

Shmegheads

I would like to add to M. Reza Behnam's voice (*ODE*, Jan. 23) in urging voters not to vote for Smith or Wyden.

However, I would not recommend sending in your ballot blank. There is no option called "none of the above," and this is not what your vote becomes when you leave your ballot blank.

Fortunately, we have four other candidates officially on the ballot.

There has been a lot of talk about the formation of a third political party in the mainstream media lately.

However, the pundits fail to recognize that we already have a third party, and a fourth party and a fifth party . . .

In this important Senate election we have four candidates besides the two the media makes us decide between. The Libertarian, Socialist, American and Pacific parties have candidates officially on the ballot, and I think their existence needs to be acknowledged.

Some people have told me that by voting for a "third party" candidate I am throwing away my vote, and the greater of two shmegheads (obviously Smith) will win.

Yet a candidate needs a majority of the votes to win, so a vote for someone other than Wyden or Smith is NOT a vote for Smith (or vice versa). If no one gets a majority, then we will have a run-off election between the two highest candidates.

Personally, I think they are both complete shmegheads (sorry about the childish name calling, but it seems that is what politics has been reduced to).

Had DeFazio won the primary, I would have been happy to vote for someone who had both a chance of winning and did not make me want to throw up (which is the nicest thing I will probably say about an elected politician, so consider it a compliment to DeFazio).

Unfortunately, that primary became yet another example of how advertising dollars and name recognition are more effective than content or character.

The entire country will be looking at this election because it is a mid-term election and the controversy behind Packwood's resignation.

Oregon seems to be more progressive than the rest of the country, so this may be the best chance we have to make an impact with a protest, "third party" candidate vote.

If a significant percentage of votes go to a "third party" candidate, then the national pundits will have to acknowledge it.

If you want to be technical, individual votes really don't matter. The number of people voting does matter because it tells politicians how many people are paying attention, so I would like to encourage everyone to vote.

Also, if you want to know what shmeghead means, then go rent *Red Dwarf*. It is a hilarious science fiction TV series and will make life less depressing in this day of catch-22 politics.

Jeff McCoy
Computer and
Information Science

Students censored

KWVA General Manager J. Pierson (*Oregon Commentator*, Jan. 19) refers to "a pair of headline-craving students" in the article titled "Gasping for Air." He goes on to say that the two students were not satisfied with what KWVA had offered them — causing them to cry "persecution" and run to the Rutherford Institute for help.

Well, we are those two students, and we would like to respond to Pierson's statements.

Last winter term, we were hoping to get an hour-long program featuring alternative Christian music without drawing a lot of attention to ourselves. We went through all the appropriate channels to successfully land the show.

We did this without stirring up any media attention throughout the entire several-month process. This hardly puts us into the category of "headline-craving students."

It was our desire to broadcast a show that would entertain a certain segment of the campus

community — those who enjoy Christian alternative music. The show would have focused on music, not preaching.

Instead of getting the show, supposedly "student-run radio" offered us a show that had to include KWVA's regular music rotation. Although the offer was for a longer show than we requested, it was on the station's terms.

In other words, we would be forced to play music the station deemed appropriate.

So much for cultural diversity and free speech on the University's "student-run" airwaves.

We had to refuse this offer because it would have allowed someone to choose what we did for our two hours a week when other KWVA shows were not censored during their broadcast time.

Because we had exhausted all the options we could pursue on our own, we turned to the Rutherford Institute. We felt we needed to do this because we firmly believe that free speech

should still have a place at the University.

However, we did not go any further with the situation because we felt the battle had run its course. Apparently, Mr. Pierson doesn't think so.

Again, if we were truly "headline craving," last year would have been a good time to turn to *The Register-Guard* or KMTR for publicity.

Finally, on a campus where student-run media, such as the *Emerald*, the *Commentator* and KWVA are sometimes controversial, we were hoping to be just two students running a clean show for entertainment.

We wanted to play music we like. Unfortunately, that is not acceptable at KWVA.

Though we didn't want to bring this story to the media, Pierson made sure we had to after bringing up the issue.

This whole ordeal leaves us "Gasping for Air."

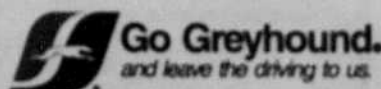
Steve Kramer and
Brian Womack
Journalism

Low Prices
To Lots Of Places
Every Day.



Greyhound makes it so easy to get there with low fares everyday on every bus. Just walk up and buy your ticket. We can take you to over 2400 destinations around the country. To find out about low fares and convenient schedules, call 1-800-231-2222.

From Eugene to:			
Los Angeles	\$89	Sacramento	\$50
Portland	\$13	San Francisco	\$59



<http://www.greyhound.com>
© 1995 Greyhound Lines, Inc. Prices subject to change. Some restrictions and limitations may apply.

EMU BEER GARDEN

1996 WINTER TERM

Schedule




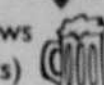


ATTN:

Ducks!

(over 21, I.D. required)

Looking for a
good time?

- NO cover charge 
- FREE food 
- LIVE music 
- BEER (micro-brews & alt. drinks) 

Clip & Save:

- Jan. 26
Hummingfish
- Feb. 2
Cousin Larry
- Feb. 16
Freidrich's Teeth
- March 1
Rhythm Jones
- March 8
Rubberneck
- March 15
ST. PATRICK'S CELEBRATION

EMU BEER GARDEN

at: EMU Dining Room

FREE Chips & Salsa
4-5pm

LIVE Music
5-7pm

Come & Join Us!

