

rather foreboding. You see, my friends Jonathan Paul and Daniel McGowan, along with a number of others, may spend the next 20 years and beyond, my daughter's entire childhood, locked up in federal prison because the government wants you to believe they are "terrorists."

These men and women are good people, the kind of people I'd like to have my daughter grow up around. Jonathan, whom I've known for nearly 15 years, is kind, gentle man, an EMT who has spent years helping and training people in his rural Oregon community. Daniel has spent years working with battered women.

Over 10 years ago Daniel, Jonathan and the others committed several acts of arson. No one disputes that these were criminal acts, and that they should involve consequences, but the government [labeled] those involved "terrorists," in spite of the fact that by the prosecution's own evidence, the perpetrators went to great lengths to ensure that no one was hurt or killed in these fires. Arson is a crime for which there are established sentencing guidelines, and those convicted of arson should expect to serve some prison time, but to call these acts of "terrorism" does an injustice not just to my friends, but to the thousands of people who were killed in Oklahoma City, on 9/11 and through other acts of real terror.

Garth Kahl  
Alea

**LOVE THE LOCALS!**

Perusing last week's *EW* (5/24 Calendar), some friends and I noticed that your writing staff stated that "Michael Franti & Spearhead make local hip hop fusion jam bands sound like zombies with plastic buckets and broomsticks." Shame on you, *EW*, for putting down your local musicians, some of whom opened for Spearhead. There are a lot of talented musicians in this town who struggle to make Eugene's music scene thrive, yet your writers continually bash them in a desperate attempt to get a laugh. How do these cheap shots support the local music scene? Comparing local acts to polished professionals accomplishes nothing. Ease up and love your local music scene, *EW*!

Xander Kahn  
Basin & Range  
Eugene

**YOUNG WRITER ADDS UP**

Miko Bauer may resent the new math requirements, but she has done very well in English composition. Her May 24 Viewpoint piece gave Eugene voters a valuable inside view into 4-J's preparation of young adults. Will Eugene encourage individuals to flourish along their chosen paths? Or will we have two types of high school graduates — successful proto-technocrats and failed proto-technocrats?

Certainly the economy is selecting for technology careers in industry, in the office, in the military. But communications skills and people skills are also valuable, and what happened to art education, musicianship and life skills like permaculture and woodworking? The school garden project should be greatly expanded, for instance, and Eugene's "green building" movement could extend to the high schools with excellent effect. This community is going to need more than tech nerds to get by the coming times, and forcing kids into narrow boxes, defined by math and

science test scores, will only discourage and disempower young people with different skills and interests.

Bauer's article was one of the best pieces of writing I've seen in the paper recently. Before she goes off to college, *EW* should ask her for a couple more stories. It's a shame there's no "youth desk" at the paper, because young people have a lot to tell us.

Maybe *EW* could partner with the schools to encourage journalism programs by airing student views more often.

Christopher Logan  
Eugene

**GETTING MUGGED**

Wednesday night (5/30) I attended the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service presentation of the Draft Spotted Owl Recovery Plan at the Portland Convention Center. After the presentation, I moved out to the lobby to question a Fish and Wildlife employee on certain details. Within seconds, my questions were being answered by a pugnacious Forest Service employee who had materialized at my right elbow and interrupted our conversation to inform me that Fish and Wildlife had no real power here. At my left shoulder loomed a career forester from the Bureau of Land Management, and soon I was confronted by a third Forest Service employee who spent the next few minutes "helping" me to understand that conservation of habitat for the spotted owl is not an issue, and that the real culprit is the barred owl.

So why were these government employees paid to interfere in the process of informing the public? To mug unsuspecting victims like myself, just as the Northern spotted owl is being mugged by the government's Recovery Plan, a brand new opportunity to bring old-growth logging back to our National Forests and other public lands.

Reed Wilson  
Corvallis

**REALLY VULGAR**

In response to Deb Huntley's tirade (5/17) against Savage Love and what I'm assuming is the fetish night at Diablo's, I am aghast that she used the term "vulgar" in terms of a "lack of sophistication." Dan Savage may be frank and often funny, but he is not without sophistication. He is entertaining while being educational. In a recent (5/27) column, he wrote about how oral sex can potentially cause cancer. This is a public health issue, one that every adult and teen should be aware of. To accuse the *EW* of using "Savage Love" to pander to those who might go to Diablo's, as if the *EW* has stock in the success of Diablo's, is vulgar. This argument lacks any sophistication. I doubt that any of the dozens of weeklies around the country that run "Savage Love" do so to cater to local fetish nights or any other "red light" businesses.

What is vulgar, or lacking sophistication, is people who would censor what they are afraid of or don't understand. Sexuality is neither obscene nor vulgar. It is an intrinsic element to living a healthy life. What's vulgar is a war without end and a leadership taking no responsibility for it. Vulgar is giant SUVs and pickup trucks that are driven around empty. McDonalds, Burger King, Taco Bell, etc. are vulgar. Building huge houses with little energy efficiency in what was once forest or farmland is vulgar, as is building more parking lots for downtown. But people choosing to live their lives a little edgier than



*Angel Sanchez Borges*  
w/ special guest

*Seekers Who Are Lovers Tour*

down-tempo electronica & dream pop  
from Monterrey & Mexico City

Friday, June 8th at 9pm

all ages/donations @ door

Wandering Goat Coffee Company  
268 Madison, Whiteaker • (541) 344-5161  
www.WanderingGoat.com

**ROSE & ELDERBERRY FLOWER SHOP NOW OPEN**  
OFFERING CUT FLOWERS & DESIGNS (541) 729-5278

**BEL AMI**  
RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

CHECK OUT OUR

**NEW SPRING MENU**

**CRUISE THE EXTENSIVE WINE LIST**  
**WITH THE BEST PRICING IN EUGENE!**

ENJOY OUR COMFORTABLE

& UNIQUE URBAN DINING ROOM



MIDTOWN MARKETPLACE OFFERS FINE COFFEE  
AFFORDABLE BREAKFAST & LUNCH SELECTIONS  
UNIQUE DINNER MENU FINE WINES & WINE BAR  
1591 WILLAMETTE STREET \* (541) 485-6267



The John G. Shedd Institute for the Arts [www.theshedd.org](http://www.theshedd.org)

**The Shedd Institute**

The perfect Father's Day gift!

NeuroSpine Institute  
CHRISTOPHER G. MILLER, MD

ISLR

Herbie Hancock Quartet

Sun, June 17  
Hult Center  
Tickets: 682-5000

The Shedd Institute Music School

Private & group lessons, classes and vacation camps for all ages, including pre-school, school age, adults & seniors.

Summer music camps begin June 18. 687-6526

Oregon Festival of American Music 2007

The Register-Guard

DELTA

*South Pacific*

August 3, 5, 8 & 10 - Hult Center

Oregon Festival of American Music 2007

*Richard Rodgers*  
*The Sweetest Sounds*

August 1 - 11  
Eugene, Oregon

LibertyBank

**The Shedd**  
868 High Street at Broadway  
Ticket Office: 434-7000

John H. Haines, MD  
Kent A. Karren, MD  
**The Eye Center**

Shedd Institute Presenting Sponsor