

encourage that they carry emergency contraception. Some pharmacists do not carry emergency contraception because they are not well informed about it or perceive that there is little demand for it. By providing information about emergency contraception and demonstrating that women in the community want access to it, many pharmacists can be motivated to stock emergency contraceptives in their stores. The FDA is stalling, but reproductive health advocates must keep working to help women prevent unplanned pregnancies.

Barbara Hemstreet
Springfield

A LITTLE TWISTED

I find it ironic that on the day when Judith Miller is going to jail for refusing to reveal her sources at the White House, I happened to recall this article I read in February 2004 in *The New York Review of Books* (www.nybooks.com) regarding the shameless way the White House used Judith Miller to beat the drums for war with talk of aluminum tubes and mushroom clouds.

It's a bit twisted that a reporter who spreads Bush lies to deceive the American public and the world about Iraq is now a martyr for journalistic freedom.

Hope Marston
Eugene

A VIOLENT CRIME

Most of the members of the Jeff Luers fan club are too young to remember that the Eugene Fire Department lost two men fighting a blaze at a car lot in 1966. I doubt that any professional firefighter will tell you that torching vehicles with 40 gallon fuel tanks is a harmless, nonviolent form of political protest.

Luers' cheerleaders routinely fail to mention that Jeff and his co-conspirator also attempted to blow up a small tank farm at Tyree Oil Co. Those of us who live in this area would rather not have clueless revolutionaries without a cause firebombing our neighborhood.

I'm not qualified to determine an appropriate sentence for these crimes, but the fact that this guy shown no remorse for his actions indicates that he is in need of additional rehabilitation services at the State Pen.

Douglas Newton
Eugene

DEMOCRACY FOR IRAQ?

Again President Bush reiterated that he wants to bring democracy to Iraq. This is good as it provides a skeleton for success. However, he has failed to put flesh

over the skeleton since the invasion. We should provide security for every Iraqi citizen so that they can safely leave their homes. We should provide jobs so that Iraqis can buy food, housing, medicines and clothes. We should provide electricity so that people can survive their 100-plus degree summers.

What would your life be like without security, a job, or electricity? How can we expect a democracy to emerge in Iraq without providing these basic needs?

Michael Mooser
Eugene

NOT ANOTHER VIETNAM

Regarding the current multi-billion dollar farce on the other side of the planet: better to run away with our tails between our legs with only 1,700 (or 1,800) unnecessary deaths, than to run away with our tails between our legs with 50,000-plus unnecessary deaths. If there is anything to be learned from the Vietnamese debacle, maybe the aforementioned maxim might be applied to the Iraqi debacle.

Terry Heintz
Eugene

UNION STAGEHANDS

As a union stagehand who works at the Hult Center and Cuthbert Amphitheatre, I take exception to the implication in "Free the Cuthbert" (7/7) that a skilled union stagehand can be replaced by a volunteer.

In our industry (yes, it is an industry), the combination of technical skills and physical requirements needed to load in, run and load out a show is commonly undervalued and often the first suggestion when discussing cost cutting is to eliminate union wages from the equation. A large portion of the money coming into the ticket office goes right out of town in artists' fees and promoter profits. I would like the community to remember that the wages we receive cycle directly back into the local economy.

When road crews arrive, they are relieved to be working with a local union crew that can quickly and safely load their shows in and out. Eugene can be proud that, combined with great music fans, a union like ours exists to provide visiting artists and technicians a great Eugene experience.

So when discussing the expense of putting on a show, consider that a union crew is not an "extra cost" (as stated in the article); rather, we are skilled members of the community and the performing arts.

Mike Carpenter
Business Agent, IATSE #675
Eugene

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