

'N Sync helps fans kiss money 'Bye, Bye, Bye'

Let me just start off by saying that 'N Sync, guys, I love you. Some people may not be as willing to admit this as I am, but since I am such a huge fan, things like public humiliation don't seem to matter too much

are the ridiculous prices that you are charging for your March 3 show at the Rose Garden. I mean, who do you think we all are, Paul Allen? I think

not. I realize that other artists like U2 and Madonna charge a lot for their shows, but it seems a little less ridiculous because their fans are

older and should be able to afford to pay more for a ticket. But have you looked at your fans lately? The majority of them are pre-teen and teenage girls, hardly the richest class of people.

Tell me, where are these kids supposed to get the \$45 to \$118 for a ticket? Oh yeah, you say, if their parents love them, they will be willing to shell out the cash. Well, what if their parents love them enough to realize that even an 'N Sync show isn't worth that kind of dough, especially since most of the "cheap" \$45 seats are behind

the stage? Then what? Well then they are forced to spend their weekends listening to the radio and trying desperately to win tickets along with the rest of the population of Portland.

But even if somebody was able to scrounge enough for a ticket, there is the added cost of dealing with Ticketmaster, which is nice enough to add a "convenience charge" to every ticket purchased through them. This ends up costing the consumer between \$5 and \$8 more a ticket. But

Ticketmaster can only add a charge to the already steep price set by the promoter, which is based on the price set by the performer. So 'N Sync, this is where you come in: If you guys would just settle for less money from each show, you could do the fans a favor by letting them spend a little less

on the tickets. I mean it's not like you guys don't make enough off of the millions of CDs that you sell every year. Plus there is the additional revenue that is made from all of the 'N Sync merchandise, which by the way, comes in everything from lip-gloss to lingerie.

So it doesn't sound to me as though any of you are in danger of going broke anytime soon. But maybe I'm just complaining because I can't afford to pay that much for a four-

hour show. Of course there are always the lucky people who can spend this kind of money on a regular basis. But to be honest, I question their sanity. There are so many other things that they could do with \$118 that will last longer: buy every 'N Sync CD ever made, pay the electric bill for the month, buy a new outfit or get the 'N Sync lingerie that they have been wanting for so long.

That's certainly what I'm going to spend my money on.

Telling it like it is.



Elena Boryska
Sports Editor

anymore.

With that out of the way, I also need to say this: 'N Sync, guys, you suck.

Oh, I'm not talking about how your music has suddenly changed from squeaky clean to "dirty pop." I actually kind of like the new direction that your music has begun to take (except for the swearing, which just seems a little unnecessary to me).

No, what I am talking about is much more than what you guys are doing to get fans. It is what you are doing to the fans. What I am talking about



The heartbreaking reality of children's safety

When I was a little girl, I had to walk four miles to school every morning, by myself, not ever worrying about the possibility of being kidnapped. It is sad to see that in today's society parents have to walk their children to the bus stop because they are driven by the fear of their kids disappearing.

According to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, the 2000 reports for missing persons in the United States were up 1% over 1999. The total increase since 1982 is

468%. Looking at these numbers, you have to ask yourself what is going on in our society.

Take a risk!



Maggie Jirasek
Editor-In-Chief

Of course, little children should not be walking around late at night by themselves, in

odd places, but they should not be scared of leaving the house without

their parents either. They should not be freaked out on their way to school, thinking that someone might jump out of the bushes and take them. They should be able to walk

over to their friend's house without being haunted by the thought that someone is out there to get them.

Every morning, when I drive to school, I see parents gathered at the bus stops looking out for their children, making sure that they get on the bus. On one hand, it is nice to see how much parents care for their children, but on the other hand, it is a sad picture. It is heartbreaking to know that we have come to the point where parents cannot let their chil-

dren leave the house without wondering whether they will ever see them again.

When incidents like this happen and children just disappear in the middle of the day or on their way to school, it is not the parent's fault and it is not because they failed to watch out for their kids. Children should be able to walk around by themselves at appropriate places at appropriate times. We have to ask ourselves what we can do to change our society to avoid incidents like this.

Guest Column

The term terrorism is used to create paranoia

When Senator Gordon Smith implied, through *The Oregonian*, that there is a possibility of student groups at PSU and Oregon State University supporting "terrorism" he hung himself on a three-horned dilemma. Senator Smith is either a xenophobe, a terrorist, or a demagogue i.e. either he is lying about his information in order to create an environment of fear for Arabs and Muslims, or he is spreading fear into the community to rally support for a witch hunt, or he has accurate information on illegal activity and is grand-standing at the expense of the community. Regardless of his motivation, what Senator Smith did is the equivalent of shouting "fire" in a crowded theater and then refusing to show people to the exits.

Smith's statement has only reinforced my belief that the term terrorism is absent of any meaning or value

other than to be used as a political tool to implement a neo-liberal agenda by instilling paranoia in the community. Even after being confronted about his indiscretion and given the opportunity to apologize for the good of the community, he and his arrogant staff refuse to entertain the thought. His letter addressed to the president of PSU was far from an apology and only served to reinforce his original statement. I have contacted the president's staff at PSU, who is well practiced in tokenism and marginalizing students, regarding our disappointment with President Bernstine's decision to accept this lame excuse as an apology and I was met with tokenism and then marginalized so I am appealing to the student body for support and I will explain why further effort on the part of President Bernstine is necessary to ensure a safe and comfortable community and learn-

ing environment on campus.

The primary reason why Senator Smith should apologize to the community is that Arab-Americans and Muslims are becoming the objects of racial profiling, not just by law enforcement, but by non-Arabs and non-Muslims in general. They should be afforded the same benefits that rule of law provides for the rest of us; this is what distinguishes America from places like Afghanistan. Regardless of President Bush's disrespect for the rule of law, we should not let Senator Smith drag America down to the level of its enemies in the name of corporeal security. Without rule of law we are no better than the so called "terrorists" or any other enemy and freedoms which have been paid for with the blood of patriots is lost.

Secondly, we should not allow for fear, and a demagogue like Smith, to

create paranoia in our schools; the last bastions of intelligent debate regarding the differences between cultures, religions, and ideologies. The people who destroyed the World Trade Center did not want its occupants to be in terror. They wanted them dead. The reports of heroism that took place aboard the jets and in the World Trade Center towers are proud examples that demonstrate not every American is the cowardly, self-centered, materialistic corporate automaton Islamic fundamentalists accuse us of being. These brave individuals have shown the world that it is possible to face this challenge without fear or reactionary politics. Senator Smith should take a lesson from New York firefighters. If he is not able to control his fear and keep from spreading it into the polis, he is in the wrong profession and obviously has some personal issues to

work out- the most important of which is realizing that he is the terrorist among us. And if it is not fear but uncontrolled ambition that is driving Smith to these actions, he is still no less a terrorist but we can add criminality to his list of character flaws.

Lastly, it is no coincidence that Senator Smith chose Portland and Corvallis as targets for his terrorist attack. They were the only cities that stood up to the totalitarian dictums of Attorney General Hardy (thank you, Mayor Katz). A related issue is the prospect that Republican Senator Smith's terrorist attack may in part be aimed at death with dignity. Please call Senator Smith and demand an apology on behalf of yourself and the rest of humanity. His Portland number is (503) 326-3386.

Glenn McCarthy
Former CCC Student
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