

Why are these young people dying? What could be so important for our country to sacrifice them? Our government tells us our soldiers are helping to create a democracy. But is nation-building our responsibility? If so, why aren't we involved in transforming the countless other undemocratic regimes around the globe?

Our government tells us our soldiers are fighting international terrorism and that they are dying to make us safer. I don't feel any safer, though. I just feel haunted by those faces.

As our losses continue, our president tells us we must "stay the course," that we must "finish what we started." We can do that, continuing to follow the man who misled us into our involvement in the first place. Or, we can do something different.

We can write to President Bush and demand that our troops be withdrawn immediately. No gradual withdrawal, no timetables. We can contact our congressional representatives, ask them what actions they are taking to end our involvement and let them know that our future support (money and votes) will be based on those actions. We can ask our state and local representatives what they are doing to mobilize support against the war in their respective bodies.

The actions of our government speak for all of us. If those actions do not represent our wishes, it is our obligation to make those wishes known. I hope you will consider doing that.

Robert Young
Eugene

WHO OWNS FAIRGROUNDS?

County Commissioner Faye Stewart's ink isn't even dry from his election and he and his accomplices Anna Morrison and Bobby Green are trying to railroad the sale of the fairgrounds. Who do they think they are, holding a meeting behind closed doors with Willamette-McKenzie Hospital people? Do they think they own the fairgrounds property? The "Lane County" title means the citizens of Lane County, not the commissioners.

The relocation study that they are requesting the fairgrounds to do was done in 1995, the end result was that it was not cost effective. Their argument is that the fairgrounds has had some deficit years. If they are so concerned with that then why are they requesting another very expensive study report?

So, what if they have to subsidize the fairgrounds some funds from the Room and Board Tax? There are numerous functions throughout the year at the fairgrounds that bring in many out of townspeople who are spending money in Lane County. The Hult Center and the Eugene Library are also subsidized and there have been no complaints from the commissioners. I feel that the meeting "behind closed doors" is an irresponsible move on the part of those commissioners involved.

Peggy Ward
Eugene

YUPPIE EMPORIUM

I came across your online *EW* surfing the net. The Whole Foods Viewpoint (6/16) caught my eye. Here in the Amherst, Mass., Whole Foods came to town several years ago



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profile

Mike Duncan,

- Graduated from Purdue 1991
- Teaches Marketing, Communications, Management and Finance Classes
- Loves German cars, but can only afford VWs
- Crews on a sailboat racing team
- No one has ever been a worse golfer - or had more fun playing golf
- His dog is very important to him
- He is a sports fan. For him, the evening news is SportsCenter on ESPN
- Northwest Christian College MBA Graduate 2004

Classes Start August 25, 2005

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