

destruction of corporate property is considered violence, when individuals who have harmed no one are considered a top domestic terrorist threat, and when true violent offenders walk free on our streets. Such misuse of law enforcement resources demonstrates that these prosecutions are motivated by a desire to distract the public from real threats of terrorism, threats that the government has continually shown it is unable to handle. To waste resources on this kind of FBI activity means that I can expect that my experience of the horrors of terrorism won't be the last.

*Leah Todd  
Brooklyn, N.Y.*

**AMERICA WRAP**

An open letter to the finest burrito producers on Earth: When I first moved to the Northwest from New Mexico, I thought I knew what good Mexican food was all about. Was I ever misinformed. The problem with the food I was used to was that it was too authentic, too flavorful and too spicy. Eugene's unique soft-edged sensibilities have produced taquerias that get around these problems with the abundant use of two magical ingredients: lettuce and sour cream. How simple, how genius! Just thinking about it makes my mouth water.

Shredded iceberg, mmmmm! I know many Eugeneans complain that it's too crunchy and it hurts their teeth, but I say, "Caution be damned, bring on the watery flavorlessness of iceberg!" "And what of the second ingredient?" you ask. What of that elixir of whiteness, that dairy ambrosia, sour cream? What can I

say? It's like whipped cream in every way, but it's sour. Pure brilliance.

I know I stand humbled in the presence of such culinary daring, but I would like to make a suggestion for an additional menu item. Perhaps these fine establishments could put together a tortilla filled with mayonnaise and hot dogs. It could be called an America wrap. Just a suggestion.

*Jason Torres-Morrow  
Eugene*

**CHAINS VS. CHARMS**

My husband and I moved here in 2005 after living in Tucson for almost 20 years. Initially we were delighted to see that the unique flavor that Eugene was known for was still part of the landscape. We are dismayed, however, with the way the city seems to be going with the downtown development. It is true that people "like" to shop at big chain stores (they shop at chains because they believe that it is cheaper to do so, which isn't always true). It is also true that if chains go into the downtown area they will probably do all right, but that isn't the only point to consider.

We watched as Tucson, a city that had a very unique history and lots of local color, gradually become McCity. One small area near downtown kept local shops afloat (mostly due to the semi-annual street fair), but slowly the Old Pueblo become an amalgamation of high-end shops the locals couldn't afford and chain after chain of shops and restaurants. By the time we left, you could blindfold someone from the Midwest, drop them off on Broadway, and the only way

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