

The Oregon Legislature as well as the governor saw right through their propaganda and passed the bill handily. Thanks to their conservation-minded efforts, Oregon's wildlife will continue to be managed professionally and efficiently.

The public is finally waking up and noticing the intrusion of these animal-rights extremist groups. We can not allow these outside influences to force decisions that put our state's wildlife in jeopardy. Not managing our wildlife professionally and effectively is irresponsible and bad for Oregon. Sound wildlife management programs based on science and research should always be the goal. Our wildlife will not be here for future generations to enjoy if these extremist groups begin to have success with their narrow-minded legislation and extreme ballot initiatives. Oregon deserves better than that.

*Chad A. Gooch  
Lafayette*

**SLIME SHALL RISE AGAIN**

Well, I don't know what's lurking out in your garden, but mine's oozing with slugs and their glowing trails. It must be an omen. Yep, it's true. Time's up — it's time to choose a new queen at the 25th Silver Jubilee coronation. Now, do you want to go where the action is?

Then come on down at 6 pm Saturday, Aug. 11, to the Broadway Plaza (and bring a chair). This doozie of a jubilee is FREE! However, donations are greatly appreciated for the cause, 'cause we just love to party down. Either watch the zany old queens slimily strut their stuff and witness the chosen one — the 2007 S.L.U.G. Queen in all its regalia — or try out yourself. How would you like to be queen for a year? Forms can be found through Saturday Market. And as Queen Inspira suggests, "Bribe early and bribe often!"

There will be celebrity judges, so all y'all really must check it out. And as if all this foolishness wasn't enough, to top it all off, we are honored to have J.C. Rico and Zulu Dragon play celebratory music so that anyone who wants to dance with the new reigning queen will have an opportunity. But if its dance card is full, don't forget us old queens. Oh, Fiddle de dee, just come on down. I'd be pleased as punch! I heard through the grapevine, the theme for the Eugene Celebration is "Lighten Up." Ain't it the truth.

*Queen Scarlett Old Slimera  
Eugene*

**TRUCKERS GET SQUEEZED**

Upwards of 36,000 Oregonians make their living driving trucks. The campaign to push these jobs out of the middle class and into minimum wage without benefits is coming from two directions. The current administration wants access to U.S. roads for drivers from south of the border, whose terms of employment are far below U.S. or Oregon standards, and employers in the U.S. are cutting pay and benefits. The drivers are getting squeezed in between.

This isn't just an issue for the affected employees. The income from these jobs is spent on housing, cars, food and all the other stuff that families need. The income from a bracero trucking fleet will not flow into the

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local economy (except for the truckstop fast-food operations), but will be sent home to wherever. This will be a huge loss to local businesses, not to mention the tax base. It will benefit a few owners of trucking companies and their management, but fewer people disperse less income.

The issues provoking the strike against Western Beverage Co. (Budweiser, Michelob, Widmer, etc.) aren't just a problem for the drivers — they affect the local and state economy, and therefore all of us.

*Karen Carlson  
Eugene*

**DESTABILIZING POLICIES**

Mr. Bush is reviving the Cold War, and bringing us closer to a hot one, with his so-called missile "defense" deployment near Russia, supposedly to defend against Iranian long-range missiles. Russian President Putin comments, "We are being told the antimissile system is targeted against something that doesn't exist. ... It would be funny if it was not so sad." (Frida Berrigan, "The Elephants of Missile Defense," 6/13, www.fpipf.org.) Even less humorously, Russia has tested a new intercontinental ballistic missile and threatens to pull out of other arms control treaties in response.

Militarization of space was Clinton policy too, but it took Bush to prompt China to shoot down a satellite in orbit. Other destabilizing policies include developing new nuclear weapons, withdrawing from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty and undermining nuclear non-proliferation with his proposed deal with India. He may even order U.S. troops to attack Iran, with the likely result of a truly regional conflagration. All this without mentioning Iraq, Katrina, global warming or the shredding of the Constitution.

The policies I mention are not legal grounds for impeachment, but they are further reasons why removing Bush from office would serve the public interest. Impeachment proceedings would slow the march to disaster that picks up speed every day Bush remains in office, and deter his successors from similar actions.

*Robert Roth  
Eugene*

**GREAT JOB**

I have been reading your newspaper online, and I really want to congratulate you, and all your reporters, for the great job you are doing, and the great newspaper you are putting out. You really surpass the other major papers in content and intelligence. Thanks so much for a great newspaper.

*Dorothy H. Bucher  
Eugene*

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