

EAST OREGONIAN

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OUR VIEW

Tip of the hat; kick in the pants

A tip of the helmet to the end of an era.

For nearly a century, the Buckaroos and Bulldogs have met on the football field each fall, playing for county pride in the great American high school pastime.

As the *East Oregonian* has carefully documented over the years, it wasn't often much of a fight. For many years Pendleton played the role of big brother, annually pinning down their smaller sibling no matter how good the Hermiston team was.



That started changing in the 1990s as Hermiston hit a growth spurt and finally started matching their rivals blow for blow. Though both teams have put together short runs of dominance for the past couple of decades, every meeting has had the electricity of possibility. Both fan bases show up in force, and it has often been the most exciting game of the regular season.

But after tonight's edition of the War on 84, the Thrilla on the Umatilla, the Watermelon vs. Wheat, it's not clear when the teams will meet again. Hermiston will join the Mid-Columbia League in Washington's athletic association and Pendleton will stay in a league with central Oregon teams. Because of a full league and tight schedule for Hermiston, finding room for Pendleton on the calendar is unlikely.

As far as local traditions go, not many have the history of this football game. We're going to miss it.

A tip of the hat to Blue Mountain Community College, which has seen an 11 percent jump in attendance this year compared to last.

That stands out among community colleges nationwide, which are collectively on a downward attendance trend.

Not so in Pendleton, Hermiston, Milton-Freewater and Boardman — where BMCC has facilities in the area.

Partly that's thanks to local taxpayers, whose approval of a bond in 2015 has expanded programs and made BMCC more relevant for more students.

It's also thanks to leadership at the college, which has improved the school's reputation and increased its partnership with other Oregon colleges and universities. It's also due to recruiters like the ones we profiled in this week's

paper, who are working hard to convince skeptical high school seniors that BMCC is the place for them.

Let's hope the upward trend continues. Eastern Oregon can only benefit from more students attending and graduating from BMCC, whether they go to the workforce or on to a four-year school.

Unsigned editorials are the opinion of the East Oregonian editorial board of publisher Kathryn Brown, managing editor Daniel Wattenburger, and opinion page editor Tim Trainor. Other columns, letters and cartoons on this page express the opinions of the authors and not necessarily that of the East Oregonian.

OTHER VIEWS

UO needs to protect campus from extreme protesters

The (Bend) Bulletin

The meanings of "free speech" and "fascism" are apparently unclear to some University of Oregon students who shut down a speech by UO President Michael Schill earlier this month.

The need to take a firm and public stand against such assaults by punishing the perpetrators is apparently unclear to the university leadership.

In supposed defense of free speech, the students used a megaphone to shout down the president and take over the stage, complaining about tuition increases, indigenous rights and minority

student safety, according to a report in the student newspaper. One speaker said the protest was prompted by fascism and neo-Nazis who have made the campus unsafe for students. The reality that the protesters were making the campus unsafe for everyone else didn't register.

University officials vacated the stage, leaving it to the students, and proceeded to post a pre-recorded video of the speech.

Writing an op-ed in Monday's *New York Times*, Schill did a fine job of laying out the ironies, most importantly that in preventing others' speech, the protesters were defeating the principle they claimed to be asserting. Also, that

their protest against fascism was itself a form of fascism, which he described as a "smothering of dissent."

And he described an alternative approach taken by other UO protesters in 2015, where they ended up in a constructive dialogue with Schill that led

to significant action to address their concerns.

But Schill's well-argued defense of rational discourse didn't mention any steps by the university to take control, to protect the rest of the campus from these misguided students. And the university said Tuesday it can't tell us anything about that.

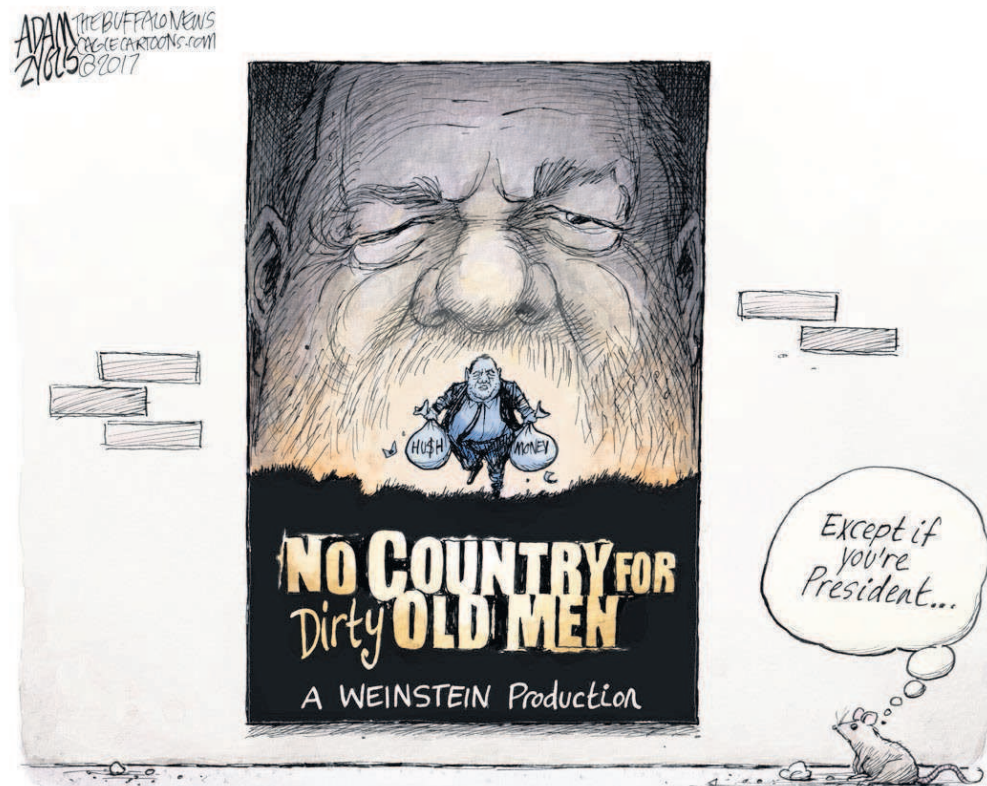
The university's Media Relations Manager Molly Blancett wrote in an email: "The incident is under review, but the university is not able to share specifics on conduct decisions in this or any case, as it is protected under the Family Educational Records Privacy Act."

The university needs to take a public stand against this kind of protest, making it clear that it will not tolerate students physically taking over an event and preventing anyone, be it a student, a visitor or the university's president, from expressing themselves. The community needs to know what steps were taken to punish such unacceptable conduct.

LETTERS POLICY

The East Oregonian welcomes original letters of 400 words or less on public issues and public policies for publication in the newspaper and on our website. The newspaper reserves the right to withhold letters that address concerns about individual services and products or letters that infringe on the rights of private citizens. Submitted letters must be signed by the author and include the city of residence and a daytime phone number. The phone number will not be published. Unsigned letters will not be published. Send letters to managing editor Daniel Wattenburger, 211 S.E. Byers Ave. Pendleton, OR 97801 or email editor@eastoregonian.com.

OTHER VIEWS



Sexual harassment isn't just a 'women's issue'

Women have been speaking out over the last few weeks about sexual harassment and assaults — passionately, eloquently and sometimes tearfully — and we men have been (for once!) rather silent.

That's better than jumping in, drowning out women's voices, and mansplaining: Actually, I saw a TV show about this once, and the real problem is. . . . But we men can be more than passive observers, and a start is surely to be better at listening. So I asked some smart, strong women how men can become part of the solution.

I started with Gloria Steinem, who emphasized that men can stand up to make clear that inflicting unwanted sexual attention on another person is just plain wrong.

"Every time a man interrupts the culture of dominance — and treats both women and men as unique individuals

who are valuable for our hearts and minds and actions, not for how we look or where we are in some hierarchy — we are closer to being linked, not ranked," Steinem told me. "Fathers have a big chance to do this just by listening to their daughters, and showing them that they're worth listening to. Co-workers can do this by not commenting on a woman's appearance

when they wouldn't say the same of a man. "This is not rocket science," Steinem added. "It's empathy."

Sheryl Sandberg, COO of Facebook, told me that she flinches a bit at references to male "allies," because that can sound as if men are wading in as a favor to women. In fact, she noted, it's in everybody's interest that we erase harassment and discrimination — and a man's own team will perform better if he includes women who feel safe and respected.

Sandberg also emphasized something I strongly believe: We need not just sensitivity training, but also accountability. That means firing not only the men who sexually harass but also the men and women who are complicit.

"People need to be afraid not just of doing these things, but also of not doing anything when someone around them does it," Sandberg said. "If you know something is happening and you fail to take action, whether you are a man or a woman — especially when you are in power — you are responsible, too."

One dismissal sends a stronger message throughout an organization than 10,000 hours of sensitivity training.

Men have sometimes been prone to disbelieve victims' stories, and one of the most distasteful aspects of the Harvey Weinstein scandal was a rush to refocus blame by questioning why female victims didn't speak up earlier or go to police. That tendency to victim-shame is precisely why survivors are reluctant to speak up — and let's remember that culpability lies with perpetrators, not



NICHOLAS KRISTOF
Comment

victims. One of the bravest voices has been Ashley Judd, who broke the ice by speaking up about Weinstein. So I asked Judd how men can help.

"Men being willing to have dialogue with their families and friends, and to disrupt sexist remarks, jokes and behavior, is integral to change," she said. "Learning to let women speak up, and being open and teachable, is crucial. Imagine if we could simply say, 'stop' and 'no,' and men stopped? These micro interpersonal interactions hold transformative power."

One unfortunate consequence of greater scrutiny of these issues is that male bosses are sometimes reluctant to have dinner or drinks with female employees, making it difficult for women to build social relationships with bosses and be promoted. I asked Rosabeth Moss Kanter, a Harvard Business School

professor, about this, and she said that the solution is obvious.

"More women in all positions of power," she said. "And not as tokens."

I'm sure that some men reading this are rolling their eyes. On Twitter, one person responded to my denunciation of sexual harassment with a snide, "Do you have a penis at all?" Sigh. We men simply have to

Civil rights weren't just a "black problem," the Holocaust wasn't just a "Jewish problem" and sexual harassment and discrimination are more than just a "women's problem."

understand that there is nothing manly about sexual assault.

Look, human relations are complicated, we are sexual creatures and it's inevitable that there will be fine lines and misunderstandings. But a new ABC News/*Washington Post* poll found that 54 percent of American women report having received unwanted and inappropriate sexual advances — meaning that this is a huge national problem, and a challenge for us all. Civil rights weren't just a "black problem," the Holocaust wasn't just a "Jewish problem" and sexual harassment and discrimination are more than just a "women's problem."

Men sometimes weigh in: As a father of a young daughter, I deplore. . . . But that sounds as if one cares about women only if one has made one, or as if one thinks of female colleagues as little girls. So let's switch to this paradigm: As a human being, I want fellow humans treated fairly and decently, not poked with less respect than we would treat a pound of beef at the supermarket.

I asked my wife, Sheryl WuDunn, what her advice was for men, and she was concise: "Put peer pressure on each other to treat women better."

Hey, men, let's heed her advice.

Nicholas Kristof grew up on a sheep and cherry farm in Yamhill. Kristof, a columnist for The New York Times since 2001, writes op-ed columns that appear twice a week. He won the Pulitzer Prize two times, in 1990 and 2006.

YOUR VIEWS

EOCI health system not helping all inmates

I just read your article on the person who is getting their hormone treatment paid courtesy of us the taxpayers. Please answer me one question, *East Oregonian*: why do you not do an investigative report, in depth, on how bad the health system really is in prison?

A person can get hormone therapy because they want to be another sex, and two people I know of at EOCI need insulin pumps; one had his before he was even incarcerated and EOCI refuses to let him have it, and the other had a recommendation from an outstanding endocrinologist that he desperately needed one and family offered to pay for it, but EOCI and DOC said no. This is life-saving equipment, whereas hormone therapy is not.

So, please out there at EOCI and DOC, please tell me how you justify this? You are contributing in the long run to two people dying earlier than necessary because you refuse them much-needed treatment, and you

give hormone therapy to a person who will not die without it.

Anybody out there know an excellent attorney for a class action lawsuit? I am disgusted beyond anything I can say.

Barbara Dickerson
Milton-Freewater

Access to track field not what we voted for

Citizens and taxpayers: If you are upset about the access to the new high school track and field, during a game or any other time, you need to call council members Scott Fairley (541-240-1825) or McKennon McDonald (541-969-3345) before the meet and greet on Nov. 4 at Hamley's Cafe at 8 S.E. Court at 9-11 a.m.

When we voted to pay for this, they never said we wouldn't be able to use it like before.

Jim Harvey
Pendleton