

paganism. I, of course, believe him to be a freedom-hating terrorist — I mean witch — either one. So here's the plan: We'll kidnap him, torture — I mean interrogate — him and then not tell anyone where he is. Then, just to be safe, let's pass a law prohibiting the Supreme Court from meddling in my secret affairs. Sounds like a plan. Oh, wait, that's already happening. Bad news for my neighbor.

Kyle Mangan
Pleasant Hill

FARR'S HAT TRICKS

Every election cycle, we are privy to a rather bizarre slight of hand many politicians perform trying to convince us they didn't do what they just did. Debi Farr's hands are in a flurry these days.

Last election, she ran as the "education candidate" in District 14 and proceeded up to Salem to garner an impressive 0% voting record on public education issues (according to Stand for Children, a public school watchdog group).

On one vote (on a bill that died in committee), she broke ranks with the Republicans. A cynic might say this was "safe" and exploitable for the next election. Yet on the school measures that made it to both chambers, Ms. Farr stood with her Republican colleagues. Indeed, she has the sixth most loyal voting record (98+ percent). Which is fine, as long as she comes back home and says that. Unfortunately, she presents herself as a maverick and quickly moves on.

Ms. Farr points to her Oregon School Boards Association endorsement. Her opponent, Chris Edwards, is backed by the EEA (representing Bethel teachers); the Three Rivers Council; the Oregon School Employees Association (representing classified staff); and the Oregon American Federation of Teachers.

Ms. Farr attracts management. Mr. Edwards is backed by the rank and file.

Chris Edwards has a timber industry background; has run his own small business; has a special needs child in our schools; and, is making his bid to be District 14's representative his primary job — without the hat tricks.

Joe Alsup, Principal
Crest Drive Elementary

NONSENSE

This is in response to Lynn Porter's letter (9/7) criticizing Rep. DeFazio for voting to fund the troops in Iraq.

During the Vietnam War, President Johnson met with a group of Democratic senators who thought things weren't going well in Vietnam and wanted the U.S. to get out. LBJ told them that if they didn't like the war, they should rescind the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution which authorized U.S. troops to

go to war. That's the process for Congress to express its opposition to a war.

In this case, DeFazio voted against going to war in Iraq, he introduced legislation to repeal the congressional authorization to go to war and is a cosponsor of the Murtha resolution which would bring our troops home within six months to a year.

But DeFazio's efforts aren't enough for Ms. Porter, so she says she's going to vote for his opponent — who recently said he thinks things in Iraq are going "fantastic." This doesn't make any sense.

Tim Cullen
Eugene

TERRIBLE NON-CALLS

I was one of those Oregon fans who left the Oklahoma game early and missed all the excitement. I didn't leave early because we were losing but because of WHY we were losing: three terrible non-calls on three of Oklahoma's scoring drives.

On Oklahoma's first touchdown the receiver clearly pushed off of the defender — no call. On the third down play where Oklahoma made a long pass and catch for a touchdown that was subsequently recalled because the receiver stepped out of bounds, the play clock had expired prior to the snap. No call; result: Oklahoma first down followed by a score. The play clock expired again on the Sooners' second or third field goal drive (again on third down), and was again not called.

These missteps by the officiating crew were clearly visible by the 59,000-plus fans (and again on ESPN Classic), but the guys in stripes somehow decided not to worry about it. So when Oklahoma whines about the bad calls late in the game (which were reviewable and decided in Oregon's favor by men with access to all the angles, unlike all the non-calls mentioned above), remember this: Those plays would've never been necessary if the officiating crew had done their jobs in the first three quarters; Oregon would've had the lead and the ball and had no reason to ever make an on-sides kick.

The team that was favored to win did win; if it took playing against the officials for three and a half quarters to do it, so be it. I don't recall hearing coach Bellotti complain about those calls, nor the fact that BS (Bob Stoops) was out on the field the entire game and never flagged for it. The final score should've been Oregon 42, Oklahoma 24, but I'll take it the way it ended up — that was a lot more fun.

Matt Emrich
Eugene

UNWANTED DESTRUCTION

I would like to draw your attention to what is happening at the end of Hallmark Lane (18th to Hawkins to Hallmark). I wish



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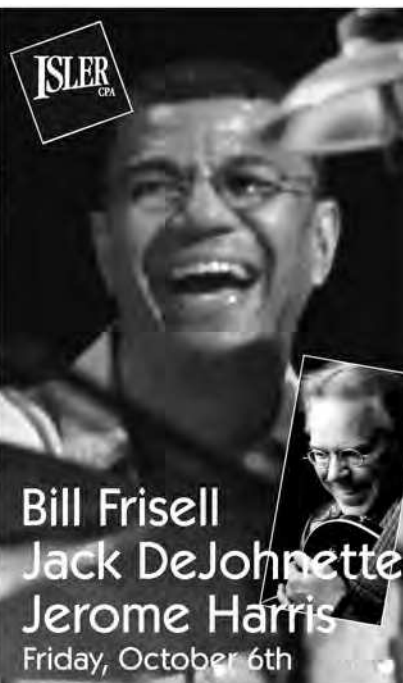
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