

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

an abomination. Woman-beating, pistol-waving violence, splashed with pathetic swing-dance comic relief, is tastelessly grafted into Mozart's classic.

A tip of the hat to the talented voices, and a strong wag of the finger to the ones responsible for their misuse. And for any who disagree, beware of the emperor's new clothes.

Ken Wages
Eugene

SLACKER MESS

There's no economic crisis? I'm gonna guess that Chris Penders' idea (letters, 3/19) of economic crisis is not having enough money to score an eighth. He must figure there is no crisis because he has obviously been smoking something. Most people realize that when retirees are seeing their nest eggs wiped out and millions are losing their jobs and/or homes, there is a crisis.

He's either a stoned slacker with nothing to lose or a dopey student who doesn't have a clue how all of this is going to affect him. He needs to go back to his bong and chill while the grownups try to deal with the mess the last generation of slackers left him.

Rick Staggenborg,
Coos Bay

REALLY BAD IDEA

Almost 10 months ago, I was in a fatal car vs. bicycle crash in downtown Eugene. The bicyclist, David Minor, did not survive. I have been dealing with this tragedy every day since. I even tried to get a new law passed: mandatory helmets for all ages. The state chickened out because of the negative attention that it was getting.

Now the state of Oregon is thinking of allowing a new law to come into effect stating that bicyclist do not have to stop at stop signs and flashing yellow lights. Are the politicians in Oregon stupid or what? Do they want more people to go through what

David's family and I have had to go through in the last 10 months? More people will end up injured or dead if this law passes. And I would not wish what I've had to go through on my worst enemy. I thought that our politicians wanted to save lives, not end them.

I think the rules need to actually be enforced, all streets should have at least one bike lane and we need to make our streets safe for everyone in the community.

I believe that this (proposed) law needs to be abolished. Our politicians need to do whatever is possible to save people. The consequences after an accident like the one I had will live with all parties involved for the rest of their lives. And their lives, like mine and those of the Minor family, will forever be changed.

Latasha Williams
Eugene

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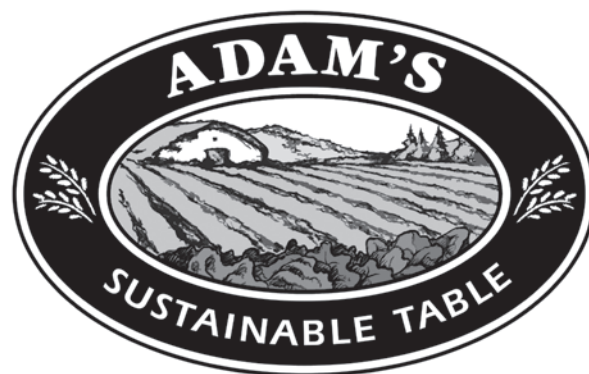
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