount you can drink relative to the next guy. It doesn't impress me.

*University students* - Stop talking about school. It's bad enough I have to be there all the time. The last thing I need to hear is, "So... what's your major?" 10 times a day. By the way, stop saying "basically" so much. See if you can survive an entire day without mentioning that word.

*Old people* - I would like for all people ages 60 and above to stop talking about the weather. It is probably the most uninteresting thing in the world to talk about, yet you never stop thinking (aloud) about it.

Don't tell me that I'm antisocial, and don't tell me that I am building up the barriers to communication. The fact is, I have plenty of friends, but that doesn't mean I want to be everybody's friend. If I'm not in the mood to talk to you, then I'm not going to — don't take it personally.

Mike Burgess  
Business Administration

**Who's rude?**

I think it is very inconsiderate of those of you who choose to

drive on streets along sidewalks that everyone must walk along in order to get to classes. While you are burning up and down the streets, you are creating mass amounts of unwanted smoke that is endured by all of us who don't want to be subject to this stale smell. I am not alone when I say it is very rude to expose those of us who don't drive to this nasty odor.

Drivers also have the habit of driving while drunk and singing country music. This is littering! And all drivers do it. I mean every single one. Not just a few, but every teeny-weeny one of them. I have heard many people say that drunken driving and listening to country music is funny and therefore OK to do. But this isn't a valid argument because there is nothing funny about country music. I think there should be fines for everyone breaking this law. It is very ugly to see drunken-driving country music fans all over the road. It is considerate when one only drives drunk listening to country music in the country, but becomes a rude habit when you are subjecting others the product of that habit without their consent.

Outlaw driving,

Gil Hanson  
English

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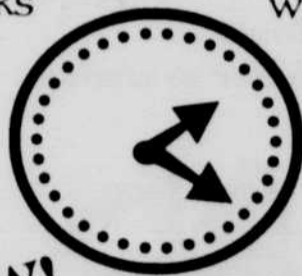
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