

# COMMENTARY

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Monday, December 2, 2002

## Letters to the editor

### University needs Measure 28

Do you want your tuition to be raised \$10 per credit hour? The answer to that question should be simple. Yet if the Jan. 28 ballot measure, conveniently titled Measure 28, doesn't pass, we all will pay a tuition surcharge for winter and spring terms.

This would equate to \$360 for a student taking 18 credits each term, in addition to the existing amount each of us pays. And it's important to note that this tuition surcharge wouldn't even cover all the cuts our school would face if the measure doesn't pass. It would only cover \$4 million of the estimated \$6.5 million that we will be forced to absorb, and it won't even cover that much if students drop out because of increased costs and loss of services, which will likely happen.

Why am I writing this now in November? Because the time for students to organize and do something about this measure is now. When we get back from winter break, you will only have two days to register to vote and only three weeks to educate yourself and tell your friends and family what exactly is at stake.

I'll leave you with this: six to nine percent of courses being slashed, a severe loss in library collections, the termination of most tutoring services, and widespread cuts in staff and faculty... that's what could happen if this measure doesn't pass.

Get educated, educate others, register people to vote and vote yes on Measure 28 come January.

Eric Bailey  
 senior

PPPM and political science  
 ASUO student senator

### KUGN airs no disclaimers

So the listeners of the Michael Medved Show and the "Savage Nation" (Michael Savage) are worried their voices might no longer be heard? Too bad.

Now you know a little of what it is like to be a minority in this country, or a woman, or gay. I am an employee of KUGN. I am also a student at the University. I strongly disagree with the current programming on the station and support the ASUO coalition on diversity in their opposition to KUGN as "the voice of the Ducks."

I want to clear up a statement attributed to University President Dave Frohnmayer in the Nov. 16 edition of the Register-Guard. The article reads, "But he noted that the station airs disclaimers..." I've worked here four years. We have never aired a disclaimer. Not once.

This may seem minor, but the issue actually turns on this. If Frohnmayer believes the station already airs disclaimers, he may not see any need to support the ASUO's stand — that these shows are offensive is not in question.

Similar statements to those quoted by opponents are made every hour, every day that these shows air. They are not only racist. They are misogynist and homophobic, and if you are not gay, a minority, or a woman, don't worry, you haven't been left out. Simply attending the University makes you subject to their diatribes. I've heard both hosts equate a University degree with brainwashing, and Savage repeatedly calls students and faculty perverts and sexual deviants.

I am a Duck, but that is not my voice. That is not my home.

Timothy Sutton  
 graduate  
 community education program

### Blame the Treaty of Versailles

Although I disagree with Zachary White's praise toward Bush in his letter ("Bush shows heroism in stand against Iraq," ODE, Nov. 19) I do not wish to dispute it.

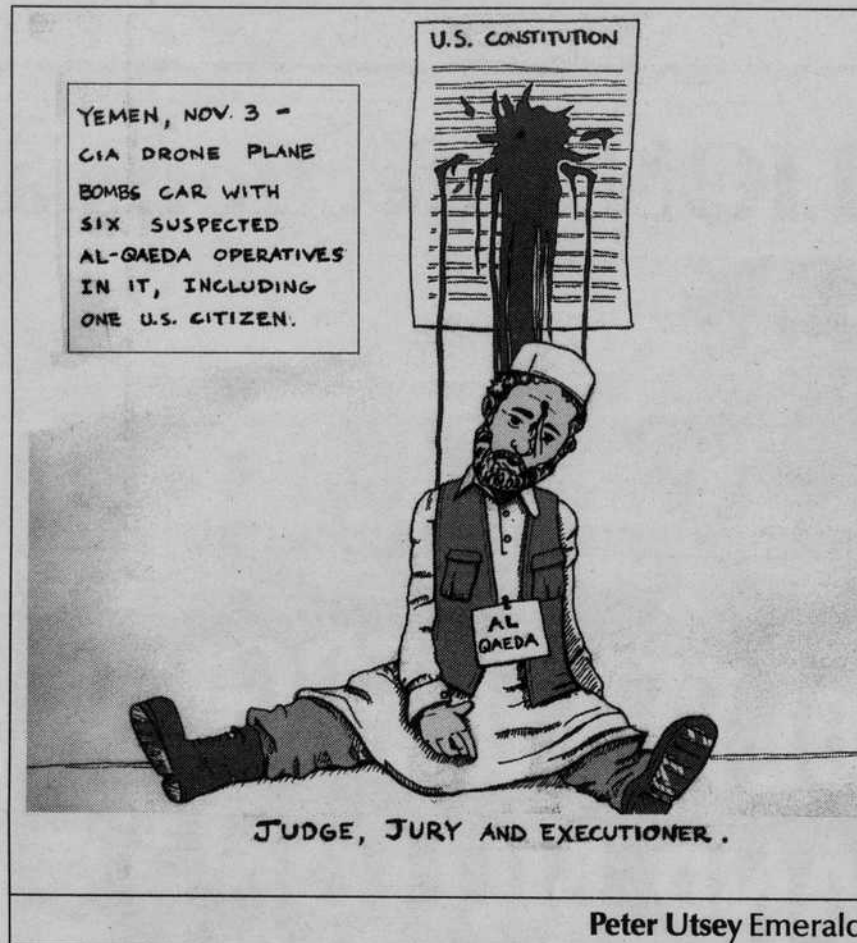
I am arguing, rather, about the historical inaccuracy in his statement. I think that if there were a Bush-like figure in the 1930s who had enforced the Treaty of Versailles, then perhaps Adolf Hitler would never have been able to launch World War II, and thus 50 million people would not have died.

As a student of history, I would guess that White would value historical accuracy. It was not the lack of enforcement of the Treaty of Versailles that laid the framework for Hitler, but the harshness of its vengeance against a humiliated and impoverished German people.

After suffering the loss of 1,773,000 people, and under the threat of invasion, Germany was forced to sign under Allied terms. The treaty demanded: disarmament of only Germany, a land grab of German territory by other nations, reparations at an estimated \$120 billion, and to add insult to injury, the turning over of German leaders such as Kaiser Wilhelm as war criminals. This treaty did nothing but utterly devastate an already war-torn economy, ripening the opportunity for Hitler and the Nazi movement to prosper.

After World War II, we learned from this mistake by implementing the Marshall Plan. Let's not repeat the mistake of Versailles through our ignorance of history.

Kevin Curtin  
 sophomore  
 political science



## UO ignores students' KUGN concerns

### Guest commentary

I find it extremely frustrating that many of the commentaries and letters being printed about KUGN are focused on issues unrelated to the objective of concerned University students and faculty. I attended the last public meeting about KUGN, and there was not one person who voiced a desire to censor any of the people on the station. Rather than censorship, for many, this issue has to do with the University's "Affirmation of Community Standards."

While this policy statement commits to "promoting a culture of respect" and "rejecting bigotry and discrimination," our "voice of the Ducks" is clearly being associated with conflicting opinions. If the University decided to use disclaimers when airing our sports games or chose to end

our affiliation with the station when the present contract ends, Michael Savage and other talk show hosts from KUGN could and would continue their shows unaffected. Yet the University could proudly say that they are upholding the commitments stated in our "Affirmation."

University President Dave Frohnmayer responded to this issue by saying, "I am not convinced that anyone believes the University has any connection with KUGN programming" (ODE, Nov. 18). Who is anyone? Who am I then? If the president of my university truly means this statement, then he has failed to acknowledge the large number of students who do believe the University has a connection to KUGN and have made that opinion very clear.

Maybe he has failed to look at the KUGN Web site at www.kugn.com, which is green and yellow and says "the voice of

the Ducks" on its opening page. I have listened to the station on numerous occasions recently, and I feel embarrassed and afraid because the University is OK with a racist, sexist, university-bashing comments being played only seconds before a commercial promoting it as our "voice."

I am not saying that the University games being aired on an extremely leftist anarchist station would be acceptable either. I am only saying that I am a University female student of color and I am horrified that my opinion, along with many others, can be so easily ignored. If this is the reaction of the administration, I highly suggest that the policy statements of the University are changed so marginalized students don't have a false sense of security.

Nicole Sangsoree Barrett is a senior theater and women's studies major.

## Anti-war movement enables violence

### Guest commentary

Sometimes the truth hurts. We all want to love and support the families we're born into, but too often family relationships bind and shape us into dysfunctional patterns. When you're in such a situation, it's important to be honest about it.

The anti-war movement seems trapped in a dysfunctional paternal relationship with America but won't admit it. We believe in empty promises and refer to inaccurate memories of our past as a way to deal with current — horrific — realities. As University of Colorado professor Vine Deloria Jr. says, "Of course you can trust the government; just ask an Indian."

We were birthed within the most genocidal, ecocidal society in the history of the planet. According to the World Wildlife Fund, given current resource consumption, the earth will be unable to sustain human life past 2050. Such consumption is driven by America and our dominant values. Do we have the courage to confront the dominant values that are destroying us? Do we have the courage to confront dysfunctional families and relationships? Do we have the courage to be

disloyal to America? Or will our co-dependent patterns silence us?

The developing anti-war movement is being dominated by arguments that America, at its core, is not about war and should be a force for peace. A change in priorities, perhaps even legal reform, is advocated. Mistreated by the greatest body of authority in history, some oddly appeal for even greater authority, like the United Nations, international law or world government.

This camp could be called "the loyal opposition." They try to play an oppositional role, but are basically loyal, still waving flags and crying over the "eroded" constitution.

The other end of the same continuum was well represented by a recent speaker on campus, Kevin Danaher. Danaher criticized the U.S. alliance with Saudi Arabia, where "women aren't even allowed to drive," but he advocated a return to the "liberty and local control" of America's beginnings. He even thanked Thomas Jefferson!

Doesn't America's original as well as contemporary relationship with women, Indians, blacks, queers and debtors (just about everybody) make this alliance of Danaher's just as offensive as contempo-

rary America's alliance with sexist Saudis? I don't know why anybody would yearn for the days when America began. To do so is like ignoring the family's "dirty little secrets."

Meanwhile, the political right is being far more honest. Powerful think-tanks like the American Enterprise Institute, the Project for a New American Century and others are explicitly calling for the United States to colonize the rest of the planet. PNAC calls U.S. troops abroad "the Calvary on the new American frontier."

Invading Iraq wouldn't just be one more war, it would occur within a strategic context. Will the anti-war movement step up to the challenge? Or will it continue to enable perpetual violence by hiding the "family's secrets" under the guise of peace?

Waving flags, validating politicians and pleading for violence to stop does nothing to confront the illusion that needs to end. Admitting the depths of our dysfunction can be hard to do, but the consequences of continuing to accept this paternal relationship are severe.

Marshall Kirkpatrick is a sophomore anthropology major and co-director of the Survival Center.

### Online poll

Each Monday, the Emerald publishes the previous week's poll results and the coming week's poll question. Visit [www.dailyemerald.com](http://www.dailyemerald.com) to vote.

**Last week:** Should the University start classes earlier to end fall term in time for Thanksgiving?

**Results:** 67 total votes

Yes — 50.7 percent, or 34 votes

No — 34.3 percent, or 23 votes

Don't know — 11.9 percent, or 8 votes

Leave me alone! — 3 percent, or 2 votes

**This week:** How should the University address diversity issues?

**Choices:** Focus on recruitment; Focus on retention; Hire more faculty members of color; Things are fine as is; Don't know; Leave me alone!