

# KeizerOpinion

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## All share burden to get college-bound students scholarship info

This time of year high school seniors are rushing to fill out and submit applications for college scholarships. Each June McNary High School releases the names of all the students who have received scholarships.

It is overwhelming to see the number of scholarships that are awarded each year. Some students are recipients of more than one scholarship, and good for them, they worked to maintain the grades needed to get a scholarship, plus they or someone they know were aware of where to look for scholarship money.

There is always more money on the table to ask for. Some organizations are not very vocal about their scholarship programs, others have a hard time getting enough applicants to make the awarding process competitive.

There has to be a more efficient way for the school district in general and McNary High School in particular to spread the message far and wide within the school community of the scholarship money that is available. That should start with an understanding of the requirements of each scholarship—some require certain grade point averages or certain extracurricular activities. Other

ers are awarded on financial need, while others are awarded on little more than an essay by the applicant.

Every student who has a desire to continue their education into college should be given access to all the information available in the way of financial assistance other than federal or private loans.

If there are students who believe they can never be eligible for a scholarship, then they are being ill-served. There are any number of scholarships that are awarded more on the basis of character of the student than their GPA or activities.

The school should not bear the burden alone of getting scholarship applications into the hands of students. Students and their parents/guardians should educate themselves on what scholarships are available and not take themselves out of the running before knowing if it is viable option for them.

The width and breath of scholarship offerings are staggering and there is something for everybody. Time is running short for students and their parents alike to research and apply. Every student can be eligible for a scholarship, they have to find the right one.

—LAZ

our opinion

## Fix what's needed to win

To the Editor:

Supreme sports basketball greatness was denied the Oregon Ducks by last Saturday's game. Meanwhile, a loss by one point in the NCAA Final Four surely qualifies for heartbreak status. Nevertheless, the narrow loss in the final game for the national championship came as no big surprise to this alumnus and long-time fan.

How so? Well, Oregon began the past season with a couple of losses that were not expected of a highly-ranked team: one widely believed would do well at basketball competition from Pac-12 to March Madness contests. Then, too, the Ducks came close to losing several games even at March Madness while having already inexplicably losing to Colorado and then the Pac-12

championship game.

Barring a catastrophe, the Ducks will make another run in March of 2018. What's needed is a team with discipline enough to remain steady and undeterred

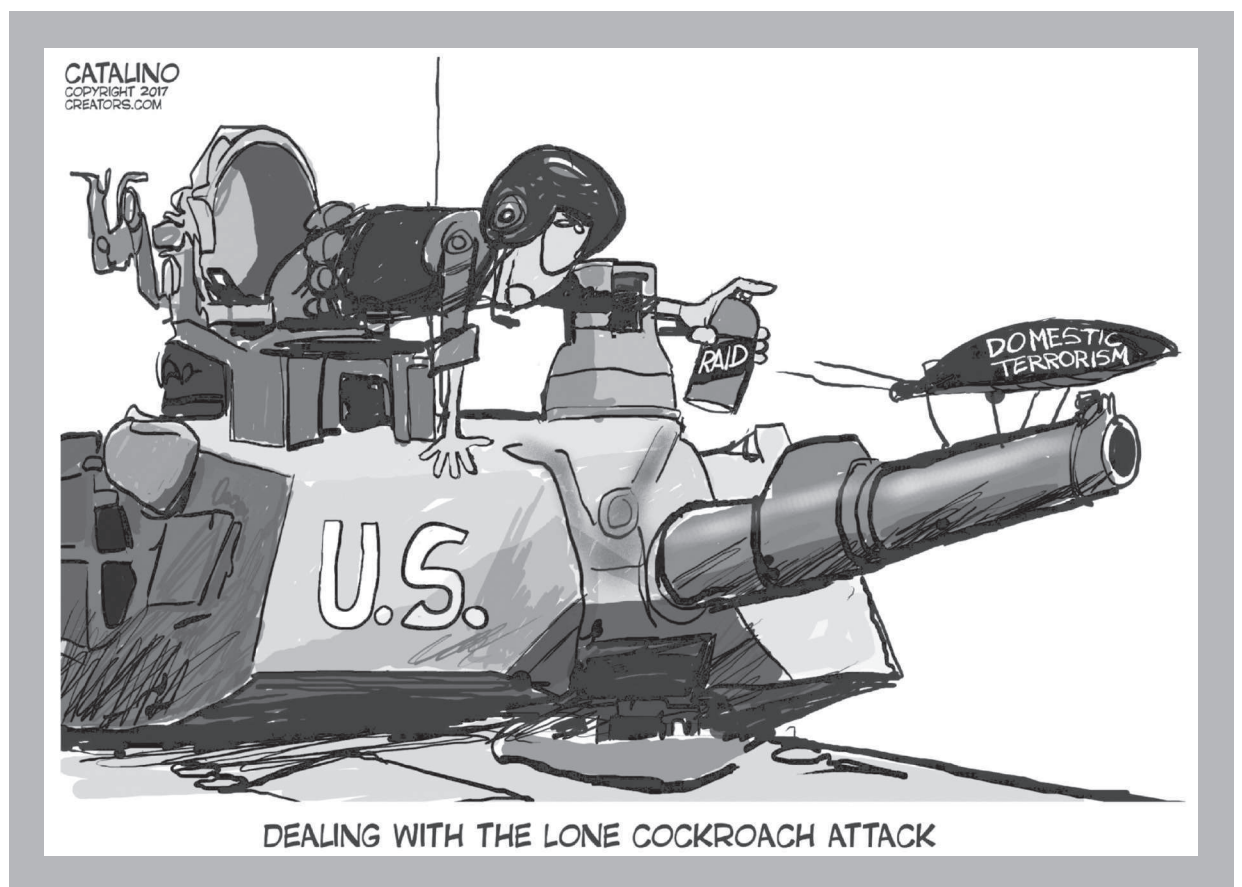
no matter what, exemplified this year by Gonzaga. It is surmised that there's a hidden-to-the-observer psychological factor that seems to prevail too many times: Is it a team member's temperament? Are the Ducks not physically in shape sufficient to not tire before games' end? Do they not practice plays and shots equal to the demands of the court? Is there a coaching defect?

This year's Ducks team was made up of outstanding athletes. Yet, something's not right, and, if not corrected, it's argued, will most likely result in another shortcoming season 2017-18.

Gene H. McIntyre  
Keizer

letters

other views



DEALING WITH THE LONE COCKROACH ATTACK

## Neil Gorsuch must be a bad man

By DEBRA J. SAUNDERS

A favorite truism in Washington these days is: "Be careful what you wish for; you may get it." It tells the cautionary tale of how Republicans who wanted to run Washington got what they wanted and now must govern.

I offer my own quote for the swamp: "Be careful what you scorn; you may someday become it."

It has been a favorite pastime of elected Democrats to poke fun at the House Freedom Caucus because the rump is ideologically extreme and frequently self-destructive. Senate Democrats now seem poised to overtake the Freedom Caucus in the race away from moderation and in the ability to shoot one's party in the foot. To wit, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer is primed to block the U.S. Supreme Court confirmation of Judge Neil Gorsuch.

Gorsuch is the one choice President Donald Trump made and executed flawlessly. In September 2016, Trump released a list of 21 judges from which he pledged to pick a Supreme Court nominee. Gorsuch, 49, was on the list.

Gorsuch has such solid credentials that the American Bar Association unanimously rated him "well qualified" to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court—its highest rating. In other words, Trump did not pick a flame-thrower.

George Washington University Law School professor Jonathan Turley, who is no Trump fan, argues that Gorsuch is a smart choice because of the Coloradoan's intellect. In *USA Today*, Turley wrote that he does not expect Gorsuch to change his "deep and well-es-

tablished jurisprudential views," which are conservative. "However, I expect he will go wherever his conscience takes him regardless of whether it proves a track to the left or the right."

As Gorsuch told the Senate Judiciary Committee during his confirmation hearings, "It is the role of judges to apply, not alter, the work of the people's representatives. A judge who likes every outcome he reaches is very likely a bad judge."

In 2006 the Senate confirmed Gorsuch's appointment to the Denver-based 10th Circuit Court of Appeals by unanimous consent. Schumer was in the Senate at the time. So how could Schumer tell *The Washington Post* on Thursday that it is "virtually impossible" to expect him and a majority of the Senate's 47 other Democrats not to filibuster Gorsuch and deny him a simple up-or-down vote?

In the new Democratic order, Gorsuch must be extreme because he is conservative and thus by definition lacks empathy. Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto, D-Nev., captured that view in a statement in which she expressed concern "that his narrow view of the law will hurt the most vulnerable amongst us."

Masto continued: "I am not confident that Judge Gorsuch understands how his decisions will impact workers, immigrants, women's health and economic security, disabled Americans, and the everyday Nevadans that I am here fighting for."

During his confirmation hearings, Gorsuch took on Democrats who suggested that he should rule based on who might get hurt, not on the law

itself. "If the law can change so easily as that," Gorsuch said, "where's the due process to the individual, the person who doesn't have an army of lawyers?" That is, Gorsuch made compelling arguments for judicial restraint.

Compelling arguments don't cut it in this toxic partisan atmosphere. During Barack Obama's presidency, Democrats on Capitol Hill frequently bemoaned the obstructionism of the right. Now they try to block whatever Trump wants and call it "resistance"—with a smart, well-respected moderate conservative, in this case, as their target.

The worst part is, they know that this maneuver is not good for liberalism or the country. Nonetheless, they are prodding Sen. Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., to extend the "nuclear option" introduced by his Democratic predecessor, Harry Reid, to block a filibuster and allow an up-or-down vote.

They seem not to care that ending the filibuster would enable Trump to name a much less moderate conservative for the next Supreme Court vacancy.

At a recent fundraiser, Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., warned about the dangers of ending the filibuster. "I'm very uncomfortable being part of a strategy that's going to open up the Supreme Court to a complete change," she said. But by Friday, McCaskill announced that she would vote against Gorsuch and support a filibuster to stop him.

Democrats share something with the far-right GOP base of 2016: Their elected officials are more afraid of the party base than of voters.

(Creators Syndicate)

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## Sexism still lurks in the workplace

By MICHAEL GERSON

Reading the accumulated sexual harassment accusations against *Fox News* host Bill O'Reilly and former network executive Roger Ailes is like a quick dip in a sewage treatment pond. After even a brief exposure, the stench stays with you for days.

If the accusations of dozens of women over two decades are correct—and it is hard to dismiss them, as the accused have done, as unbalanced, dishonest or disgruntled—then Fox News is the focus of hypocrisy in the modern world. While preaching traditional values, it has operated, according to former Fox anchor Andrea Tantaros, "like a sex-fueled, Playboy Mansion-like cult, steeped in intimidation, indecency and misogyny."

A recent *New York Times* story detailing \$13 million in payouts to women accusing O'Reilly of harassment depicts a corporate atmosphere of predation and enablement. Stories on Ailes present a similar (and even worse) picture of women treated as sex objects and employment benefits.

All this could be a grand, elaborate calumny. But the culture described by the women coming forward rings true. A culture in which powerful, older men exploit, sully and destroy the hopes and ambitions of young women for the benefit of their own appetites. Then, over cigars and whiskey, they say things like: "When you're a star, they let you do it. You can do anything." This statement made by Donald Trump describes not the pleasures of the flesh, but the pleasures of the

bully. Not just ridiculous-looking lechery, but genuine cruelty.

What emerges in these cases is more than just the violation of standards by an individual; it is a

systemic problem, a systemic failure. An institution is defined by what it accomplishes, but also by what it tolerates. According to these reports, *Fox News* has tolerated a pattern of procurement and exploitation.

Loyalty has been twisted into complicity. Shameful things have not been treated as shameful. Disqualifying things have not been disqualifying.

This should matter in any setting, but it matters particularly in the news business. The ethos of a newspaper, cable network or website influences the final product. At *The Washington Post* the new motto is "Democracy Dies in Darkness."

At Fox, this ethos has involved, according to *The New Yorker's* Margaret Talbot, "the fetishization of hot female news presenters." And this, it seems, has doubled as a kind of conveyor belt for bright new faces. Can it really be a coincidence that feminism is often dismissed on *Fox News* as so much political correctness? Can a news organization deal adequately with women's issues when you would never allow your own daughter to work there?

It is worth pausing here to admit that my criticism of Fox has been too comprehensive. Any network that includes Bret Baier, Dana Perino and Chris Wallace is often worth watching. Fox has been an alternative to leftward-slanting media, and a place where the worst sorts

of political correctness have been exposed. And the parent company of Fox News is instituting some changes, including sensitivity training.

But I bet that Fox would not feature my next argument: Sometimes conservatives need liberals. (Sometimes liberals need conservatives as well, which is the topic for another day.) For more than 40 years, liberals have talked about sexual harassment and the need for equal treatment in the workplace. They have organized, argued and sued. And they were exactly right. The routine sexism of a previous generation was wrong and oppressive. And it persists.

A certain kind of Fox viewer will never find this persuasive. They think that boys will be boys, and men should be manly, and opponents are snowflakes, and women should just learn to lump it or leave. But it is hard for me to imagine how Christian conservatives—a major Fox demographic—could avoid choking on such rotted values. The way that women are treated in the workplace—or at home, or anywhere else—should reflect a belief in human equality and a commitment to human dignity. And the proper reaction when reading about the cases of O'Reilly and Ailes is revulsion.

We like to think that this kind of America is behind us -- that only the crusty leftovers of workplace sexism remain. But we are a nation that tolerated misogyny in the election of our current president. And when you are a Fox star, evidently, you can still do anything. You can do anything.

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