

Management Division. Since no attempted development is ever illegal in Lane County, what need have we of an organization allegedly in place to regulate development?

All we need is a low level clerk with a rubber APPROVED stamp and a list of fees for development. The bigger the fees, the better. These fees can go directly into the general fund instead of the LMD budget, and the results will be exactly the same only more streamlined.

Norm Maxwell
Lorane

CONFUSING ELECTIONS

Election returns left me a little puzzled. Why did voters refuse Measure 46 and yet pass 47 when 47 couldn't be implemented without 46? Why did voters refuse to support LCC when LCC is so desperately needed to improve the lives of so many in our community? How did we elect two conservative judges?

Even if 47 is implemented, therefore reducing pressure of corporations to steal our tax money with breaks and subsidies, Russell Sadler explains why the Legislature cannot give us tax reform. He writes in the Nov. 13 R-G: "In 1996 voters approved an initiative requiring that any tax increase or tax exemption be approved by a three-fifths vote in each house instead of a simple majority. That restriction is why any radical change under a Democratically controlled legislature is unlikely."

Do I hear plans for a "tax reform" initiative?

Ruth Duemler
Eugene

POISON WIELDERS

Regarding your article on "School Sprays" (9/21), it is very disturbing to see the timber industry and now some school officials pushing off the subject of herbicides as a non-issue. The timber industry clearcuts our forests, burns our top soils (herbicides) poisons our waters and mono-crops our mountains all in the name of "good forest practices." We are done as a community being guinea pigs of their poisons! We call for a boycott of all Weyerhaeuser, Roseburg, Roseboro and Seneca Jones Forest products until they change their horrendous forest practices. Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)-certified wood is a responsible alternative.

We applaud your unending dedication, Mrs. Bowers. Thank you.

Dan Gee
Eugene

BEER BARBS

This letter is in response to Teri Fahrendorf's letter (11/9). In this letter, Teri references the staff pick "Best Reason to Stay Alive One More Day" that was on page 28 of the Best of Eugene issue.

While I will acknowledge the "localness" of Eugene City, High Street and Steelhead as breweries, it is a shame that Teri chooses to attack Ninkasi. The fact that Ninkasi is local, brews locally and is locally owned is obviously upsetting to Teri. Unfortunately, for Teri the real problem is that since Ninkasi brewer Jamie Floyd left the Eugene Steelhead after being the driving force behind their beer, the quality of Steelhead beer has deteriorated. I say this not as an attack, but as fact. There have been and will continue to be repercussions for Steelhead that Teri's touting Steelhead's local connections cannot and will not change.



In my opinion, the simple fact is that Ninkasi does make a fine one-of-a-kind quality local beer. Moreover, despite that Ninkasi is sold beyond the geographic boundaries of Eugene, Ninkasi's beer inspires me as a believer to both buy locally and respect quality. And since we still live in a society where all opinions are valued, I will support Ninkasi and all of the local breweries, with all respect to Trevor at Eugene City and Lane at High Street, that inspire me by providing quality product. Furthermore, by promoting Eugene's total domination, Ninkasi as one of our quality local brewers continues to contribute to Oregon being Beervana and Beertopia.

John "Chewie" Burgess
Eugene

THANKS, EW

We're new, we're local, we appreciate all the contributions from other brewers to our combined quality of life here in Eugene and hope to establish ourselves as a responsible and quality business that gives back to the community which has thusfar given generous support to us. Whether or not the semantics of the *Weekly* staff pick were correct, we appreciate their intention and hope to continue to keep people here happy for many years to come. Eugene is a great town; we plan to live here, do business here and do our part to make it a better place for everyone.

Nikos Ridge
Co-owner, Ninkasi Brewing Company

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