

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

GREETINGS, EARTH-PENGUIN! MY STUDY OF YOUR NATION-STATE'S POLITICAL PROCESS CONTINUES-- AND I MUST CONFESS THAT I AM INCREASINGLY CONFUSED.

“EARTH-PENGUIN!...?”

CAN I POSSIBLY BE UNDERSTANDING THIS CORRECTLY--THAT THE FIRST STEP IN WINNOWING DOWN THE FIELD OF CANDIDATES CONSISTS OF A PECULIAR, UNDEMOCRATIC RITUAL IN A NOTABLY UNREPRESANTATIVE, SPARSELY-POPULATED RURAL STATE--

--AND THAT THE APPARENT WINNERS OF THIS PROCESS WERE-- IN ASCENDING ORDER--A CANDIDATE WHO DESPISES THE VERY IDEA OF THE GOVERNMENT HE SEEKS TO LEAD...A CANDIDATE WHO SEEMS PRIMARILY MOTIVATED BY HIS DESIRE TO LEGISLATE THE SPECIFICS OF ALLOWABLE MATING BEHAVIOR...

... AND THE PROBABLE EVENTUAL NOMINEE--AN INDIVIDUAL WITH NO ASCERTAINABLE CORE VALUES? THESE ARE THE MOST QUALIFIED CONSIDERS THE TRIBAL GROUPING COLLECTIVELY SELF-IDENTIFIED AS "REPUBLICANS" COULD FIND?

CERTAINLY I MUST BE MISSING SOMETHING.

NO, THAT PRETTY MUCH SUMS IT UP.

OKAY, THEN--NEXT QUESTION, EXPLAIN TO ME, PLEASE, THE PURPOSE OF THE INSTITUTION KNOWN AS THE "ELECTORAL COLLEGE."

SORRY, BETTER MINDS THAN MINE HAVE TRIED AND FAILED TO ANSWER THAT.

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scones, Adam Grosowsky's paintings, the Mazet brothers' glass, Ta Ra Rin's pumpkin curry, the Salon des Refusés, the Eugene Celebration, the Whiteaker Block Party. And lest I forget, *Eugene Weekly*. I have faithfully read *EW* for decades. Your publication has never failed to inform, entertain, educate, uplift, radicalize, ground and give great Sudoku.

In 2010, I lived in Eugene for six months and, on a slow evening, I actually made a pilgrimage to your office to pay homage to where this tabloid is born. I did not set foot inside the building, just being outside was so cool. I'd return to Corvallis for the weekends and bring my kid a souvenir — a copy of *EW from Eugene!* Can it get any more exciting than that?

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to extend my gratitude and praise for all you do. Keep up the good work, *EW*. Let me know if there's anything I can do to help.

Jim Bolker
Corvallis

THIS SORT OF RHYMES

Georgie Porgie, pudding and pie,
Didn't want the girls to occupy.
So they showed him their titties
And made him cry.
TO ovERReact IS HUMAN.

Joel W. McClure
Eugene

FROM AN OLD QUEEN

I do declare: Winning is "sublime!"
Chip and his phenomenal Ducks surely
put Happy in New Year. OMG, I've never!
Starting with a road trip to California with

Felmo and Turner, wellsprings of football lore and Marv, my consort and seasoned chef who performed with grace and charm at our now infamous tailgate party. Marv brought his trusty grill and Chinook salmon bellies that he had caught, filleted, grilled and karmically shared with our Wisconsin neighbors. About high noon, I got myself "ducked-out" in the old Queen dress — a real crowd pleaser. With sunscreen, hope and my fan adorned with green and yellow ribbons we headed for the Rose Bowl.

Soon, I found myself in an integrated sea of cheering Ducks and Badgers, but it wasn't my imagination — their red outnumbered our yellow. And though I began to glow and glisten, I barely kept from melting in the brilliant daylight. With most of our opponents on the shaded side of the stadium, we only got more fired up to whoop 'em good. With ample vitamin D, there was no blood, no tears (for Oregon), but a lot of sweat. By the second half, the air cooled, but I continued fanning as the game was most unnerving. Lo and behold, with confetti of ALL colors uplifted and unified we left with very big smiles.

So what about 2013, will it be a Bowl of Roses or a Bowl of Oranges? O fiddle dee dee! I'll think about that next year. For now, I'm just so thankful to be at home with the Ducks.

Old SLUG Queen Scarlett O'Slimera
aka Joanie Cypress

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The Oregon Leadership in Sustainability Program Presents:

Two Events featuring **Timothy Beatley:**

A Lecture:
Envisioning Biophilic Cities
Tuesday, January 17, 2012, 5:30 p.m.
110 Fenton Hall

As cities expand in size and increase in population the issue of how and if nature should be integrated into these spaces has confronted planners and urban designers.

and **TONIGHT!**
A Documentary Film Screening:
The Nature of Cities
Thursday, January 12, 2012, 5:30 p.m.
110 Fenton Hall

Timothy Beatley is the Teresa Heinz Professor of Sustainable Communities, in the Department of Urban and Environmental Planning, School of Architecture at the University of Virginia, where he has taught for the last twenty-five years.

Much of Beatley's work focuses on the subject of sustainable communities, and creative strategies by which cities and towns can fundamentally reduce their ecological footprints, while at the same time becoming more livable and equitable places.

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