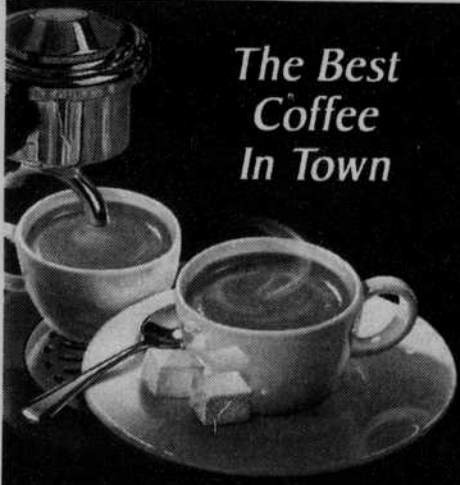


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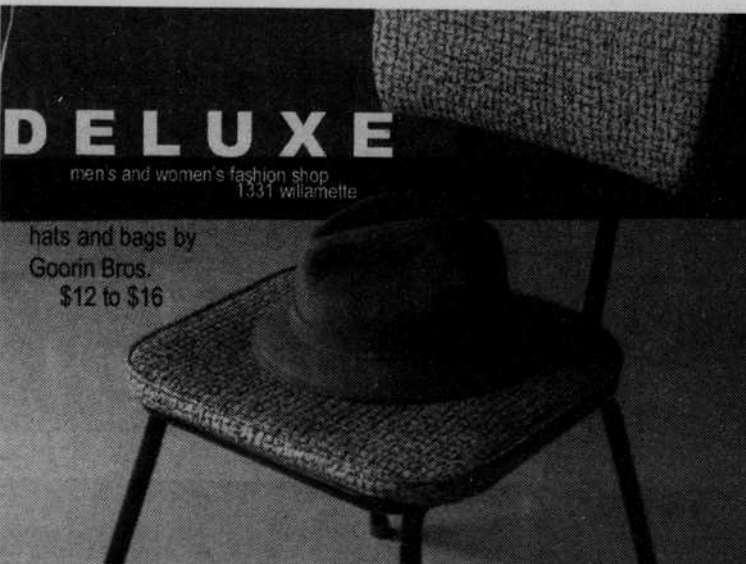
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Gee, plastic burns?

Four years of school. Four years of bitterness. Here are my shout-outs:

- **Journalism:** Journalism isn't about mindlessly droning out information to the masses for the sake of a strong democracy. It's about passion, compassion and making a difference.

Journalism isn't about working tirelessly to ensure your complete neutrality to every issue, tragedy and person; after all, that's impossible for any person aware enough to do this job. As Seattle Times Executive Editor Mike Fancher told the Emerald staff at our annual banquet, it's about finding the people who disagree with you — and listening to them intently.

True journalism requires a drive that few can acquire unless they are born with it. It's a love for words, a willingness to be overworked and underpaid, and a deep-rooted need to find the truth.

Every professor who has inspired me at the J-school — Dean Rea, Kathy Campbell, John Russial, Julie Newton and Scott Maier — has helped me find this understanding. Every person I've worked with at the Emerald has helped me develop this understanding. For all these people, I am eternally grateful.

- **Hippies:** You know who you are. You patchouli-stinking, unshowered, unshaven, disillusioned whiners. Look, my parents were hippies. They hitchhiked barefoot across Europe in the '60s. You people think standing in the EMU and annoying the hell out of students with your rants will change the world? Here's a tip: There are plenty of ways to protest the system while still taking a bath.

But don't get me wrong; I don't totally disagree with some of your sentiments. For instance, I don't particularly like President Bush. But at least I'm reasonable about it — I don't go around comparing the guy to Hitler. That's just stupid.

- **My incidental fees:** I gave hundreds and hundreds of dollars to the ASUO during my four long years here at the University, and never once did I attend a cultural event. So I want my damn money back. Also, my tuition skyrocketed out of control, so I want all the money that was stolen from me and given to anti-tuition advocacy groups such as USSA and OSA. And you won't catch me dead in the Willamette River, so OSPIRG can go straight to hell. Except, give me my money back and get an accountant before you go, you shady bastards.

- **Greeks:** You guys are hard to please. I remember writing a story last summer about how Theta Chi's fraternity house nearly burned down. It was a straight breaking news story, with a variety of sources, but, sure enough, I had a frat member in the office the next day expressing outrage that the Emerald would dare print such a story. Well, that story was objective. But this isn't, so here's some advice to all the frat guys: **DON'T PUT OUT YOUR CIGARETTES IN PLASTIC CONTAINERS IF YOU DON'T WANT YOUR HOUSE TO CATCH ON FIRE. HELLO? DUH.**

Contact the managing editor at janmontry@dailyemerald.com. His opinions do not necessarily represent those of the Emerald.

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