

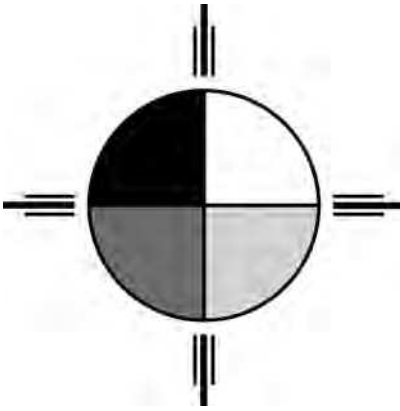
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

here on Knoop Lane as well as those who drove by.

It wasn't long ago that EWEB also decided to forever alter the intersection on River Road near the Beltline, cutting down two rows of trees which graced the Lube-It-USA on the corner. Why? Too much to manage?

Now for the irony in all this. After the trees were cut Friday, I mustered up the courage to go across the street to my mailbox. As I looked at the ravaged front yard next door, I noticed in my hand a mailing from EWEB. It read: "FRESH AIR; Explore the Spirit of Earth Day. EWEB Greenpower: Clean energy."

Then there was a long list of EWEB Windpower/Greenpower Partners — Working Together for a Cleaner Environment. I'd love to see some of those EWEB supporters come forward and share their views on EWEB's war against annoying trees that require endless care and maintenance. People! Get involved; protect your trees; call EWEB; write letters; stop the unnecessary cutting of our living neighbors.

N.L. Bell
Eugene

SOME PROGRESS

Owing to hard-working activists as well as the brilliance and realism of presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich, there is more talk than ever these days about the need for a Department of Peace. Scoffers heap ridicule on this notion while ignoring the folksy definition of insanity (keep repeating your strategy while expecting different results).

A sign in front of the UO ROTC Building identifies it as housing "Military Science." Pardon me if I appear obstreperous (a word I must have learned in linguistics science), but I find myself wondering whether there's been any progress within this branch of science over the last, oh, 10,000 years?

Author Sam Harris provides a decent definition in his little book *Letter to a Christian Nation*: "In the broadest sense, 'science' (from the Latin *scire*, to know) represents our best

drawing as therapy by harvey dixon



efforts to know what is true about our world." Harris goes on to say, "The core of science is not controlled experiment or mathematical modeling; it is intellectual honesty."

If military institutions were fully and intellectually honest, they might perform some self-evaluations. "Let's see, have we figured out yet how to resolve conflicts without killing and blowing everybody and everything up?" Military "science" has evolved its tools, since Paleolithic days, from rocks and clubs to stockpiles of doomsday weapons for E-Z genocide. And this science has identified two inviolable constants: 1. Every weapon conceived has eventually been built; and 2. Every weapon built has eventually been used.

Some progress. Some science.

Vip Short
Eugene

OVER THE TOP

I believe we have the incentive to recycle. Education has been very effective and innovation made it economically feasible. Much of America is still struggling with the process. Imposing a San Francisco type ordinance discussed by reporter Camilla Mortensen April 12 ("Eugene Lags in Bagging Plastic Bags") may get our attention but is way over the top. Purchasing plastic bags at point of purchase will set up an adversarial situation. It is better to offer bags ONLY when the customer asks for them and does not bring their own. There are a lot of

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**MOTHER'S DAY
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On May 11th, in honor of Mother's Day, citizens around the nation are taking pies to their congressional offices. The "Piece" represents the equivalent of 2% of the Military budget that would fund a cabinet-level **U.S. Department of Peace**.

Proposed Department of peace would give voice to the latest research and expertise on peaceful efforts -from safe schools to Intl. arms control. See **ThePeaceAlliance.org**.

Please join in this national campaign to let Congress know that we want our government to make peace building a national priority.

For more information, call **Diane Moen @ 520-8552**
or **dianemojo@comcast.net**