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## The Portland Spectator, Summer 2006

Portland State University. Student Publications Board

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# Portland State Summer Term

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# the portland Spectator

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## MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Portland Spectator is to show that a conservative philosophy is the proper way to approach issues of common concern. Our viewpoint originates from the following principles:

Individual Liberty

The Importance of Values and Customs

Free Market Economy and Free Trade

The Rule of Law

The Portland Spectator is published by the Portland State University Publication Board; and is staffed solely by volunteer editors and writers. The Portland Spectator is funded through incidental student fees, advertisement revenue, and private donations. In general the staff of the Portland Spectator share beliefs in the following:

-We believe that the academic environment should become again an open forum, where there is a chance for rational and prudent arguments to be heard. The current environment of political correctness, political fundamentalism and mob mentality stifle genuine political debate.

-We support high academic standards.

-We believe that each student should be judged solely on his/her merits.

-We oppose the special or preferential treatment of any one person or group.

-We believe in an open, fair and small student government. .

-We oppose all efforts toward an equality of condition, for this violates any principle of justice that can maintain a free and civilized society.

-We oppose the welfare state that either benefits individuals, groups or corporations. The welfare state in the long run creates more poverty, dependency, and social and economic decline.

-We believe in the Free Market, and that the sole role of government in economic matters is to provide the institutional arrangements that allow the Free Market to flourish.

-We do not hate the rich; we do not idolize the poor.

-We believe in an activist U.S. foreign policy that seeks to promote and establish freedom, political and economic, all around the world.

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# Parenthesis

We want to hear what you have to say. Any statements you have about articles appearing in this publication, questions regarding the publication, or questions regarding working with our publication we would love to hear.

We are looking for a Literary Editor in addition to a Distributions Manager. Anyone interested in this position (yes you can obtain credit for participation) please do not hesitate to contact us.

e-mail: [portlandspectator@gmail.com](mailto:portlandspectator@gmail.com).

Do you have events that you want the student body to be aware of? Please send any event information to us so that we may pass it on to our readers. It is our goal to inform our readers of campus events to increase the community on campus.

## World Cup

What is at stake in the World Cup? The pride of your country. Currently, the World Cup is in full swing and just eight teams remain. After failing to advance after pool play, the United States was out early. It was a tournament of red cards for the United States. A case may easily be made that the referees dismantled the hopes of the US, but nonetheless, it was a short showing. Brazil, who is picked to win the contest, is still a top competitor alongside Italy, England, France, Germany, Portugal, Ukraine, and Argentina.

## Child Abuse in Japan

33,408 child abuse cases have been recorded in Japan; a 26% increase from the prior year. Since 1995, the number of child abuse cases in China has doubled twelve times. Possibly, the increase is a result of the stressed lifestyle in Japan and the expectations that children act with no flaws. 44.5% of the reported cases have involved physical abuse while 36.7% centered around neglect.

## Marijuana

The U.N. is now joining the stand against marijuana. The drug has become an issue due to its ability to thrive in so many environments worldwide. John Walters, head of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, stated that "it's not just a gateway, it is a dead end as well as an opening for many other people who go on and use other things, and are polydrug users. It has been for a long time." Beyond marijuana use, hopes are high as opium cultivation has dipped 22%. In opposition, cocaine has reached alarming new heights in Western Europe and shows no sign of slowing down.

## Sharing the Wealth

Would you be willing to give up 85% of your wealth? What if you were the second wealthiest individual in the world, and your wealth totaled over \$44 billion? This is exactly what Warren Buffet plans on doing. Five organizations will be obtaining a boost from Buffet's gifts, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation receiving the majority of the funds. \$30 billion will join the fight against diseases such as malaria, HIV/AIDS, and tuberculosis in addition to supporting United States high schools and libraries.



## **Smoking in the Workplace**

Smoking kills. We all recognize this fact, yet many Americans do not hesitate to light up. But what happens when it becomes an issue of second hand smoke? The Surgeon General is heading a warning that the only way to effectively slow down deaths from second hand smoke is to ban the action in the workplace. How bad of a problem is it really? In 2005, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released statistics showing that 3,000 citizens of the US die annually as a result of lung cancer. Further, 46,000 die from heart disease and 430 infants fell victim to SIDS; all were a result of second hand smoke. As moves are made to rid our lives of second hand fumes, perhaps we will see an increase toward healthier lifestyles.

## **Burn On**

The issue of burning flags is one that has received much attention throughout the years. Is it legal? Ethical? A true freedom of speech? And what does the government have to say about the destruction of this national symbol? On Tuesday, June 20th, the senate voted that it is indeed legal to burn a flag as an expression of free speech. A bill was presented to the senate attempting to amend the constitution to prohibit burning the American flag. The bill was the second of the month that was rejected pertaining to the issue of flag burning. Defeated by one vote, the conservatives will continue to push forward in an attempt to implement rules prohibiting the offensive action.

## **The Positive Side to Video Games?**

What all parents love to hate, video games. Controversy has surrounded the entertainment for years. Is it teaching your children hand eye coordination, or is it encouraging violence. An argument for the century. Creators of free educational games such as "Darfur is Dying" and "PeaceMaker" are siding with video games stating that the use of the games is in fact saving the world through creating awareness of the world's downtrodden. They support the idea of using video games as an educational tool. Possibly, if we may teach our youth about issues such as poverty and the detriments of war, we will construct a better tomorrow.

# **In Your Backyard**

## **College World Series**

June 26 was a beautiful evening for the OSU Beavers. The Beavers defeated North Carolina on Monday to win the best of 3 series and in doing so became the College World Series Champions. Scoring on a North Carolina error in the bottom of the 8th to take the lead the Beavers, who were not even ranked entering the tournament, brought home the second national championship in Oregon State history. The first? A Cross-Country title in 1961.

## **Invasion of Privacy?**

Washington DC is experiencing the highest rates of new HIV in the United States. As a result of this alarming statistic, a campaign has been opened in which the goal is to test each individual between the ages of 14 and 85 for the disease. This is, to this point, the most drastic attempt that has been made thus far to control the spread of the disease. In 2004 alone, over 43,000 Americans became infected with the disease, and the numbers do not appear to be slowing down. At this point, 2% of the population is infected with the disease. The only question remaining, what happens when they are made aware of who does and does not have the disease?

**CONGRATULATIONS  
2006 GRADUATES  
THE BEST OF LUCK IN YOUR  
FUTURE ENDEAVORS**

Crystal Joelle Rea  
Information derived from various state and national newspapers

# OBESSE america

In 2000, 19.1% of the Pacific Northwest population was legally considered to be obese. The statistic had nearly doubled since ten years prior when the rate was a mere 10.2% in 1991. Currently, one third of our adult population is overweight and children are close behind. An urgent problem? I would not hesitate to claim that it is. What is the connection between Americans and being overweight? As a country, we are the most indulgent population in the world. Alongside the massive trends of people moving toward obesity, a nearly impossible standard of beauty persists. A beauty standard that says you should be five feet, ten inches tall and weigh 120 pounds contrasts the obese individual who boasts a minimum BMI of 30. We are moving farther away from the ideal that our culture has created on a daily basis, and the trends are not slowing.

As scales tip further and further, obesity is becoming an epidemic in the United States. Despite warnings that being overweight causes detrimental health problems, individuals continue to indulge; over and over again. Perhaps this is telling our society something. Maybe our true standards of beauty are a round woman with endless curves and a round stomach? Maybe we have our ideals backwards. Or maybe we are just lazy and are looking for a quick fix. As we enter an age where fast food is a typical dinner and we are not even forced to leave our homes to do our grocery shopping, it becomes a surprise when something requires effort and dedication.

The tendency of Americans to look for a fast solution has created a multi-billion dollar industry which capitalizes on the laziness of our society. Through creating a niche, a market has been formed which fo-

cuses on weight loss. In this market alone, Americans spend over \$33 billion annually on attempting to lose weight. Now comes the part where body image ties in. Though a market will always exist for a quick fix, our nation's beauty standards make it possible for this niche to sustain and continue to grow. If the beauty standards of our country were any different than they currently are, there would be no motivation to spend massive amounts of money on supplements, pills, and meal replacements. In order for this industry to thrive, the expectations of a thin woman and overly muscular man must live on.

Reality of the situation is that maintaining your own ideal body weight is not an easy process. The majority of society is continually hopping on and off if diets and maintains little regularity in a workout schedule; I myself am guilty of this. Though a diet may temporarily allow you to squeeze into an old pair of jeans or beefing up your hours at the gym will cause women to gawk at the pool, these are nothing more than momentary solutions that will do more harm than good in the long run. 95% of individuals who go on a diet will gain back all the weight (and generally some additional weight) once they discontinue their diet. In order to truly change one's appearance, Americans need to understand that a diet is a lifelong commitment to eat a certain way, and a workout schedule is far more successful with regularities.

At no point do I claim to be an expert in the field of weight loss, but I do know that the first step to improving one's diet is to focus on the whole foods. Consumption of unprocessed foods and the minimization of unnatural, processed sugar in the diet is the first change to make if you are attempt-

ing to create a healthier lifestyle. There is always the issue of the fast food industry, which is far too big to tackle in a page, but bottom line is that we make the decision in relation to what goes in our mouth, so we need to stop placing blame (though it may be partially deserved) on others. Further, as much as you may hate it, you HAVE to hit the gym. There is not a secret remedy to weight loss, and if there was, we would have a completely fit population. Supplements are a market where if they do work miracles and people only have to utilize them once to lose the weight then never gain it back, then the market would disappear. Be conscious of the products you are placing into your body and make sure you understand the full realm of possibilities and dangers before you slip into the habit of paying for a dead end.

In addition to the market of weight loss tricks being created from the issue of being overweight, a huge market exists in the medical field as well. Treating weight related issues costs Americans an additional \$70 billion per year. Again, this emphasizes that there is in fact a huge problem. Americans need to begin to address issues such as these before they end up in a hospital or dead. To be lazy on a Saturday afternoon is one thing, but when one is lazy in maintaining his or her body, there is no excuse. Taking care of your body directly correlates to respecting your body. It is an incredible quality to be able to love yourself no matter what condition you are in, and I am not saying that we should all strive to be rail thin. As Americans, we should attempt to better our health and maintain a healthy body so that our future is as strong as our past

# Q: What do the Kicker, a spending limit, a rainy day fund, and sustainable growth have to do with each other?

## A: They are all hated by Democrats

By Mark Egglestein

The failed Governor, Ted Kulongoski, kicked off the month of June by showing that he is open to the same old ideas that simply do not work. Kulongoski was asked to expand on his views pertaining to the kicker in a press conference at the beginning of the month, and spoke straight from the heart when he suggested a suspension of Oregon's tax "kicker" law and using the refund money to rebuild the state's education system, beef up health care, and invest in alternative fuels. This is a horrible idea. When you beef up the schools and other programs on a temporary influx of tax dollars, it then becomes impossible to reduce those expenditures. The only thing that results from the "beefing up" of the education systems is economic instability. The people Kulongoski hired from the kicker dollars will not be fired, the state budget will not be readjusted, and to make sure those people stay employed tax increases will be proposed in an economic time that cannot withstand a barrage of Liberal tax increases.

This cycle is not unprecedented. At the tail end of the dotcom boom of the 1990s there would have been a substantial kicker for both individuals and corporations. Rather than let people decide how to spend or save their money, thereby supporting businesses and the people of Oregon, the legislature of Oregon decided that it should be the sole beneficiary to the economic success of the 90's and spent the incremental tax revenue on frivolous, needless expansions. In 2001 we saw the tremendous failure of overspending because the economy receded and tax revenue, to Democrats surprise, was decimated. As a result of the bleeding hearts of Liberals and the guilty conscience of Conservatives, the people hired through the unlawful seizure of the kicker were unable to be fired.

In 2002, Kulongoski entered as Oregon's governor on the coat-tails of promises to reform the state budget without further dipping into the pocketbooks of Joe and Jane Smith. In less than two years he rescinded his promise and proposed the largest tax increase ever on an already faltering economy. The voters of Oregon responded, by a 59% to 41% margin, to the legislators in the state of Oregon by saying "Why should your budget grow while our budget shrinks?"

This vote shows that voters realized that Republicans and Conservatives in Oregon have been right in what they have said over the past 20 years – The state of Oregon overspends. The budget of Oregon has grown by over 15% in each of the last sessions since the mid 90's despite economic downturns and limited economic

growth. What it comes down to is that regardless of economic factors, natural disasters, or national tragedies – the budget for the state of Oregon will always increase. This style of growth in government is unsustainable. There is an upward limit to how much money the government can suck away from taxpayers, and the voters have reached that limit.

Democrats and Liberals contend that the state is under spending. To solve the problem Liberals cry that the state of Oregon undertaxes the corporations in the state – but they fail to admit the lack of taxation is made up by fees. Exuberant fees on building a house, filing a permit, registering for a license, and even setting up a small business have seized the intermediate shortfall on taxing corporations without increasing the tax rate on voters.

It is time for a change. In the November elections voters across the state will have a chance to fix the system in Oregon by supporting a constitutional spending limit amendment. The spending limit allows the government to grow by the percent increase in population and inflation. This means that the state will grow at a rate that is consistent with variables that affect the primary cost of running the state of Oregon. Rather than allowing the budget of Oregon to grow without limits and reason, we will apply a standard that controls the government.

This amendment does allow the legislature to exceed the limit with voter approval which means the power of taxation is put back into the hands of those that finance it – the taxpayers. Regardless of how much money is collected by the state, they cannot exceed the limit without voter approval. In times of economic success the money collected over the limit can be used two ways – give it back the taxpayer or set it aside in a rainy-day fund. The rainy-day fund can be utilized at any time as long as the legislature does not exceed the spending limit.

This merging of two great ideas, a spending limit and a rainy-day fund, ensures that Oregon has protection against economic downturns and ensures that we no longer have to hold the taxpayers hostage to satisfy the spending urges of the legislature. It is time for a spending limit in Oregon so that we can have a government that ebbs and flows with the success and failure of its citizens. When the state of Oregon understands the pitfalls of an economic downturn and what it means to its citizens – it will begin to form policies that are consistent with the will of the people.



# Taking Advantage of Gorgeous Portland Summers

Compiled by Crystal Joele Rea

There is no argument that Portland summers are beautiful; so what do you do? Here are a few events that will put a smile on your face and allow you to enjoy your summer a bit more.

## Portland Timbers

Believe it or not, Portland has a professional soccer team. Another surprise: they are currently in first place in the nation. PGE is home to not only the Portland Beavers, but the Timbers as well. Stop by and cheer for the local team as they play teams from Seattle to Florida to Vancouver to the Puerto Rico. The games are fast paced and if you hit a Thursday, the beer is cheap.

Home Games:

July 21 v. Seattle (their biggest rival) 8 pm

August 4 v. Minnesota 7pm

August 10 v. Virginia Beach 7pm

August 28 v. Puerto Rico 7pm

August 31 v. Montreal 7pm

September 3 v. Charleston 6pm

September 7 v. Atlanta 7pm

## Thirsty Thursdays

There is nothing that defines summer like kicking back at a baseball game with a cold beer. Heaven. And the Beavers games aren't a bad place to do it. Again, find your way to PGE park to enjoy the warm Portland evenings with friends. Come early however, or the beer garden will have no seating to offer.

Thirsty Thursday Games:

July 6 v. Las Vegas 7:05pm

July 13 v. Tacoma 7:05pm

July 27 v. Oklahoma 7:05pm

August 24 v. Las Vegas 7:05pm



## Portland Farmers Market

Yes, one of the drawbacks of living in a city is the lack of space to have your own garden. Grocery stores always present the option of being able to wander the aisles to get the food that you need, but the Portland Farmers Market allows you to purchase fresh food from local farmers. The positives are endless as you are able to support a local economy and obtain better produce than you will find at your neighborhood store.

## Oregon Brewer's Festival

In the theme of good beers, sample Oregon's best breweries. Known for micro brews, Oregon is the place to be for unique flavors and good company. The event, which is held on the waterfront, attracts over 80,000 beer lovers. This year's festival will be held from July 27 – 30.

## Oregon State Fair

Indulge your country side August 25 – September 4 in Salem. With rides, music, and food, this is one of the largest crowds the fairgrounds draws each year. You may want to entertain the idea of stopping in during the week or you may spend more time waiting than participating.

## Warped Tour

GOOD MUSIC. If you spend one time this summer enjoying music, make sure it is this event. With bands from AFI to Saosin to Zebrahead playing, you can't go wrong. July 15 at the George Amphitheater or July 16 at Columbia Meadows. Don't miss it.

## Music Fest NW

Another music event, Music Fest NW features northwest artists that may not yet be on your i-tunes playlist. Alternative rock is the central element of this production, but all other genera are represented. September 7 – 10, get ready for more great music.

## Festival of Cheese

Yes, cheese. July 22 will feature over 700 artesian cheeses to be sampled. For every cheese lover in the Portland area, you do not want to miss this event. Food ranges from whole cheese slices to dips and dishes.

## International Pinot Noir Celebration

You cannot have cheese without wine. Like micro brews, Portland is known for its Pinot Noir. The 28 – 30 of July will highlight the beverage in various areas throughout Portland. Call 1-800-775-4762 for further information.

## The Bite of Oregon

The 22nd year of the event promises to be a good one as Portland gears up for gourmet food. August 11 – 13, The Bite will be held on Waterfront Park. In addition to fabulous food, the proceeds go to benefit the Special Olympics.

## First Thursdays

If you love art, this event is for you. Art galleries open their doors at night for an event that is close to art lovers hearts. Stroll down the streets of the Pearl District on the first Thursday of each month and simply follow the crowds. You will get a chance to experience the best art of Portland as well as some of the best atmosphere the city has to offer.

See You in the Fall!



# *A Storm Still Worth Weathering*

by Amanda M. Sapp

Born and raised in Alsea, OR, Amanda Sapp lives in Baton Rouge, La. She is pursuing her Master's Degree in Mass Communication at Louisiana State University. This column will include her perspective on life, current events, culture and everything in between as they occur in the south.

It's been almost an entire year since Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath ripped the Gulf Coast cities to shreds. For most of the country, the tragedy may be merely a memory – some event overly covered and dramatized by the mass media but far in the past and not worthy of air time or print space.

For Gulf Coast residents, however, Hurricane Katrina and the ensuing devastation still define daily life. While residents of other states file the event into their memory banks, it is still the topic of conversations at café lunch counters where the devastation has ensued. People still spend the hot, humid days fixing their damaged homes, and industries are still struggling to begin operations. Entire cities have yet to rebuild.

With the on-set of another hurricane season, almost enthusiastically marketed by cable news networks, it is important for us all to realize that people in an entire region of our country are still suffering on a daily basis from a storm that blew over their lives in last August. Katrina cleared an entire region, but contrary to popular belief, has yet to pass.

Linda Brunken is a 3rd generation New Orleans resident, whose relatives immigrated from Sicily in the late 1800's. Brunken has worked as a Geophysical Technician for Shell for 32 years. Her two-story home in Metairie, a suburb of New Orleans, received about three feet of flood water. Metairie is designed with canals between the neighborhoods, which have pumping stations at the end of them. When the nearby Mississippi river gets too high the water is pushed into the canals. When the canals cannot hold any more precipitation, they then pumped into neighboring Lake Pontchartrain. The overflow lake is surrounded by levees and additional flood control. When Katrina hit in August, the people manning the pumping stations were forced by local government to evacuate resulting in no flood protection. "The whole reason we flooded was they pulled the nonessential personnel out of the pumping stations and moved them to Jackson," said Brunken. "So the pumping stations stopped and canals flooded."

While the skeleton of Brunken's house was structurally in tact, all sheet rock, flooring, cabinetry and electrical wiring had to be replaced on the first story of the house. While renovating, she has been living in a FEMA trailer in front of her house since December.

"I am going to spend about \$130,000 in renovations and furni-

ture," said Brunken. She had long paid for a flood insurance policy that would cover \$230,000 worth of damage, although only received \$50,000 in light of the extensive demands placed on such companies.

An additional problem many face is that there are many homes to be rebuilt and few contractors and skilled laborers available. "Everybody has the same problem. They have a week or 2 worth of work in front of them but can't get anybody back to do it," said Brunken.

With the on-set of another hurricane season, almost enthusiastically marketed by cable news networks, it is important for us all to realize that people in an entire region of our country are still suffering on a daily basis from a storm that blew over their lives in last August.

Remodeling has been a long process for Brunken, who expects to be able to move back into her home within a month, just as this year's hurricane season sets in. "The sad part is that you have to get prepared for the new hurricane season when you haven't even finished rebuilding from last years," said Brunken. "You can't even think about it. You're still stuck in last year's disaster. If I start to think about it I don't know what I'd do. I don't know if I could go through this again. Mentally, it's just very hard."

While the situation seems hopeless, a never-ending cycle, the fact that Brunken even has a house to renovate is something she is thankful for, knowing that others were much less fortunate. Other

people and even entire communities were not as fortunate to see as much as a frame left standing. A drive through Biloxi, Mississippi exemplifies this situation. Although the first thing local government officials did after the storm was remove over 2.5 million cubic yards of debris from the streets. Beyond the removed debris are empty foundations, tall apartment complexes with no windows, and gutted churches still line the highway that runs parallel to the pristine white beaches and serves as a reminder of the devastation brought on by Katrina.

"This wasn't our first rodeo," said Denson Creel, Manager of Public Affairs for the city of Biloxi. The city was ravaged in 1968 by Hurricane Camille, which has been noted as one of the most historically destructive hurricanes to hit the Gulf Coast. Creel estimates there were 25,000 homes and businesses in Biloxi before Katrina, and about 6,000 of them were completely destroyed. This included nine casinos that generated much of the city's revenue from taxes and provided many locals jobs. Six of those casinos remain closed, evidencing the slow economic revival. Creel estimates that despite the destruction, about 85%-90% of homeowners have returned to Biloxi.

"People just love the community and living on the water," said Creel. While many have returned to Biloxi because they want to live and rebuild there, "right now people are either bickering with insurance company or looking at flood elevation requirements," said Creel. "Our position in city hall is that we need to build back responsibly."

The ideal of rebuilding communities and industries resonated throughout the Gulf Coast as soon as Katrina has passed. While many still carry that message like a torch, some cannot help but

feel that life on the Gulf will never be the same.

George Barisich is a 3rd generation commercial shrimp fisherman from St. Bernard, La. He is also the president of the United Commercial Fisherman's Association. He was lucky as his boat did survive Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, but Barisich and the rest of his industry have not been able to resume their livelihood since last August. The small towns, residences, storage facilities, ice houses, docks and canals that are the infrastructure of the fishing industry were entirely destroyed by the storm surge of Katrina. They remain uninhabitable today.

"The longer it goes on the more depressing it gets," said George Barisich. "We just found out that we aren't going to get the \$1.13 billion from the appropriation that Congress had promised, but are only going to get \$150 million. That's not even a drop in the bucket." Barisich relies on faith to continue lobbying for his industry and someday return to fulfilling his livelihood.

As another hurricane season is brewing in the Gulf, people who aren't from that region might question why anyone would even want to rebuild, let alone why federal funds should be spent on the effort. The question is valid, but so is the response that the people of the region love their home just as much as we love ours in the northwest. Some have deep roots there, going back generations. Others are newcomers, but feel right at home in the land of big sunsets, sticky weather, swamp marshes and warm hospitality.

Every person endures bad storms in life. In the face of another hurricane season, those who are doing what they can to rebuild for themselves, keep their homes and maintain their heritage are inspiring examples of fortitude. Knowing their stories may serve us well someday, when we are faced with big storms of our own.





# ARE YOU A DEMOCRAT?

## *What is the litmus test?*

by Robert S. Reece

"It is said that you cannot put a price on a human life, but that is not correct. It has been done over and over. Human lives are bought and sold into slavery. Bounties are paid for assassinations. Militaries are hired to kill enemies. Suicide bombers are paid to give up their lives in exchange for taking the lives of other people for political or religious purposes."

When I saw the posters in the halls at PSU this spring asserting that if you thought that people have a right to affordable healthcare that you must be a Democrat, it really got me to thinking. "Yes," I thought, "that certainly must be true." This assertion certainly describes Democrats. It is this kind of inanity that we constantly hear out of those on the left all the time. So now I want to take this assertion apart and analyze it thoroughly and expose the inanities. I guess I will begin at the end and work backwards.

"Care" Do you care? Does it make a difference to you? A good strategy as it is a nice term to get one involved on an emotional basis. "Care." Take care of! Be responsible for something or someone! Care forms a loving, giving principle. (Takes emotional involvement to accomplish something, right?)

"Health." (Who knows what this means?) Didn't we have a health class in junior high? "In sickness and in health, until death do us part." (This seems a lot like an emotional commitment doesn't it?) Health becomes a loaded term.

"Affordable." Affordable as in, let's not be "greedy." I want to spend a little more time further down on "greedy," but I think "affordable" is defined in the mind of the beholder. A person usually decides for himself or herself what they can "afford." It is a "free market" liberty that we hold so dear.

"Right." What is a right, and where does it come from? There are certain natural rights that we hold to be inalienable. That is,

we have those rights whether a government wishes us to have them or not; life, liberty, property . . . Keeping in context, the right of a person to the fruits of one's own labor is such a right. The failure of the communism in the Soviet Union is due to the failure of communism to recognize this particular right.

The free market is an expression of this basic right to the fruits of one's labor. This free exchange of goods and services is what drives our economy and makes us so rich. The right to the fruits of one's own labor is inherent; it belongs to each and every person. It belongs to shoe cobblers and barbers. It belongs to fishermen and doctors. It belongs to inventors and the authors of textbooks. Another natural right is the right to own property; your clothes, your car, your house or farm, your unique ideas, your unique way of saying things (as in a novel, poem, song or music. singing or playing a musical instrument.)

Is a human life "priceless" that we must provide "health care" no matter what the cost? It is said that you cannot put a price on a human life, but that is not correct. It has been done over and over. Human lives are bought and sold into slavery. Bounties are paid for assassinations. Militaries are hired to kill enemies. Suicide bombers are paid to give up their lives in exchange for taking the lives of other people for political or religious purposes. I think it is reasonable to say that it would not make sense to send two persons to a sure drowning in order to save one person from a sure



drowning.

I have figured out what the posters are all about. I think they are saying that if you do not accept that a person has a right to the fruits of one's own labor that you must be a Democrat. If you cannot "afford" (unlimited) access to the fruits of someone else's labor that you must be a Democrat. The doctor must offer his services, his labor (including his years of university study, etc.) for something other than the free market. Pharmaceutical companies must not be in the free market. (This means that I won't get any dividends paid on the investment of my funds, the fruits of my own labors, thereby rendering me poor and dependent on the government for my "health care".)

Now back to "greedy." The butcher where I go to shop for groceries must be very greedy. I like it. He is always trying to get me to buy more, that way he will have more money than he needs. Remember, he is greedy! (He does not need a new car or a boat, right? Because he is greedy, he has just raised his prices too, so we know he has not "earned" the money, right?) But then I do not buy, right? Oh yeah! The free market, supply and demand. Isn't the reason we go to college and get an education, because we will make a lot more money?

That is what makes one a Democrat. Democrats think that the Government should pay for everything to make everything "affordable" for us. It is the same old story. They think that they should make all decisions for everyone and decide how all money should be spent. (A committee of "ELITES" could be appointed by the smartest woman in the world!) Oh yeah, they tried this once already in the Soviet Union. But, not to be one sided, you then have to consider that the politburo was appointed by a man!

We need to engage all the interested people and try to explain to them that we are not on the left, nor on the right. Fawning Euro-loving-euro-would-be-emulators do not know the difference between left and right. I will explain! Communism is on the left. Everything belongs to the community. There are no personal property rights, including the right to the fruits of one's own labor. ("Commies") National Socialism is on the right. The government owns all the property, processes and means of production. The government then hires people to run them and assumes the obligation of taking care of the "workers". (National Socialisms - "Nazis") We need to explain that we are capitalists and that we believe in private property and the right of each and every human being to the fruits of one's own labors. We need to explain that we believe in each and every human being's right to decide what he or she can "afford."

The government does not give rights to us; they are ours because we are human, no more - no less. They are supposed to be protected by the government. "Privileges"? Isn't that what Kings allow their "subjects" to have? Speaking of kings. Robinhood took from the rich (the government, that is, "kings" tax collectors") and returned it to the poor ("the rightful owners" who would not have been poor if they had not been denied the right to the fruits of their own labors in the first place.)

I want to thank the person or persons who put up the posters on the walls in the hallways of PSU telling us who they are. Democrats are indeed the ones who think they have a right to affordable health care (at someone else's expense).

But, in contrast, if you believe that a person has the right to the fruits of one's own labor, you are probably a Republican.

"We need to engage all the interested people and try to explain to them that we are not on the left, nor on the right. Fawning Euro-loving-euro-would-be-emulators do not know the difference between left and right. I will explain! Communism is on the left. Everything belongs to the community. There are no personal property rights, including the right to the fruits of one's own labor. ('Commies') National Socialism is on the right. The government owns all the property, processes and means of production. The government then hires people to run them and assumes the obligation of taking care of the 'workers.' (National Socialisms - 'Nazis') We need to explain that we are capitalists and that we believe in private property and the right of each and every human being to the fruits of one's own labors. We need to explain that we believe in each and every human being's right to decide what he or she can 'afford.'"

# WHY WE SHOULD VOTE FOR RON SAXTON

COMPILED BY JEREMIAH A. HOFFMAN

If you are an Oregonian and tired of the out of touch governor Ted Kulongoski and are ready for a change, then a viable option presents itself in Ron Saxton. He stands as your candidate for governor if you want an individual in office who believes in controlling state spending and taxes, promoting economic development and job creation, in addition to improving Oregon's education performance in relation to the remainder of the United States.

Born and raised in Albany, Oregon, Ron Saxton graduated from West Albany High School in 1972 and was the first in his family to complete college. The first generation college student graduated from Willamette University and then proceeded to the University of Virginia Law School where he completed his law degree.

A fourth-generation Oregonian and a lifelong resident of the state, Ron has been a leader in Oregon's civic, political and business community for a period spanning more than three decades. It goes without saying that Ron Saxton

is integrated into the culture of the state of Oregon and understands what makes this state so special and what needs to be done to preserve it.

A passionate education advocate, Ron is recognized as one of Oregon's leading experts on education issues. He was elected to the Portland Public Schools Board in 1997 and served as its Chair from 1998-2000. Ron is also the founding President of the Portland Schools Foundation. The Portland Schools Foundation is a community-based organization that has raised more than \$30 million in private contributions to improve student achievement and school performance in Oregon's largest school district in the face of budget cuts and a deteriorating system.

In addition to these prestigious positions and the implementation of these systems, Ron has co-chaired the Oregon Higher Education Roundtable, chaired the Strategic Planning Committee of the Pacific Council of Boy Scouts, and served as a board member of the Saturday Academy, a science and

math mentoring program for Oregon's youth. Again, Ron's list of education involvement stands for itself as proof that he truly holds the interest of Oregon's education system close to his heart.

Named one of the Outstanding Lawyers of America, Ron is a co-founder of the AterWynne law firm where he specializes in complex business transactions involving the energy, manufacturing and natural resource industries. He has also owned a commercial cherry farm and served as a political commentator on KATU television in Portland and for the Medford Mail Tribune. Ron is currently a board member of Associated Oregon Industries and has served on numerous Oregon business boards.

Ron and his wife Lynne, also a fourth-generation Oregonian, recently celebrated their 27th anniversary. Lynne is the Executive Director of The Christie School, a charitable organization serving children and families throughout Oregon.

Want more information in regards to Ron Saxton??  
website: [www.votesaxton.com](http://www.votesaxton.com)

Want to meet Saxton?  
Hillsboro Fourth of July Parade: 7/4/06 9:00am – 11:30am  
Downtown Hillsboro

Molalla Buckaroo Rodeo: 7/4/06 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Oregon Republican Party State Convention Banquet Dinner: 7/29/06 7:00pm – 9:00pm  
Eugene Hilton Hotel

# A Successful Freedom Fest

by Jeremiah A. Hoffman

If you happened upon commotion in the Park blocks on Thursday, June 8th, it was undoubtedly Freedom Fest. Freedom Fest was organized to enable students to recognize the freedoms that this great nation offers them. Freedoms of speech, the freedom to organize, and the freedom to be a part of whatever religious belief of political party they empathize with. Over 500 people turned out to check out the music, eat free food, grab some info from student groups, take their shot at the dunk tank, and write on the "Freedom of Speech" wall.

The "Freedom of Speech" wall was perhaps the fo-

cal point of the event. This attraction drew the largest crowd and some interesting entries – for example – "Abortion is Murder" and "Abortion is delicious." This is the most extreme examples of different views expressed on the wall, most of the entries being about immigration. Thank you College Republicans for hosting the event, the volunteers Mario, Even, Amanda, Lucy, Bryan and countless others. It is our hope that Freedom Fest will become an annual event, each year bringing more diversity and organizations together to a central location.

# Event Review: Columbia River Classic

by Jeremiah A. Hoffman

If you were a transient and chose to live at the Portland International Raceway, then this summer event is for you. From the small Champ cars that blast by on the straights doing 150 mph to the classic Ferrari's that will shake you off the grandstand, these events are exhilarating and feed your need for speed.

For those of you who like a sophisticated, traditional racing event, you should check out the Columbia River Classic Road Race. This competition only allows cars built prior to 1969 on the track as the vessels content with other antiques. This event will

play host to some amazing automobiles and runs from September 2-4. The profits from the Columbia River Classic at the Portland International Raceway go to the Boys and Girls Aid Society of Oregon. Attendees are encouraged to wear 1930s-1960s era attire in celebration of the old cars. So if you want to see classic Ferrari, Porsche, Jaguar and other powerful racing machines as well as dress up in your era digs, this event is for you. Tickets are \$10 for one day or \$20 for the weekend with children being \$7. Go to [www.crclassic.com](http://www.crclassic.com) for more information.



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