

Oregon Daily
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Perspectives

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Standing out in the crowd

From Frog to Frohnmayer, these are the faces that pervade our campus and deserve credit



Bret Jacobson

As our computer-addicted population hurtles toward the millennium mark, we reach that all important time to take stock of our lives and why they've careened off course. The past year has witnessed some perplexing and often remarkable moments for the campus community to imbibe.

It seems that 1999 was a terrifying year of pop culture that should be forgotten as quickly as possible. I wish Pokémon would evolve into nothingness and the boy band crew would harmonize into a lovely, silent oblivion. Maybe they can all take a dangerous trip into some haunted woods while carrying a handheld camera to witness the 8,000th performance of Livin' La Vida Loca. While the culture industry may pump out homogeneous crap for the entire country to intake, there were some special events on campus that inspired or perplexed us all.

There is always a plethora of colorful characters to wonder at in amazement. Just as Barbara Walters puts her hard-hitting journalistic integrity on the line to put forth the ever-controversial 10 Most Fascinating People of the Year list, it behooves all of us on campus to remember the interesting and remarkable people who touch our lives, pocket-books and funny bones. I've listed the top five, in ascending order, below.

5. Frog. You're kidding yourself if Frog doesn't make the list every year. Anyone who can sell the World's Funniest Joke-book and still remain true to his

personal aesthetic integrity automatically claims a spot on this list. He's as much a part of this campus as the University Bookstore and the EMU and much cheaper to maintain.

4. Student Senator Michael Dixon. The gloves fit, but they didn't acquit.

3. Summer Senate — as a whole. They caused a fuss over skipping office hours and questionably appropriated funds to another group. This combination jettisons this group of star-crossed rascals into the third spot.

2. Charles Lillis. Originally considering donating a professorship to the Lundquist College of Business, the right timing and the right way of asking got this MediaOne mogul to donate \$12 million to perpetuate the success of a school in desperate

need of upgraded facilities. In a world where success breeds success, it's a good thing LCB produces people like Lillis.

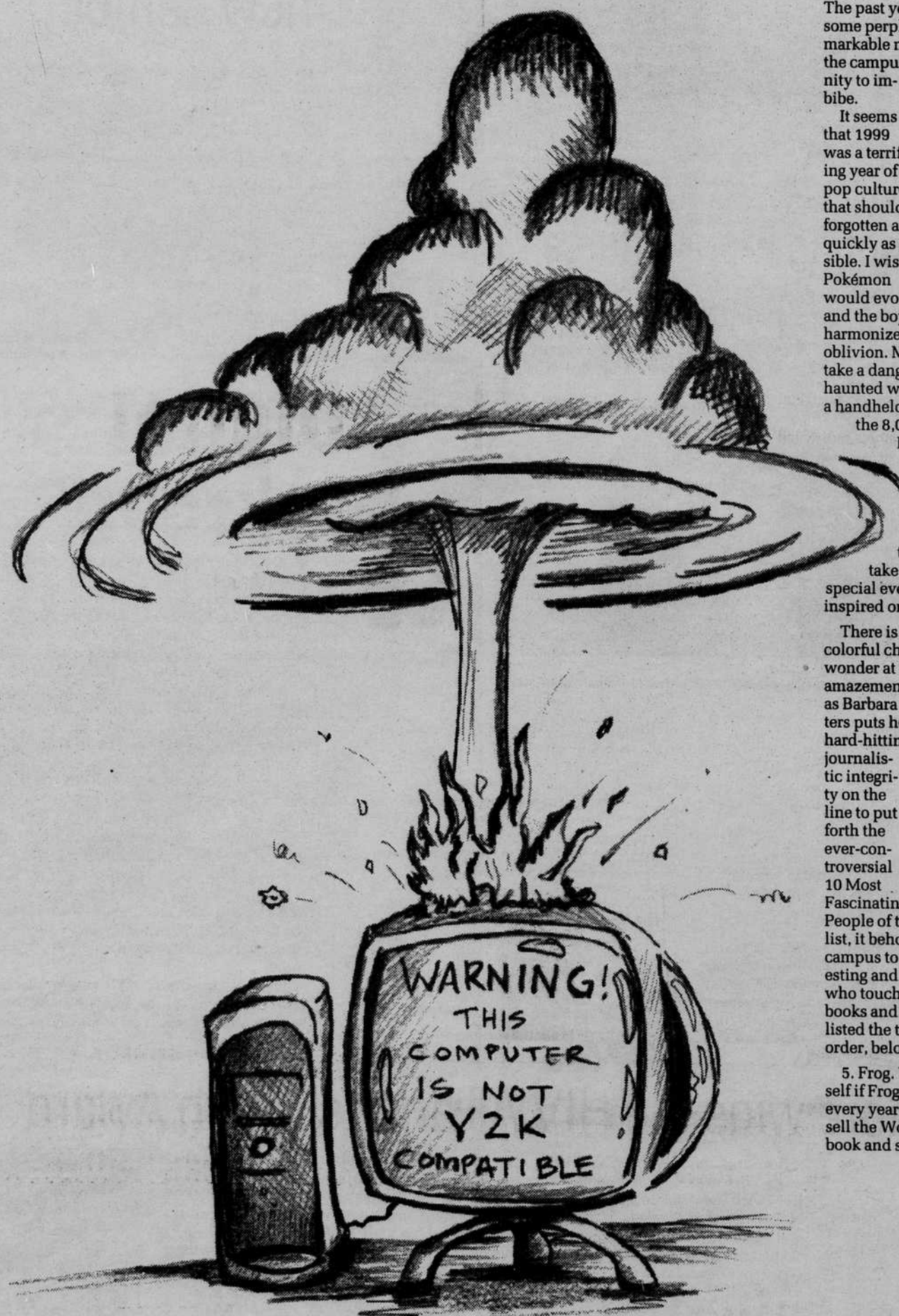
1. University President Dave Frohnmayer. He's the only university president in the nation to have the foresight to prioritize diversity and technology, the skills to push through and receive funding for a \$125 million campus expansion and the intelligence to have his medical emergency in a room full of some of the nation's leading physicians. The outpouring of support from the community, and the campus in particular, was genuine.

So, as you hunker down in your sandbagged



living room with your Mad Dog and a chip on your shoulder about possible intruders trying to steal your Spam and canned vegetable hoard, remember all the fun times this year and all the great people.

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