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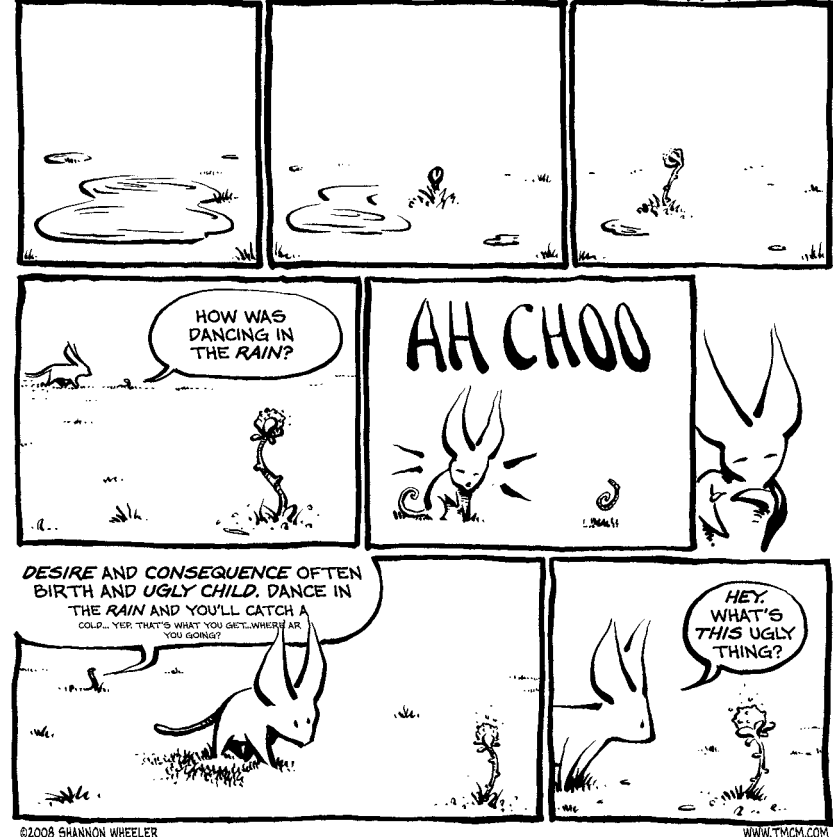
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How to Be Happy (CUTIE ISLAND) 5 OF 8 by Shannon Wheeler



Letters TO THE EDITOR

UO EXCLUSION ZONE

My comment is on the exclusion zone for certain people who hang out in downtown Eugene.

Let's see how we can apply the exclusion zone theory to beloved Duck games. At the opening game, 44 people were ejected from the game due to disorderly conduct, only six of whom actually got tickets. Should "those people" be outlawed from the game for a length of time? Would the world come to an end? I'm sure the same people over and over again ruin the game for "those people" who enjoy watching sports.

Only seven received DUI's once out on the street? The number should be higher. Just think of all the people arriving early for tailgating who continue to drink during the games and then are let out on the streets to drive. Once again alcohol, the country's legal drug, is given a polite look the other way. Perhaps the Sheriff's Department could get grant money to pay for the extra patrols, like they did for the dreaded Country Fair in Veneta, where "those people" gather once a year, and give out tickets for driving too close.

Track Town, you should be ashamed of yourself. You OK tailgate parties at the stadium where "those kind of people" drink to their hearts' content, unbothered by police? And yet Autzen stadium bans concerts due to the noise level. What about the loud noise from all the crowds cheering and the loud foghorn blowing? Isn't that a problem? What a bunch of hypocrites. In a town like Eugene that deems itself so open and liberal, how can it condone sanctioned drunk fests? "Those kinds of people" can always be defined by every group as a way to oppress people who are different.

Diane DeVillers
Eugene

CHRONIC SPIN

Is Jim Torrey Eugene's whirling dervish? Not only does he give new meaning to public career-hopping (or is that hoping?),

but in his frenzy to energize his base, using as he does the Karl Rove playbook, he has missed an important pronouncement from his mentor: Even sleaze meister Rove now says negative attacks on political opponents are no longer appropriate.

Is Torrey's scurrilous personal attack ad saying that Mayor Piercy disrespects Eugene police to be attributed to chronic whirling disorder (CWD)?

To reprise Joseph Welch, "Have you no sense of decency, sir?"

Robert L. Weiss
Eugene

RESPECTING THE POLICE

Some people will say anything to get elected. Jim Torrey's accusation that Mayor Kitty Piercy does not respect the Eugene police is one of those statements.

I've known our mayor for 30 years, and I know that his accusation is false. Piercy respects and appreciates Eugene police. She also, unlike Torrey, supports the independent Civilian Review Board, as does the majority of Eugene voters.

Torrey seems to believe that respecting the police means allowing them to operate without oversight. Perhaps this explains why the Magaña/Lara reign of violence against women was allowed to continue for years during his tenure.

Maybe it also explains why then-Mayor Torrey sat passive in his car and only watched as the police rioted against peaceful protesters and innocent bystanders with pepper spray, tear gas and fire hoses at the infamous tree-sit on June 1, 1997 — a police riot that resulted in another costly legal settlement paid for by the taxpayers of Eugene.

Piercy respects the police and appreciates the difficult and dangerous job they do every day. She also believes, as does the majority of Eugene voters, that the independent police review board provides valuable oversight that was sorely needed when she came into office.



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