

are the leading causes of traffic accidents. As far as the particular section of road concerned, (126 between Veneta and Eugene), it is incredibly narrow and often has bicyclists. On this stretch of road, any time gained by speeding will often be lost at the signal light at Greenhill Road. For myself, as a professional driver, a one- to 90-second gain is not worth injuring or killing another person. If one must "use 126 to drive to work, etc.," perhaps one should leave a few minutes earlier. I for one would rather not die on the road for someone else's few minutes of sleeping in.

Philip Biboux
Cheshire

DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

Once more the presidency of George Bush has taken the American public down the proverbial rabbit hole in regards to the administration's policy on Iraq. During recent testimony before the elected representatives of the people, Gen. David Petraeus provided the military version of one of Lewis Carroll's best oxymorons: "How can I have more when I haven't had any?" Peace, that is.

The general stated that when the violence increased, more troops were necessary to proceed to victory. And then the general stated that when the violence decreased, more troops are needed to proceed to victory. When the general was asked to describe the victory, he said "history" will be the judge. I'd be willing to change my name to "history" and provide the general with the final analysis and recommendation. The analysis is that this war policy is a total failure; it has raged on for five years, cost the lives of over 4,000 of our citizens, caused an as yet to be evaluated recession in the economy of the world, and simply put, has not worked.

Here is the recommendation: Begin the troop removal immediately by declaring a unilateral fire-when-fired-upon ceasefire, remove the troops using the best and safest means available and begin the dialogue with the neighbors of Iraq to bring about a solution to the withdrawal that does not cause a regional war.

Gerry Merritt
Eugene

EUGENE '08 TRACKTOID

The first final event in the first modern Olympic Games of 1896 was the Hop, Step and Jump event, and its winner was James B. Connolly of the U.S., making him the first Olympic champion of the modern Olympics.



ROGUE DESERVES PROTECTION

Thank you, Rep. DeFazio, for your work to protect Oregon's wild places. The announcement on April 2 of Rep. DeFazio's and Rep. Earl Blumenauer's plan to increase wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers in Oregon should be applauded by all Oregonians who love and respect our beautiful wild areas. This plan adds 142 miles of new Wild and Scenic rivers for Rogue River tributaries and

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