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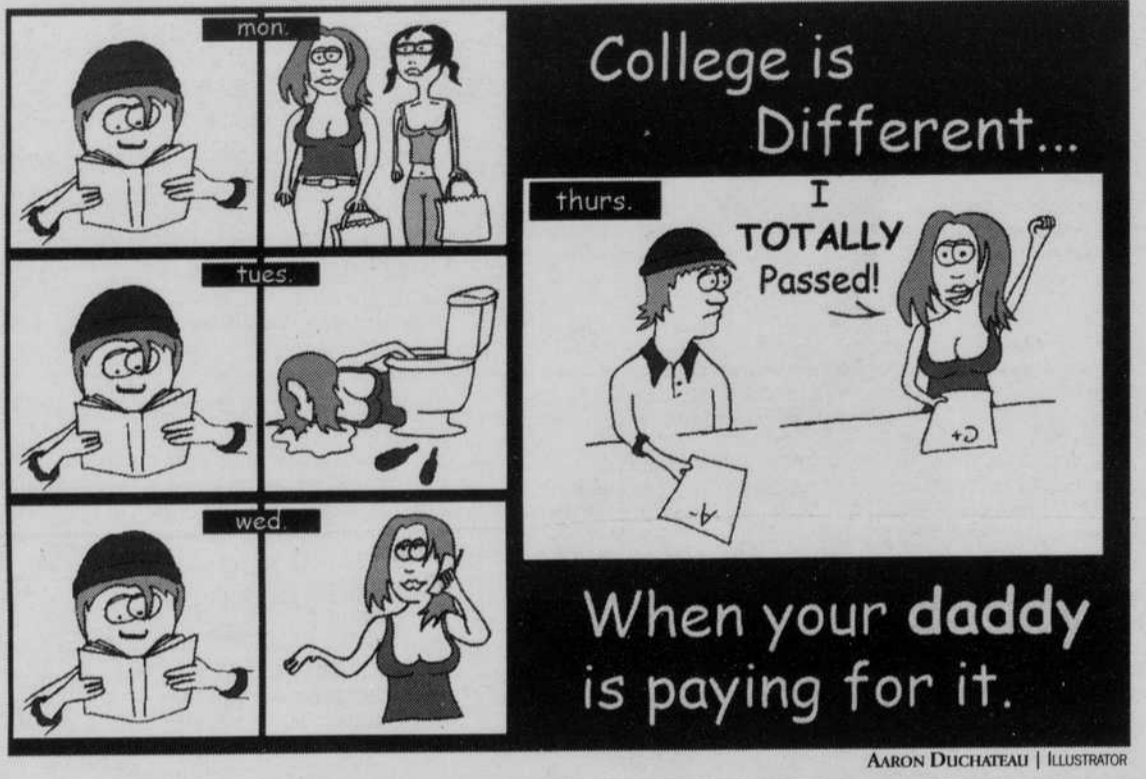
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AARON DUCHATEAU | ILLUSTRATOR

**In my opinion**

## College students need to go with the flow and roll with it

Once upon a time there was a rock and roll band called Oasis. Oasis once made a song called "Roll With It," which, as cheesy and clichéd as this is going to sound, is actually kind of inspiring. The reason for this inspiration might seem obvious, but let's look at the reason why nonetheless.

Fact number one: You are a college student. That means by default you have a lot on your plate. A harsh regimen of classes with a few extra hours of homework tacked on to boot. If that isn't enough, it's entirely likely you have a job somewhere that is eating up even more of your time and putting added stress on your shoulders. Factor in a thriving social agenda, like any good college student would have, and you've made a high-tension, high-stakes cocktail of life.

Fact number two: Life is now. They say that elementary school is preparation for middle school, middle school is preparation for high school, and high school is preparation for college. College is preparation for what? Life? Take a good look around: Your life is happening right now. It would be nice if college was just another form of preparation, but let's be honest, there's just too much going on. The game has already started and the clock is running.

Fact number three: There isn't a written manual that tells us how to do this. You're never going to find a carefully laid out diagram that explains what a good life looks like and what you can do to achieve this mysterious goal. And, what is that achievement? Do you get a gold star to wear on your lapel with the words "Great Person"? The bare fact of the



RICHARD PRYOR  
LEFT OF THE MIDDLE

matter is, we don't know what a good life looks like, or how to lead one. If that doesn't creep you out just a little bit, I don't know what will.

So, with all this in mind, it's safe to say things can look pretty grim at times. You and everyone you know has got a tough life going for themselves, that's just how it is. Life is never as easy as you'd like it to be and you're always going to get tossed curve balls that you don't know what to do with. That's where the song comes into the equation. You just gotta roll with it.

The whole thing sounds painstakingly clichéd, believe me I know, but some clichés exist for a reason. The sun is going keep coming up every morning, and you're going keep waking every morning and having to live your life. None of that changes when the chips are down or things are stacking up. The only way to get by is in learning to deal with things as they come.

This one I know applies to someone out there: Suppose your girlfriend or boyfriend decides to dump you the night before a big test. You have to show up to that class and take the test. If you had a really bad night and you don't want to go to

work early the next day, you gotta just show up and make it happen. It's probably the advice everyone wants to hear the least, but it's the honest to god truth.

Now, for the benefit of everyone reading this article, I'm not standing on a literary pulpit trying to preach to you that I have all the right answers, and that in this article I am going to impart to you my wisdom. If I know anything in the world, it's that I don't know the "right answers" any more than anyone else. Anyone could have come to this exact same conclusion; I'm just trying to get people to think about what's going on around them.

We all get dealt the difficult hand once in a while, and I'm sure anyone could have just as easily have figured this out, but sometimes we need a wake-up call. Sometimes we need to have someone grab us by the shoulders and give us a good shake and a rude awakening. Figuratively speaking, of course.

This is your wake-up call, world. Things are tough and they're just going to get tougher. What are you going to do about it? Quit? No chance. You're going to keep putting one foot in front of the other and get from here to there. You're going to show up and do the things you have to do. Nobody's coming to save you; you're here to save yourself.

All that said, you can take the advice, or you can call me crazy. Either way, it's something to think about. You never know, maybe all it takes is for someone to just go with the flow and roll with it.

rpryor@dailyemerald.com

**Editorial**

## Sex acts for money are never OK

The Oregon Supreme Court last month overturned a state law that banned live sex performances. It simultaneously struck down a Nyssa, Ore. city ordinance that required strip club patrons and performers to maintain a distance of four feet from each other.

The Oregon Constitution has a guarantee that "No law shall be passed restraining the free expression of opinion, or restricting the right to speak, write, or print freely on any subject whatever."

As members of the press, we value this protection. In fact, Oregonians are fortunate that our state law goes above-and-beyond the U.S. Constitution, protecting expression that other states deem illegal because it's "obscene," even if it offends a portion of the population.

In its rulings on these complicated cases, the court elaborates on a long-standing legal debate about just how far this constitutional protection extends today. It does so using a legal framework set forth by State v. Robertson (1982).

In essence, Robertson requires the state to defend laws restricting the freedom of expression by proving that the Oregon Constitution's framers intended for that restraint to be an exception.

In this case, the court assumed, for the sake of argument, that U.S. law generally prohibited live sex shows at the time the constitution was adopted and afterward. Yet the court decided anti-sex show laws were designed to protect the viewer from a certain message rather than prevent harm to individuals or groups; the court points out the law in question criminalizes sex acts "only when they occur in an expressive context, i.e., in a 'live public show.'"

Because the law was aimed at expression, the court held that the state must prove the framers wanted sex shows to be an exception to expression rights. Ultimately, the court found there was not sufficient evidence to warrant an exception.

After careful reading of the case, we don't disagree with the court's legal reasoning. The ruling is clear and logical; we agree the laws were intended to prevent the message of live sex shows based on certain societal values of the period.

Yet we, like many Oregonians, were initially shocked by the ruling. We oppose the legalization of live sex shows or other sexual acts involving payment.

The court's ruling is also something of a cop-out; we're fairly positive that the document's authors were not considering the issue of girl-on-girl mutual masturbation when they crafted our constitutional right to "free expression of opinion." Moreover, requiring someone to prove the framers were or were not thinking about strippers performing oral sex on one another is an unfeasible burden.

The real issue in this debate should be the potential harm that can arise from live sex shows.

Business managers at clubs argue that those involved in sex shows are consenting adults who deserve their rights to free expression. Yet such a viewpoint ignores the slippery slope from nude dancing to prostitution.

In a strip club, dancing on stage garners less money than a lap dance, which garners far less money than a private sex encounter with a John in a motel room. Such monetary earning patterns partially explain how strippers become gradually more comfortable with the idea of prostitution.

As long as prostitution remains morally objectionable in Oregon, the legality of live sex shows should not be validated by the court. The Oregon Legislature should address this issue by crafting laws that specifically prohibit the exchange of sex for money.

The court's decision to authorize private sex performances is in compliance with neither the values of constitutional framers, nor with the values of most Oregon citizens today.

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