

**LETTERS**

The pace of such destruction is accelerating and won't stop without meaningful resistance. The most recently released State of the Birds report found that more than one-third of North American birds are currently at risk of extinction.

Despite the technological assault and the injuries inflicted on the landscape in the name of progress this place remains a paradise, albeit a rapidly shrinking one. It remains worth fighting for.

*Ian Smith  
Eugene*

**VOLLEYBALLS**

Regarding Chad Anderson's May 11 letter ("While Rome Burns"): I appreciate your efforts as an ally to me and other women in our efforts towards liberation. We need men to stand with us to end the oppression that still privileges men at the expense of all of our humanity.

However, I wish you would think twice before criticizing a volleyball rule that serves to give women equal touches on the ball. Any rule intended to increase female participation is in place because of the unconscious patterns that tend to creep in during co-ed events.

Men tend to take up more space, speak more, emote louder and go after the ball more aggressively than women. Individual people may be exceptions to this rule, but the tendency still holds.

It seems to me that you are not actually complaining about sexism. You are complaining about an attempt to create equity in the face of sexism. That equity rule requires you to be aware of others in a way that might be unfamiliar to you. It encourages you to think of participation and connection as more important than winning.

*Kara Huntermoon  
Eugene*

**RADIATION SICKNESS**

Hanford Nuclear Reservation sure has been in the news recently. On May 9 we learned of the collapsed tunnel exposing train cars full of highly radioactive waste, and eleven days later we learned that a Hanford worker's clothes were contaminated while working on a possible leak at an underground storage tank.

More than three decades of effort and

billions of dollars to cleanup the most contaminated place in western hemisphere, and we still see no end in sight.

In 1980, Oregon voters approved a moratorium on the financing and construction of nuclear power plants until a permanent repository was established for the nuclear waste that remains lethal for centuries. Thirty-seven years later, the federal government has yet to solve the problem.

Why then would the Oregon Legislature be considering an exemption on the moratorium for nuclear reactors 300 megawatts or smaller? Senate Bill 990 would bypass the two requirements of that law: a permanent repository for the waste and statewide voter approval of any new proposed plant.

Representatives Paul Holvey and Phil Barnhart sit on the House Committee on Energy and Environment. Urge them to reject SB 990. To send a message to your representative, go to oregonwand.org and press the action button.

For those interested in a personal account of the health ravages caused by exposure to radiation from Hanford, Oregon WAND is sponsoring *Hanford: A Conversation in Poetry and Prose* on May 25th. For more information, visit oregonwand.org.

*Susan Cundiff  
Eugene*

**NO MORE FALSE TOTEMS**

I would like to send a nod to the [Oregon] Country Fair for not raising a totem pole.

You asked and we told you how it feels, for us, to have acculturation and genocide constantly in our lives.

I appreciate that they have the sensitivity and ability to stop and consider.

Too often we are in a position of naming Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, and then killing him.

*Jim Linwood  
Lakeside*

**KIDS THESE DAYS**

The sad realization for the intelligence community of our nation: giving top-secret classified information to Trump is like giving a kitchen knife to a 3-year-old.

*Ronald Blanton  
Eugene*

*LETTERS POLICY: We welcome letters on all topics and will print as many as space allows, with priority given to timely local issues. Please limit length to 200 words and include your address and phone number for our files.*

**The Shedd Institute**

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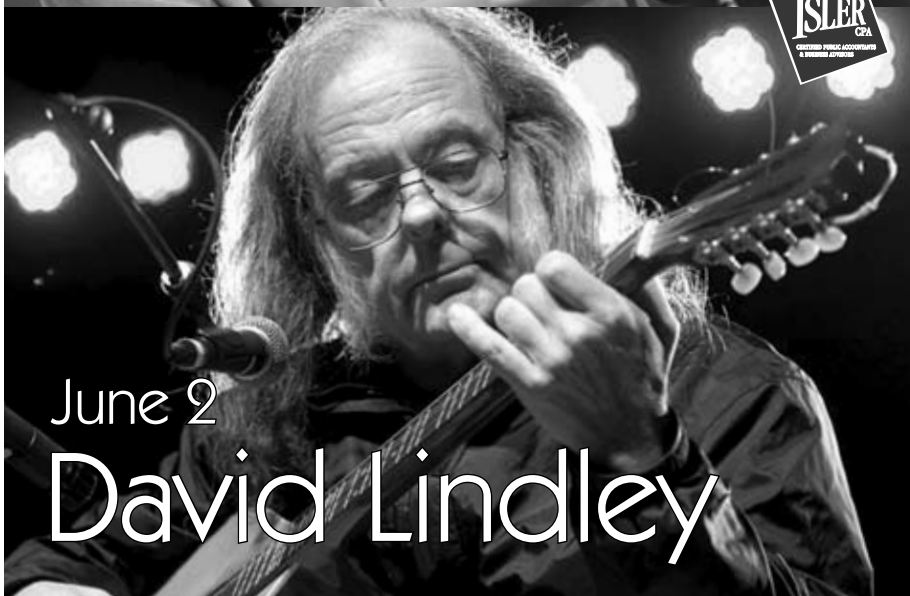
Mike & Nancy Oft Rose



May 25  
**Phoebe Gildea**  
Betwixt & Between



June 1  
**Jean-Luc Ponty**  
The Atlantic Years



June 2  
**David Lindley**

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