

Well here we are 10 months later and the unwanted symphony plays on.

Ninshwazi claims to “perpetuate better living.” That is a freaking joke to the families living in their shadows. How does adult dodgeball “perpetuate better living” anyway? Selling \$40 cases of beer is perpetuating a fortune for their owners and stockholders and nothing more. I’m not drinking their Kool-Aid or their overpriced and unbalanced beers. If there was profit involved, I’m sure that the sound wall would have been built months ago. It is time for Ninshwazi to put their money where their mouth is and be the community partner that they pretend to be.

Brian Green
The Whit

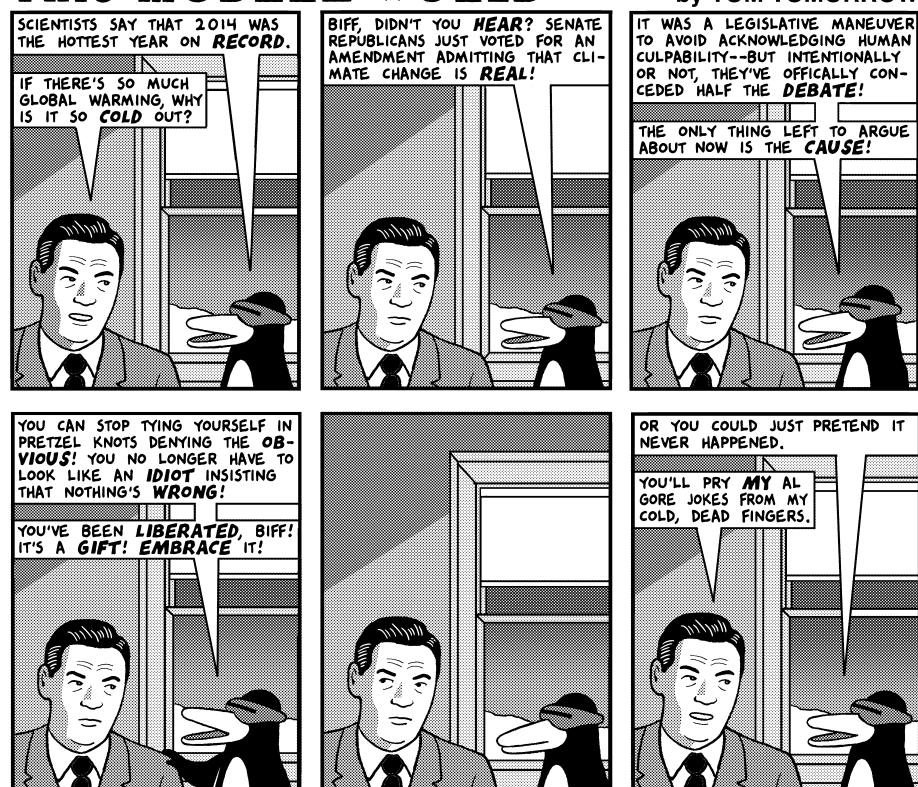
EDITOR’S NOTE: We asked Nikos Ridge about this and he says, “We’re working on it; we have encountered some design issues with adding the sufficient sound dampening to the existing structural elements of the building, and unfortunately it takes time to meet code and do it right ... We are committed to spending the \$90,000 needed to fix this issue retroactively despite having built a permitted and approved building for the site location. We are certainly sorry for the delay, and yes, we think dodgeball is fun.”

BRING ME WHISKEY

The Whiteaker needs one more bar. Not a brewpub, music joint or restaurant with a liquor license, but a *bar*. The loss of Tiny’s has left a huge gap in late-night Whiteaker recreation, but it couldn’t capture all of the business, or anyone’s attention, anyhow. The breweries close at midnight (but whiskey isn’t available there), Sam Bond’s always has a cover, the line at Meiji is always annoying, and Pizza Research Institute and Falling Sky don’t possess proper bar counters; it never feels like you can just hang out there without ordering food. I know that we have Blair Ally, but as soothing as lumbersexuals smacking pinball machines are, the flashing lights and vinyl-coated tables and chairs do not create an ambiance conducive to much more than being a drunk lumbersexual.

Business graduates, are you listening? We need a place to hang out, like the oh-so-cozy

THIS MODERN WORLD



Pint Pot, but *in the Whit!* The neighborhood is a gem within Eugene, and is almost my favorite place to be — if I didn’t have to pay a cover, or wait in line for 45 minutes, so that someone can bring me a whiskey ginger.

Roxanne Robles
Eugene

EDITOR’S NOTE: We hear Tiny Tavern is back open.

WHO WILL SUFFER?

Some of your readers (e.g. Ted Chudy, Letters, Jan. 29) think that voting against funding the library will “punish” the City Council and the MUPTE developers. That’s not how it works. Council members will not suffer. Certainly MUPTE developers will not suffer. But those served by the Sheldon Branch Library (slated to be axed if the measure does not pass) *will* suffer.

Some of us, especially seniors and children, find it hard to get downtown to

the library. North Eugene is already underserved, so why make it worse for us? All those who can come up with a few bills to help the Haitians or save the wolves ought to be willing to assist their neighbors. Please don’t kick the dog on this one.

Jane Muhawi
Eugene

WHY NO PUBLIC OPTION?

What higher authority than the public are our politicians answering to? A recent study by political scientists Martin Gilens of Princeton and Benjamin Page of Northwestern showed “economic elites and organized interest groups play a substantial part in affecting public policy, but the general public has little or no independent influence.” So we’ve noticed.

Take universal, publicly funded health care. *Forbes* last summer reported on The Commonwealth Fund in its “Mirror,

Mirror On The Wall, 2014 Update,” writing, “The most notable way the U.S. differs from other industrialized countries is the absence of universal health insurance coverage.” We’re 37th, between Costa Rica and Slovenia.

The “public option” wasn’t on the table when ObamaCare was discussed. I think I know why. Politicians serve a higher authority than the public. No wonder people everywhere are rising up to make our leaders accountable and thwart the obscene influence of these “corporate persons.”

We are coming to the capitol in Salem Feb. 11, and we’re a lot smarter than we were two years ago and a lot more engaged. We plan to offer Oregonians single-payer health care in 2017 because it’s the right thing to do. Listen to the people or move aside for real public servants.

Patty Hine
Eugene

SNAKY JAY

Addressing Mr. Jay Bozievich, Lane County Commissioner: I am a property owner in Florence. I just read in today’s *Siuslaw News* about your plan to raise our taxes via a VRF (vehicle registration fee). According to your plan, I would have to pay \$35 each for my three vehicles and one utility trailer. Plus, at the moment, I have three boats on trailers. That is seven times \$35 or \$245 a year!

First of all, we already pay street taxes here in Florence. Secondly, we already pay state and county taxes that are supposed to pay for road maintenance. My property tax went up when the value of my property lost \$51,000 in value. Additionally the 60/40 split should be reversed; 60 percent going to the cities and 40 percent going to the county. So I’ll vote “no” now. I suggest you live within your means, like the rest of us who are “responsible adults” must do.

PS: As a Tea Party “patriot,” I thought you were against new taxes. I guess you only want to tax the 99 percent. Making you both a hypocrite and a snake.

Daniel Smyth
Florence

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