

Poli sci student needs schooling; Iraq war, U.S. motives unjustified

Lucas Szabo's guest commentary ("Even if U.S. administration lied, America still freed Iraqi populace," ODE, July 15) proclaims that even if "Bush and the rest of the administration lied, used bogus intelligence and waged an imperialist oil war" in Iraq, Americans shouldn't be concerned because a brutal dictatorship is no more. This shows a shocking lack of understanding of what the American political system should stand for, not to mention how such lies undermine the United States' credibility with other nations around the world.

GUEST COMMENTARY

As a political science major, Szabo should know the president cannot knowingly lie to Congress. If waging war to remove brutal dictatorships is such a good idea, then the president should simply present this to Congress and the American people. And if removing one dictator is such a good idea, why not continue? The world is full of brutal dictatorships, some of whom are good allies of the United States. I imagine Szabo is looking forward to more invasions. Of course, at a reported \$4 billion a month, the occupation of Iraq is putting a bit of a squeeze on the budget. Perhaps the president can cut even more funding from higher education, student loan programs and other programs that bet-

ter the lives of people in this nation, in order to pay for these wars around the world that Szabo promotes.

I'm glad to see that Szabo is only a junior. This means he still has a few years left in his political science classes, and a chance to learn how a democratic government is supposed to behave. Read the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, Mr. Szabo, and Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King Jr. Read about the presidency of Richard Nixon. Then get out the tissue you speak of, and dab your eyes as you remember your unfortunate remarks on this subject.

Joe Daunt lives in Eugene.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Research park values, protects nature

We at the University of Oregon Riverfront Research Park were interested to read recent letters from Bryn Anderson ("Conserve the riverfront," ODE, July 3) and Zachary Vishanoff ("Locals must eye research development plans," ODE, July 8).

We share Anderson's general concern for the environment, and have addressed specific environmental issues in the park in a highly responsible manner. For example, we investigated and conducted extensive

monitoring of areas that were contaminated by uses predating the park. In 1996, the Department of Environmental Quality found that no further action was necessary. These activities reflect the park's approved master plan, which values and protects the natural environment and riparian habitats.

Vishanoff questioned the University's plans for nanoscience programs. Nanoscience research at the University derives its principal support from the National Science Foundation, as well as from ongoing collaborations with Oregon industries involving

workforce and economic development initiatives. A major focus is the creation of "green nanotechnologies" for inherently safer materials to minimize waste and environmental concerns in new chemical manufacturing processes. The University hopes to enhance its multidisciplinary science facilities, including those related to nanoscience research, through expansion of its existing Willamette Science Complex, and there are no plans to site these facilities near the Autzen footbridge.

Diane Wiley

Director, Riverfront Research Park



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