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FRIDAY, AUGUST 27 ★ 5:30PM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

stantial figurehead of the Chamber of Commerce, the Gangsters of Nine, and the regional construction industries that contribute to pro-development political campaigns has succeeded in littering the city with convenience stores, big box stores, fast food restaurants, subdivisions of pressboard mansions and all the road projects that allow SUVs to cruise from one consumer haven to the next. Citizens who want to preserve the *community* of Eugene have chosen Kitty Piercy, a moderate political activist, as mayor. Torrey and his supporters deserve a place at the table...in their favorite trendy restaurant.

Randy Gicker
Eugene

JIFFY LUBE'S RECORD

So *EW* wants to give kudos to Jiffy Lube for its strong environmental record ("Jiffy Lube moves from greasy to green," 6/10)? I wish it were a joke, but *EW* is no *Onion*, and environmental devastation is nothing at which to laugh. That this brief appeared in the same issue as one with a cover story on climate change just adds to the irony of a town where being green means driving in your Volvo with a "No War for Oil" bumper sticker to the grocery for your organic veggies.

Jiffy Lube deserves environmental recognition like a KKK group deserves Amnesty International support for buying their hoods from sweatshop-free manufactures.

As much as I recognize that every little bit helps, telling people that any aspect of the automobile industry is green is a lie. It is an enabling behavior that wipes away some of the guilt of owning and driving a car.

Sure, every bit helps, but when it's not much of a step to cease driving, why continue with tiny steps?

Give up your car now, and you'll never have to think again about fuel cost (both financial and human costs), heavy structure road construction, insurance, registration, license fees, or the mounting death toll cars place on society.

Jeffrey Stout
Eugene

SCARED TO LOVE AGAIN

I thought the world was coming to an end watching the coverage of election night 2000. I had spent the previous months registering people to vote on the campus of UO. This liberal culture was a unique place to get invested in politics. I invested my time and my spirit to the cause of getting young people to the ballot box. At that time and place, the debate was Gore vs. Nader. Either way, I was inspired by visions of a wide open future in which we, the people, would move our great nation toward a cleaner environment, a living wage and broader civil rights for all. My vision and heart were crushed on election night when I realized that I had been living in a bubble and that a huge segment of the American public would get behind a man like Bush.

Each day afterwards, the news of the direction the administration was heading saddened me further, and I found myself growing less and less able to pick up the paper or turn on the radio.

Almost four years later, Bush's election may have been the end of the world for many Iraqis and U.S. troops sent to fight for the lies of our administration. There was no connec-

tion between Saddam Hussein and Al Qaeda. There were no weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. If anything, this war is creating a coalition of fierce adversaries *against* the U.S.

So, now Kerry asks for my support. "America can do better and help is on the way." I wholeheartedly love my country and know that we can do better. And I desperately want to believe that help is on the way. When I contemplated going up to Portland to see Kerry speak I felt a sharp fear of falling in love again. While I have decided not to call in sick and dash up to Portland to see Kerry in the flesh, I do put my heart back into the race. Between love and fear I choose love.

Lauren Williams
Eugene

GO WORK FOR BUSH

Hello! Sorry, I do *not* support a run for mayor by Jim Torrey. As a Eugenean since 1981 (I know, I'm just a newcomer), I must admit I have come to appreciate Jim as a likeable person possessing a droll sense of metro-appropriate humor. As a representative of the people of this town, I feel quite unrepresented though. I am a business owner myself, but I do not feel the unbridled development of the Chamber of Commerce and Republican perspective is the right road for our fair city and its future growth. So suffice to say, I, like many others, will fight you people tooth and nail, again, in this upcoming electoral season. Kitty will win, you people will lose, the people of Eugene (not to mention the trees and the ducks) will win.

My suggestion? Forget it and go back to working for George Bush, someone else who will find himself without a job in 2005 if we can help it. Or move to Klamath Falls if you want unbridled growth and manicured golf courses with no undesirables in sight. Stop wasting the taxpayers' money to count ballots, Nancy Nathanson and your ilk already lost fair and square, the voters have spoken!

Don St. Clair
Eugene

ENEMY OF TRUE ART

The pathetic notion by Amy Guadia (7/12) that "art happens" shouldn't continue to be accepted as a reality. Creativity is the enemy of the true artist. It is the trickster and the opiate for the wannabe artist and beginner. True art is like a carnivore, ripping and tearing away at the false ego of creativity to ultimately discover the 'void.' The void is the separation of the artist from the ego so then the 'art' journey and an honest expression can begin. The body of work that an artist makes is the diary to show to the public how honest the artist was in his/her journey. This is why not everything is art and why not everyone is an artist.

The average person could no more succeed in making the artist's journey than he/she could win a gold medal at the Olympics. Equalizing a chimpanzee's talent with a brush and paint with the journey of Vincent Van Gogh is absurd. Comparing a child's finger painting with a Frida Kahlo is ludicrous. Is my topiary in my garden the same as a Henry Moore sculpture? *Not in the least.*

There is a difference between being a true artist and accepting and encouraging every wiggle and scribble as being art when it's not.

Annie Kayner
Eugene