

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

“threatened,” he told Van Ornum to get out of the street or he would be arrested. The officer then left. Later the police returned and arrested Van Ornum, leaving the water can behind. If you watch the footage on [youtube.com/user/PictureEugene](http://youtube.com/user/PictureEugene) you can see the water can was nowhere near Van Ornum while he was being arrested. It is clear there was ample time to ask questions before drawing weapons.

Casie Clausen  
Eugene

### PARANOID RESPONSE

After carefully reading Jim Byrd’s “Tasing Required” letter, it is quite clear to me that both he and some EPD officers are paranoid. The biggest mistake made by American police chiefs is to issue Tasers to paranoid police officers.

Bob Saxton  
Eugene

### SPANKING THE WEEKLY

Charles F. Thielman (10/15) starts spanking the *EW* for running its “Fetish Fun” cover by asking a rhetorical question: What would a 10-year-old think? He assumes the image will cause the child to grow up become an Abu Ghraib torturer. But wait a minute. I imagine that a 10-year-old understands make believe very well, especially during Halloween season, and sees that adults too can and do dress up in costumes and play-act for fun.

And come to think of it, kids seem to have an inordinate interest in spanking in any case, whether or not Mom and/or Dad practice corporal punishment. Why is that? Certainly most 10-year-olds in the Eugene area could read the accompanying article and understand it. Instead of trying to prohibit images, a parent could use the cover as the starting point for a discussion about the norms and diversity of physical sensuality, and the similarity as well as the difference between pain and pleasure, and the true nature and ethical meaning of consensual human activity.

Chuck Kleinhans  
Eugene

### BOTTOMS UP

We heartily agree with Charles Thielman’s well-written letter (10/15) criticizing your Oct. 8 photograph showing a chained woman being spanked by a man with a spiked paddle.

We couldn’t recycle the Oct. 8 issue fast enough!

Kay and Bob Sogge  
Eugene

EDITORS NOTE: The paddle wasn’t spiked; it featured smooth studs.

### PROJECT CLEAN

Regarding “Solar Jobs See Cloudy Forecast,” (News Briefs, 10/1): Dreams like the re-opening of Eugene’s Hynix plant as a solar factory can seem impossible. Especially in our current situation where we lack the economic and political support necessary to make them a reality. We need to make the U.S. a competitive market place for renewable energy technologies like wind turbines and solar panels.

In doing so we will ensure that we are on track to reduce our global warming pollution

by at least 80 percent by 2050. We can create green jobs, manufacture renewable energy technologies and stop global warming by demanding that our elected officials stand-up for Oregon’s future. It starts with each of us urging our Congress members to pass strong climate legislation. Right now, the Senate is considering the Boxer-Kerry Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act. We need both Sens. Merkley’s and Wyden’s support on this act to ensure that we are energy independent.

We can develop, build and manufacture the clean energy technologies here in Oregon that will repower America with clean energy. We just need to make sure our representatives are listening to our cry for independence.

Jocelyn Orr  
Portland

### SVIRSKY’S AGENDA

Although Gila Svirsky is co-founder of Women in Black and chair of B’Tselem, she did not appear in Eugene to support those worthy organizations but to promote a political agenda — a “two-state solution” for the Israel/Palestine impasse based on the Geneva Initiative. This model is deceptive in intent, projecting an image of fairness while designed to protect Israel from its perceived “demographic threat” by preserving a Jewish majority. Israel has long hoped to isolate Palestinians within an Israeli-approved mini-state with limited autonomy and to forever deny their U.N.-declared right of return to their homes.

Svirsky suggests that Israel admit responsibility for the refugees but allow return of only a few for “humanitarian” reasons. The words justice and equality are conspicuously absent from the proposed two-state solution, and, as our own Supreme Court determined, separate is never equal. What she and organizations such as Tikkun and J-Street recommend amounts to a segregated Bantustan system.

Svirsky’s racist proposal that “Some Palestinian refugees could be absorbed by other Arab countries” (as though all Arabs are culturally interchangeable) went unchallenged by Eugene “peace community” members in attendance. These refugees are Israel’s responsibility alone, and return to their stolen homes was a condition of Israel’s 1949 admittance to the U.N., which they have never honored. Sponsorship of such speakers by secular peace and justice organizations is inappropriate. Svirsky’s message is just as offensive to Palestinians and human rights activists committed to justice and equality as are racist white separatist speakers sponsored by Pacifica Forum.

Mariah Leung, Co-Director,  
Al-Nakba Awareness Project  
Eugene

### FAIRMOUNT DORM HEARING

There is a hearing coming up about a UO dormitory development in the Fairmount Neighborhood along historic Moss Street. The hearing will be from 1 to 2:30 pm Nov. 10 at the UO Longhouse (just east of the Knight Law School). After a site change and numerous delays, the new 400-450 student dormitory may be sited on top of the last large UO parking lot near the 1600 block of Moss Street.

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