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Pulse Relax

On Thursday
African dance:
Eugene's cultural
connection

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Friendship should take precedence over politics

Dear Nat: I need help solving an e-mail squabble I had with a friend who is pro-military. I recently wrote her and expressed that I am strongly against the war in Iraq. She replied with a long letter stating that I am wrong and that she actually believes the United States has good reasons to go to war! I'm considering ending the friendship because I feel she is being ignorant. Should I bother trying to patch things up, and if so, how?

— Political Firestarter

Dear Firestarter: Unless your friendship consists of watching the news together all day, then yes, you should try to patch things up.

There are many topics friends can discuss and activities they can engage in that do not include politics. I feel it is important for romantically involved couples to agree on controversial issues, but a friendship with other elements of enjoyment is not worth throwing away because of one disagreement. You unlatched Pandora's Box by e-mailing your political opinion to your friend. She already had her view set on this touchy topic, and you opened your mouth (or tapped the keyboard, in this case) with a fire-filled opposition that ended up burning you both. Next time, don't make a comment that you think might offend someone, because an argument will be the only outcome.

For now, pick up the phone and tell your friend it would be best to put the issue to rest, because you're not changing your mind about the war and she's not changing hers. Then bring up controversial topics that are more relevant to everyday life, such as the complexities of your roommates, relationships and careers.

Dear Nat: I'm a 20-year-old female feeling attention-starved from one of my best guy friends, "Evan." Evan is one of the few supportive people in my life aside from my boyfriend, "Benny." Lately, Evan's long-distance girlfriend has been requesting he call her every night, and this has been interfering with the time I spend with him. He always cuts our coffee dates short because he has to rush home and call his girlfriend. I need Evan there for me in case something bad happens between Benny and me! What should I do?

— Attention-Starved Friend

Dear Attention-Starved: Who are you dating, Benny or Evan? I would think it's a little more important to be concerned with the actions of your own man, not someone else's. Evan is still spending time with you, like a friend should, but his girlfriend is his first priority. If given the choice, I'm sure you would spend any bonus snippets of your time with Benny, not Evan.

I'm more concerned with your

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Natasha
Chilingirian
Ask Nat



Louis Jensen (right) and his son James Osredkar fish for hatchery rainbow trout at Alton Baker Park, located just east of the Ferry Street Bridge. The two have fished nearly every week for the last six years.
Adam Amato
Emerald

TACKLING FISHING

Eugene businesses provide the tools for fishing enthusiasts to tackle the season of the sea

Ryan Bornheimer
Senior Pulse Reporter

The thaw has begun and spring is upon us. In the spirit of the season, fishing enthusiasts of all experience levels will take to local waterways in search of the ultimate catch. Whether it's for a love of the sport or a taste for Oregon's world-renowned seafood, the opportunities to dip the reel are limitless.

The first step to fishing in Oregon is the purchase of a fishing license. Though different types of fishing require different licenses, the most general fishing permit is fairly easy to come by. Bi-Mart, Walmart and Fred Meyer all offer licenses for between \$20 and \$30. As a rule, any retail store selling sporting goods can provide the required license.

Once the license is in hand, a stop at one of the many local fishing equipment retailers is in order.

Baxter's Custom Tackle and Boats, located at 777 West Sixth Ave., is a good place for one-stop shopping. This supply store has served



The Caddis Fly Angling Shop provides both fishing reports and a variety of fly fishing gear.
Adam Amato
Emerald

Eugene since 1987, offering a full line of tackle, reels and rods as well as live and frozen bait. If a broken rod or reel is keeping you from the water, Baxter's also offers repair services.

Those in need of some equipment can also

stop by Chuck's Rod & Reel Service, another area mainstay, while there's still time. This 30-year-old full line tackle shop, located at 5350 Main St. in Springfield, will close at the end

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Eugene native bares male thoughts on pornography

Author David Loftus' new book 'Watching Sex' delves into the world of on-screen sex

Book review

Jacquelyn Lewis
Pulse Editor

Pornography is, and always has been, a touchy subject. Opinions surrounding the material are as numerous as the genre's endless variants. Loud-mouthed proponents and opponents have hailed

and condemned porn for centuries. However, author David Loftus said he wrote the book "Watching Sex: How Men Really Respond to Pornography" because he felt one thing was missing from all this debate: the voices of average pornography users — men, in particular. Amidst the feminist anti-porn theories and free speech arguments, "nobody talked to men," Loftus said.

Loftus set out to remedy this, interviewing almost 150 men about their experiences with pornography. The questions run the gamut, from the men's first exposure to graphic material to how

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