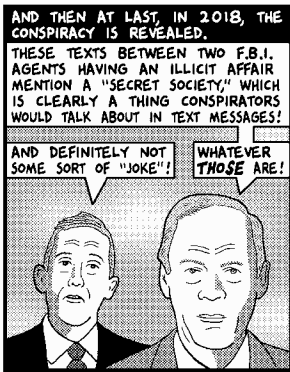
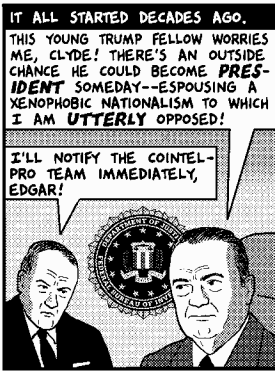


THIS MODERN WORLD

DONALD TRUMP VS. THE DEEP STATE

by TOM TOMORROW



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WEED APPRECIATE IT

I did my student teaching at South (South Eugene High School) and have several friends who've taught there. I also lived a couple blocks away, first in old student housing and then in a triplex on 23rd Avenue. I feel a kinship with South.

I also am a product of the first blush of Title 9 and realize the importance of inclusivity, not just on the law books but in the hearts and thinking of people.

While I listened to the news invitation for a change of mascot input for South, an idea for keeping tradition and progressing occurred to me.

What about Axe-cess, I thought, but then I looked up "cess" and it is a '70s term for weed. (I was there but lived a sheltered life).

Although much of school funding is dependent on taxing marijuana sales and the lottery these days, I suppose it isn't exactly the association they may want. I liked the idea because of the access part of it ... but the weed part likely makes it too blatant — even in South's neighborhood. Oh well, I tried.

Jan Cieloha
Springfield

STUCK IN THE MUCK

If the people want new laws, there are only two ways to get one passed in Oregon. One way — that we think of most often — is to get your elected officials to enact or refer it to the ballot.

The other way, available in Oregon and 26 other states, is to write the law yourself, collect petition signatures, and put it on the ballot for a vote of the people. On the most important issues, one way or the other, moneyed corporate interests rule the outcome, either through campaign donations to public officials or through seemingly endless litigation and legal hurdles for initiative advocates.

It is in this systemic quagmire that the Freedom from Aerial Spraying of Herbicides Bill of Rights and the Community Self-Government initiatives are stuck.

So we ask: Where do concerns for the protecting our county's residents and environment from the aerial spraying of poisons for the financial benefit of a corporate few fit? Along with the initiatives and their advocates, these community values are stuck in the muck.

We need systemic change that puts the power in the people to decide the laws that affect our lives.

Jan Kinney
Deadwood

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