

IED junk — you never rest in wild Baghdad. We've sacrificed, we're stretched too thin; we ain't got more to give. We're trapped in war beyond our ken — It's back to Baghdad — I want to live.

I know, somehow, we'll see it through; new country "built" — we'll pack. The truth is that we gave too much. Goodbye, Baghdad, Iraq.

Joel S. Gerstman
Eugene

MISSING KITTENS

As a big fan and habitual supporter of Eugene's local music scene, it was with great interest that I opened up the recent Locals Only Music Guide (5/18). I was shocked — although not entirely surprised — to notice the glaring omission of one of Eugene's most popular bands, On The First Day ... They Were Kittens.

The Kittens (definitely a *local* Eugene band) have been playing shows consistently for three years and even won last year's Battle of the Bands (sponsored by the Black Forest). They've packed almost every venue in Eugene on multiple occasions and, thanks to the Internet, are relatively well known out of state and even out of country. In fact, their midnight audition for the Battle of the Bands last year was standing room only — even though John Henry's infamous '80s night was going on a few blocks away!

Yet, despite their huge popularity, I don't recall the *Weekly* ever mentioning them outside the club listings page. It's kind of weird, as if you guys have something against them.

Do you?

Sabrina McNamara
Eugene

EDITOR'S NOTE: Nothing personal. Eugene has dozens of good bands, and we write about as many of them as will fit in our limited space.

NEW WORLD ORDER?

I am a student of philosophy. Like all rational beings, philosophers are especially interested in the formal expression of an intuition or an experience that bears a general relevance but that also defies explanation. Artworks typically aspire to provoke such intuitions and experiences.

I saw *The New World* from cheap seats at the Gateway Mall. The film presents the initial encounter between English settlers at Cape Comfort and the Pamunkey natives under the leadership of Chieftain Powhatan in 1607. Cautious relations soon give way to violent conflicts when it becomes clear to the latter that the former have no intention to leave.

The formal qualities of any artwork can be constructively debated, of course, but that is not my concern here. Instead, I want to report on a spontaneous act of audience partici-

pation that emerged during the first scene of extended combat. As a war party was attacking their European antagonists, someone began to clap, and continued to do so for about a minute.

What could such an act mean? What claims does it imply? What actions does it recommend? What failures does it presume to expose?

Maybe there are intuitions and experiences that escape even the aesthetic imagination of a broader public that is perpetually at war with itself with respect to its own ominous origins.

For my own part, I left the theater in confusion. Wandering out of the fast-food court and standing beneath those hideous neon lights to smoke a cigarette with some mischievous teenagers, I quite distinctly recall having the feeling that time is running out.

Evan Haney
Eugene

IMPEACH HIM

Nobody wants to bring the nation through the wrenching process that is impeachment, but the man who is supposed to be representing the interests of the citizens of the U.S., President George W. Bush, has done us wrongs that are irreparable and truly deserving of impeachment. He is guilty of leading our nation into a very costly war based on lies, half-truths and misinformation, thereby utterly depleting our treasury and overextending our military, gaining nothing; His appointees' incompetence engendered horrific failure when Hurricane Katrina struck; His closest subordinates have and are ordering torture of people for punishment and interrogation; yet none of these is to my knowledge an impeachable offense.

In addition to these "mistakes" Mr. Bush has repeatedly authorized illegal surveillance of American citizens without their knowledge and without a warrant from any court of the land. He even lied and said that court orders would be obtained for any surveillance. Richard Nixon was impeached for the same offense, and he too, cited national security as a justification. Mr. Bush has violated the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act as well as the 1st and 4th Amendments. Even if the Attorney General refuses to enforce it, this president is not above the law. This is the USA, not the former USSR or some dictatorship. Time is of the essence! We must reign in this outlaw president now, before he gets us into another bloody, pointless war with Iran, and bankrupts our nation fiscally and in every other way possible.

Max Schwaneckamp
Eugene

BUMS AWAY

I'm from Brooklyn, and have I got a

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