

ments to Israel is a terrible example of just how dumb and misguided human leadership can be and must be ended soon else the whole human race — and our primate cousins as well — could easily be exterminated.

Bob Saxton
Eugene

A SANER PATH?

As the smart pig works its way through Alaska's corroded and leaking Prudhoe Bay pipeline, corporate porkers, fattened by congressional slop, are chomping their way through our pristine environment as well as our pocketbooks. BP screwed up, the Department of Transportation failed to catch it, but — never mind — all is well. We gotta feed that fossil fuel need!

We have opened our wallets, and oil companies are posting record profits. Exxon Mobil made \$10.4 billion last quarter. That's \$1,318 a second, if you're counting. And with BP's latest supply "glitch," a barrel of oil will bring even more. At the pump, it's \$3 a gallon — do I hear \$4?

Our senators have just voted to open 8.3 million acres for oil and gas drilling off the Gulf of Mexico. But our representatives are pissed — they want to open 350 million acres more! And, of course, the congressional squabble to develop the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge continues.

Instead of making tough political decisions about how to reduce America's insatiable demand for oil, Congress just goes along and gets along. The corporate porkers continue to drill and let their belts out. Meanwhile, our en-

vironment suffers. And we are all poorer for the process. Well, almost all ...

Maybe smart people need to start working through the crud to find a better way. Conservation and alternative energy sources and new legislators come to mind.

Benton Elliott
Eugene

SOLUTIONS UP TO US

I'm writing in response to Josh Schlossberg's letter (8/3) concerning the film *An Inconvenient Truth*. I agree the film doesn't offer a lot of honest solutions, but waiting for Al Gore or anyone else to come up with a snappy all-purpose solution that doesn't change our current lifestyle isn't going to happen. Those solutions need to be found by you, me and everyone on this planet.

It happens with advocacy, research and a radical change in energy consumption. The U.S. comprises 12 percent of the planet's population but uses 40 percent of its resources. The timber, automobile and manufacturing industries are the major culprits we need to address.

There are solutions out there. Alternative forms of energy (solar, wind power), transportation (mass transit, electric cars, bicycles) and building techniques are available. Organizations from the Slow Food Movement to Critical Mass are changing how we live and affect the world.

Aesop said "An act of kindness, no matter how small, is never wasted." Let's be kind to the Earth.

Alisa McLaughlin
Eugene

PIE POWER to the PEACEFUL! SWEET POTATO PIE



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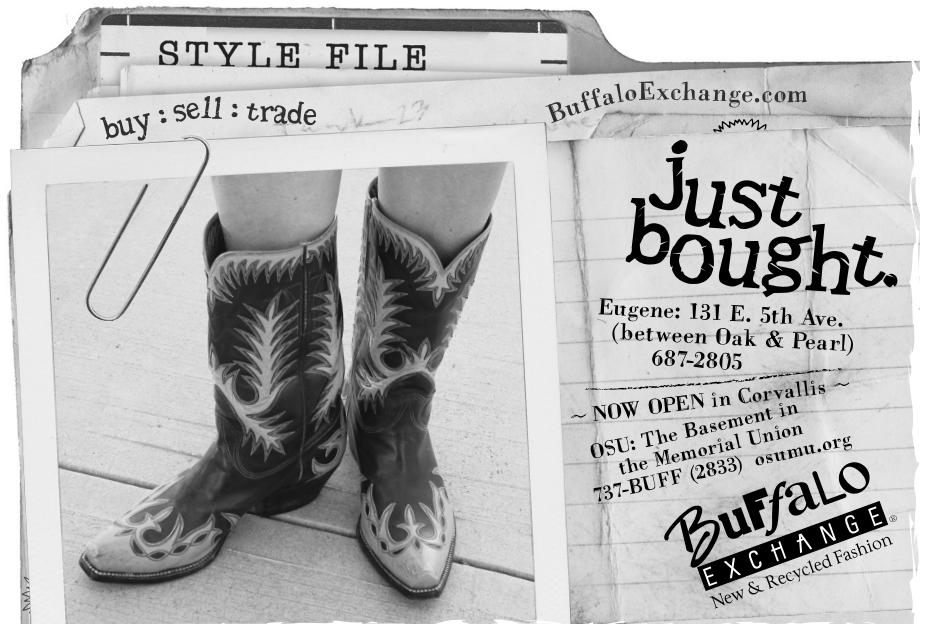
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Despite its title, this is not a soundtrack for the Idlewild movie—almost no songs appear in the film. Instead, the tunes seem inspired by Idlewild's narrative themes. Outkast extends the eccentric streak that began on Stankonia and continued through The Love Below/Speakerboxxx. Fans of that last album may enjoy Idlewild's continued eclecticism, especially from Andre 3000, who seems to be moving further away from "rap" every moment toward some bizarre love child of Prince and Melvin Van Peebles.

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