

CONFETTI ILLUSTRATED

I found the *EW* football insert appalling. This follows an article in *The Register-Guard* last Sunday (9/6) that was inaccurate and misleading. I thought I could read *EW* without having to get a dose of the football drug. The football drug fix reflects the aggressive, bullying, domineering and stupid mainstream American attitude which is making Americans enemies everywhere.

I immediately tore the thing to pieces. It seems that the arts and academics at UO take second to the football frenzy. What is the *Weekly* coming to?

Mitzi Linn
Eugene

SNOWBALL IN HELL

It truly saddens me to see progressives and other — dare I say it — “right thinkers” actively supporting presidential candidates that have no hope of gaining the Democratic nomination, let alone beating George Bush. I’m referring to the recent spate of letters and articles regarding Dennis Kucinich.

Kucinich is an intelligent man with his heart in the right place. But he doesn’t stand a snowball’s chance in hell of winning the election. None, zip, nada.

We’re at a crucial juncture in history: America is about to lose its place as the moral leader of the world. George W. Bush and the neoconservatives behind him are actively destroying our nation’s legacy and reputation, not to mention the economy and the environment. This isn’t the time for protest voting (or non-voting). This election is a referendum on America’s descent into fascism: The world won’t give us another chance.

There is only one candidate in the race who can beat Bush: Howard Dean. I’ve heard many in the “mainstream” (read: right wing) media say that he can’t be elected because he’s too far to the left. What a delicious irony for George II if we split our own ranks because some of us believe he’s too conservative!

If you are hesitant to support Dr. Dean for any reason, I ask you to visit his website (www.deanforamerica.com), and read his positions on health care, the environment, workers’ rights, and of course, the war. I know that everyone will find something in Dean’s positions to disagree with, but considering everything, I believe Dean is truly the leader that the majority of Americans have been waiting for these past 30 years.

Jim Johnson
Eugene

LEAPS OF LOGIC

I really enjoyed Alan Pittman’s (9/11) article, “Conspiracy Theories,” but wonder: Does Mark Robinowitz expect us to take his claims at face value? He issues the challenge, “Disprove anything I say,” apparently missing the fact that the burden of proof must always lie with the one making the claims. Otherwise we could sit around all day entertaining ideas, theories and rumors without getting any closer to the truth. This is only the same burden of proof we are currently demanding, though still not receiving, from our government concerning its claim of ties between al-Qaeda and Saddam Hussein.

There are quite a few pertinent questions — especially concerning the mainstream media’s lack of interest — raised in the article, which require thorough investigation, but assertions of conspiracies are akin to connecting a few randomly scattered dots on a large piece sheet of paper, without any real idea of what lies in the spaces between. Rather than make these leaps of logic, we need to uncover the truth!

Don Titus
Eugene

HARLEY BURLY

Nate Puckett’s article (9/4) on Harley riding poseurs hit the nail on the head. It’s ironic that the folks trying to get a safe little bit of that outlaw, bad boy Harley image are buying expensive, chrome encrusted hulks, loaded down with a ton of shiny accessories. The “outlaw” bikers who gave rise to that image in the ’50s and ’60s threw all that sort of garbage away when they bought a stock Harley or retired police bike, and stripped them down to the basics — and even beyond (who needs stuff like front brakes?).

They knew how to get their hands dirty building their choppers, and keeping them running (let’s face it, older Harleys aren’t the most dependable beasts). Sure they were mostly criminals, but they were real motorcycleists.

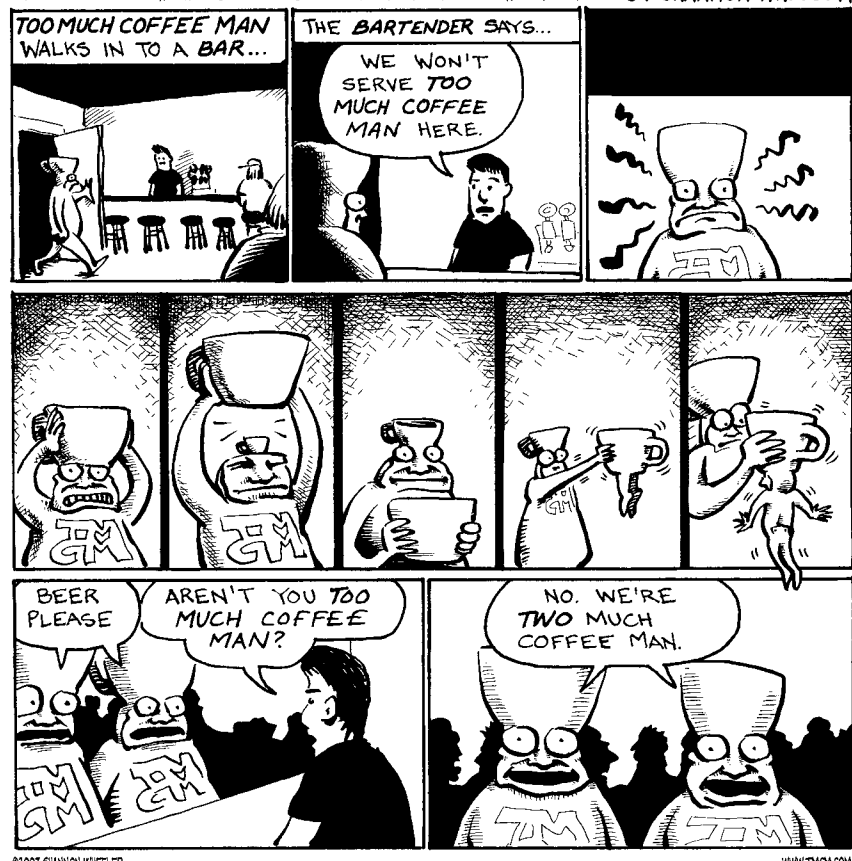
There’s a lot more to it than just how big a check you can write.

Puckett’s Harley Fantasy Number One is empty alright. You can’t kick start a Harley anymore, they’ve all got those pansy-ass electric starters nowadays!

John Kohnen
Eugene

EDITOR’S NOTE: Puckett swears one of Howard Fine’s fancy hawgs has a leg-breaking kick-starter.

TOO MUCH COFFEE MAN BY SHANNON WHEELER



HMPH!

Gee! Who would have figured that the Iraqi people would not like to be blown up and then occupied? Well, there are some ungrateful people that you just cannot please.

I heard they found the weapons of mass destruction — a stash of BB guns and sling shots. You know you could put an eye out with those things!

All hail Bush! All hail Rumsfeld! All hail Wolfowitz! All hail Sharon!

Christopher Calder
Eugene

MATTER OF TIME

The jig is up! If Johnny Cash can die, it’s only a matter of time for the rest of us.

Palmer Otterbach
Eugene

SICK OF DOUBLESPEAK

I’m a long-time wildland firefighter and a reforestation business owner, as well as a vet and a former Republican, and I’ve had it up to the gills. George W.’s Forest Health Initiative has about as much to do with healthy forests as the PATRIOT Act has with real patriotism. And now Mr. Scalia, in explaining the con-

nection between unfettered corporate money and the First Amendment (in extended hearing over McCain-Feingold’s attempt at campaign finance reform), talks about how the Supreme Court wouldn’t stand for it if the Justice Department said they needed to suspend the Fourth Amendment in order to more effectively fight crime. As soon as I stop laughing, I may be sick. But if they announce a “Leave No Patient Untreated” Act, I’m emigrating.

Michael Garvin
Rural Lane County

CHOKING ON COKE

I was happy to see that the Fern Ridge School District recently took the name Pepsi off their office sign, but disappointed to see it replaced with the words Coca-Cola.

This week, the Center For Science in the Public Interest came out with their back-to-school report on how parents and officials can improve school foods. Replacing soda and junk foods with healthful drinks and snacks, the report says, can help combat the skyrocketing rates of obesity in children and teens. Along with Cheddar Sandwich Crackers, Chips Ahoy, and Oreos, Coca-Cola

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