

Monologue

Idle Hands

By J. Dana Haynes

I would like to take this time and space to salute the gutsy people of Chiloquin, Ore., who recently passed a law making handgun ownership mandatory.

You see, it all started when a small town in Illinois, the name escapes me, passed a law prohibiting the private possession of handguns within the city limits. To protest that decision, the town of Kennesaw, Ga., adopted a law saying everyone had to have a gun.

Which led to the city council of San Francisco banning handguns.

Which led to Chiloquin.

Now I realize that there are a lot of knee-jerk liberals who will say that the worst reason for passing a law is to shout "Oh yeah? We'll show you!" to the city commissioners of San Francisco.

But I, for one, understand. The people of Chiloquin took a stand. The only problem is, they really didn't go far enough.

What I mean is, San Francisco isn't the only town with bad laws. And as long as Chiloquin's town council isn't afraid to pass judgment on other towns, they should go all the way.

Now, my folks live in a small town in Idaho, which has a rather ridiculous rule banning "pornography". This includes books, movies and magazines, with such fatally broad parameters that the rule could easily apply to Michelangelo's David and the National Geographic.

Once the lawmakers of Chiloquin hear of this, I'm sure they will once again take on the mantle of righteousness and pass... you guessed it, a mandatory pornography law.

Soon, every book store in town will carry dog-eared back issues of Hustler and Swank. The local theater will have to replace "On Golden Pond" with Wanda

Whips Wallstreet. And soon pornography, which you'll agree is as American as Mom, apple pie and the Saturday Night Special, will have its niche carved indelibly in Chiloquin.

Then there's the virtual epidemic of nonsensical automobile laws that flourish throughout this country. Like any good American, I'm opposed to car registration. The liberal elements will tell you that a motor vehicle is a potentially deadly weapon, and we should keep track of where they all are in the event of an accident. Well, nonsense! The people of Chiloquin won't stand for such drivel. Cars don't kill people; people kill people. What's more, it's a known fact that almost no one in Poland owned their own cars when the Nazis invaded.

There are still some of us left who won't go down without a fight. Car registration is just an excuse to take our automobiles away! I join the people of Chiloquin in saying that the government will take my Toyota when they pry it from my cold, locked garage!

Now then, about Portland's current anti-prostitution campaign...

Pro-gun stance not pro-death

By T. Jeffries

I like firearms. I like looking at them, I like holding them, cleaning them and firing them. If one were to listen to a standard anti-gun speaker this should make me a rabid survivalist, a hopeless deviate, or at least a without a conscience, hunter intent on ridding the world of all forms of wildlife.

I feel that I am none of those, and it angers me that my hobby and I are equated with crime, senseless violence and most of the other problems currently plaguing the country and world in general. Personally I don't believe in violence as a solution to any problem except in cases of immediate self-preservation or the immediate preservation of someone else's life. I voted for John Anderson, I believe in total nuclear disarmament, I support Greenpeace, I detest the Moral Majority, I believe James Watt should be lobotomized for the good of the country, and I like guns.

Guns do not cause crime, people cause crime. Neither do guns make people commit crimes. People merely use guns as a handy tool to



facilitate the commission of a crime. Guns are not inherently evil, nor are the people that shoot them. A gun is a machine, no more, no less. I, like many others, appreciate the beauty of the machines as any car lover appreciates the beauty of a mint condition Stutz Bearcat.

I target shoot, very badly I might add. Experimentally, I went hunting once and returned perfectly happy with a stump and a tin can to my credit.

The point is: people like myself and my friends make up the majority of the gun owners in this country and around the world. Our guns have not caused crimes, and have been purchased legally. I would not feel safer if guns, particularly handguns, were made illegal. It would simply mean that law-abiding citizens would be unable to purchase them.

Criminals in Oregon (yes, there are some) are already forced to buy illegally because of this state's firearms purchasing regulations. They would not at all be hampered by any new regulations

Crime is a basic fact of civilization. We have always had it and always will. Certainly it can be reduced in proportion, but don't punish gun owners or guns themselves. Punish criminals.

In short, do not condemn all gun owners as potential murderers. Nearly all are simply normal, law abiding citizens participating in an activity they enjoy. By the same token, condemn not guns. Look at them as a tool, like a knife or an automobile; harmless until in the hands of the wrong person. "There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so," said William Shakespeare.

Is anything not dangerous to your health?

By Brett Bigham

"Warning: The Surgeon General has determined that use of this product may be hazardous to your health."

How many times have you heard this or similar warnings? It's getting to the point where everything you either eat or do is "hazardous."

Years ago nothing was dangerous (excluding the obvious: guns, knives, mad bears, etc.). Little Johnny slept with a teddy bear, deodorant was sprayed out of aerosol cans, heroin and cocaine were legal prescription drugs

and the world abounded with red M&Ms.

Nineteen-eighty two is a different story. Johnny's teddy and jammies are treated with cancer causing TRIS. Aerosol deodorants and other aerosol products are eating up the ozone. Heroin and cocaine are both habitual and illegal and the harmful red dye in the red M&Ms have caused them to become extinct. All of these products are "hazardous".

Even the car you drive can be dangerous. Seat belts trap you underwater, air bags explode into flames from cigarettes or don't work at all and windshields shatter on impact. Every year more cars are being recalled for things from faulty doorlocks to exploding gas tanks.

Going to the store is becoming a nightmare. First of all you have to get there. This can be quite a scare in itself.

Virtually all traffic accidents happen on short trips and bicycles are involved in thousands of accidents every year. Some doctors are beginning to feel that running is bad for your feet and walking is not only dangerous (being a pedestrian is a risky business) but it is also pathetically slow.

All of this "hazardous."

Once you get to the store (good luck!) you are really in for a hassle.

It used to be that you would grab a basket and start piling things in. Everyday things like: honey, Coca-Cola, your Folgers Coffee (with flavor crystals), Pam Cooking Spray, Tab Cola, booze, cigarettes, your brand of feminine protection and a Jiffy Log.

Of course no one bothered to tell you that honey contributes to crib death in infants, Coca-Cola not only has caffeine (it used to contain cocaine!) but it can rust a nail three times as fast as water (imagine that in your stomach!) and your Folgers Coffee (minus Mrs. Olsen who is nauseating anyway) contributes to pancreatic cancer.

Pam cooking spray contains deadly fumes, your diet Tab (just one calorie) causes cancer and the gin in that martini you're thinking about is going to eat up your liver and your brain.

That Lucky Strike you are striking up is destroying your lungs and causing cancer and your Rely is not reliable at all. It is giving you Toxic Shock Syn-

drome and the Jiffy Log you bought contains cancer causing asbestos.

Recreation is even getting dangerous to your health. Amusement rides, playgrounds and toys all account for large amounts of accidents every year.

Television fries you with radiation and loud music short circuits your hearing.

Even skate boards were investigated and recommended for removal from the market because of the risk.

You'd better be careful with your after-sex cigarettes too. Drop one on your mattress and you'll really be smoking.

Cleanliness is even becoming dangerous. Bathtubs account for a large percent of household accidents, electric hairdryers cause cancer and your pearly whites are having their enamel worn off by Pearl Drops (mmm! What a great feeling!).

And lastly, if you have any of these problems or symptoms, DO NOT go to your doctor or dentist. X-rays are "hazardous!" So why don't you sit back, put your feet up and take two Tylenols for that nasty headache...

THE PRINT, a member of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, aims to be a fair and impartial journalistic medium covering the campus community as thoroughly as possible. Opinions expressed in THE PRINT do not necessarily reflect those of the College administration, faculty, Associated Student Government or other members of THE PRINT.

Office: Trailer B; telephone: 657-8400, ext. 309,310

Editor In Chief: J. Dana Haynes

News Editor: Doug Vaughan

Arts Editor: Brett Bigham

Sports Editor: Tracy Sumner

Photo Editor: Wanda Perceval

Staff Writers: Victoria Archila, Shelley Ball, Karl Gassaway, Doris Hatcher, Tom Jeffries, Etta Leonard, Wait McAllister, F. T. Morris

Staff Photographers: Roberta Ellsworth, Duane Hiersche, Troy Maben, Joel Miller

Business Manager: Joan Seely

Typesetter: Teresa A. Hannaford

Advisor: Sara Wichman

