

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

historically be recognized as one of the most successful ever. The achievements have been amazing.

Upon his appointment by the Supreme Court, this administration got right to work on the key issues that mattered most to his constituents, like bridging the gap between church and state and widening the gap between the rich and the poor. He ushered in an era of deregulation leading to record profits for his friends in the military-industrial, oil and financial sectors. He managed to empower the executive branch with the ability to ignore the Constitution. He promoted fear and division, which eliminated all serious governmental checks and balances and fair examination by the media.

By all accounts the last eight years have undoubtedly played out exactly as scripted by this neo-con profit machine. His approval ratings may be at record lows, but make no mistake, his successes are legendary and will be remembered as such by those he served.

Marc Belmont
Eugene

WORLD WITHOUT SPORTS

My son plays bass. He plays electric bass at home and wherever else he can, and he plays stand-up bass in two orchestras: at his high school and with one of the inter-school orchestras coordinated by Arts Umbrella.

He's done this since grade school, and I love it. What I love is that there's teamwork in it, and everybody wins. Sports are not

like that.

His only experience with sports was as a tiny soccer player when no one was keeping score and most of the kids had no idea where the ball was. Once the kids got older and the parents got competitive, he lost interest and so did I. For good reason.

What would the world look like if all the kids played in orchestras and none of the kids played sports? I like to think that kids will always ride bikes and climb trees, of course, but what does it add to that to have a winner and a loser? When I sit there in the audience beaming with pride at my son and marveling at what can be accomplished with people working together as a team, I wonder sometimes: What would a world without sports look like?

Would our bipartisan political system seem completely bizarre? Would the gender politics so pervasive in movies fade quietly away? Would the military find no one willing to join?

If you have a gut feeling that there's something perverse about sports, I urge you to look into Arts Umbrella at artsumbrellausa.org

They always need bass players.

Steve Downey
Eugene

GO TO BANDON

I appreciate your list of far and nearby getaways for the winter months that appeared in the most recent issue (10/23). However you neglected one important location that should excite many Oregonians.

ORGANIZED BY THE 2008-9 WAYNE MORSE CENTER FELLOWS

THE IMPERIAL PRESIDENCY:

CITIZENS AND THE GROWTH OF EXECUTIVE POWER

November 14, 2008 • 2:30-5:00 p.m.

175 Knight Law Center • 1515 Agate Street

THE BUSH/CHENEY ADMINISTRATION HAS THOROUGHLY RESHAPED THE PRESIDENCY. Unprecedented exercise of executive authority and secrecy have adversely impacted citizen rights. How can we constructively compel a new administration to return constitutional protections to the people?



(Photos from left to right: Marjorie Cohn, Shane Kadidal and Jordan Paust)

FEATURING: **MARJORIE COHN**, President of the National Lawyers Guild, **SHANE KADIDAL**, Senior Managing Attorney for the Center for Constitutional Rights, and **JORDAN PAUST**, author of: *Beyond the Law: The Bush Administration's Unlawful Responses in the "War" on Terror*.

A reception and book signing will follow in the Wayne Morse Commons. This event is cosponsored by the Wayne Morse Center, UO Political Science, American Constitution Society, Women's Law Forum and UO Geography.



Wayne Morse

WAYNE MORSE CENTER FOR LAW AND POLITICS

For more information visit: www.waynemorsecenter.uoregon.edu or call (541) 346-3700.



The Shedd Institute

868 High Street at Broadway
Music School: 687-6526

www.theshedd.org
Tickets: 434-7000



Jonatha Brooke

The Works: New settings of unpublished Woody Guthrie

Friday
11.07



Ian Tyson

Saturday
11.08



Led Ka'apana Mike Ka'awa

Wednesday
11.12



The Magical Moombah!

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Saturday, November 15th
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