
Letters in the Editor's Mailbag
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The Register-Guard welcomes letters on topics of general interest. Our length limit is 250 words; all letters are subject to condensation. Writers are limited to one letter per calendar month. Because of the volume of mail, not all letters can be printed. Letters must be signed with the writer's full name. An address and daytime telephone number are needed for verification purposes; this information will not be published or released.

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Resign from Republican Party

Recently, I wrote to the Lane County Elections Office and resigned as a registered Republican. In protest of President George Bush's occupation of Iraq and not bringing our troops home, I no longer wish to be a registered Republican. Perhaps this is insignificant alone, but if more people who care do likewise, maybe our voices will be heard.

NAFESAH FAITH ALI

Eugene

Darwin's theory full of flaws

Chris Mooney and Alan Sokal (Commentary, Feb. 11) say theologically impelled religious conservatives use government to undercut well-established knowledge such as the teaching of evolution.

They cite antibiotic-resistant bacteria as evidence for micro-evolution. Micro-evolution exists; macro-evolution does not. Although increasing numbers of respected scientists are adopting intelligent design, many stubbornly continue to promote macro-evolution in spite of the mounting evidence against it. Proponents apparently don't use a rigorous, evidence-based standard for assessing the false claim that macro-evolution is a fact.

In 1859, Charles Darwin said that once enough fossils were found, the transitional forms would verify his theory. Nearly a billion fossils later, the transitional forms are not there.

Darwin also said that if life were discovered to be too complex to have evolved, his theory would be in trouble. We now know there are creatures such as the bacterial flagellum which are irreducibly complex: If you remove even one part of its 30-part organic rotary motor, it will not operate. Such complexity can't evolve step by step.

Why do so many proponents of macro-evolution ignore evidence from mathematics, physics, astronomy and biochemistry? How do they explain away fossilized footprints of men and dinosaurs side by side? Why do they ignore the anthropic principle, or polystrate fossils?

What they foolishly resist is a creator who loves them and wants only the best for them.

RICK McCLAIN

Eugene

LCC penalizes bike commuters

I planned to sign up for an adult education course at Lane Community College's downtown Eugene branch until I discovered that \$5 of the \$8 above-tuition fee goes to the Overpark. Because I neither wished to pay 12 percent of my total expenditure for a service I would not use, nor did I wish to promote automobile use at the expense of environmentally friendly means of transport, I did not take the course.

I then biked to LCC downtown to examine the bike parking facilities. I found only one rack, and it was of an antiquated design that is favored by thieves because only the front wheel can be secured. This rack was empty, although most nearby parking meters had bikes locked to them. Few bicyclists use meters if other effective anchors are available because doing so impedes pedestrians.

LCC prides itself on being a progressive institution that charges mandatory student fees to promote social and environmental activism, and this makes it especially ironic that it encourages automobile use while

penalizing walkers and bicyclists. The bottom line is that cars dirty our environment and keep us dependent upon foreign oil.

How much worse do things have to get before LCC rewards those who stop being a part of the problem and start being a part of the solution?

LOWELL THOMAS

Eugene

Iran's efforts aren't surprising

Has Iran been sending weapons to the fighters in Iraq? I would hope so!

What if a powerful aggressor nation was to invade and occupy our neighbor Canada? Would we just sit by and do nothing, or would we do what we could to help the Canadian people resist their aggressor? I would hope that we would have the compassion and courage to do the latter.

The United Nations Charter says that nations shall refrain from "the threat or use of force" against other nations. In spite of that we invaded, destroyed and are occupying a country that had not attacked or threatened us. We are in the wrong! Why do we recoil in horror when other nations or people resist us?

WARD RICKER

Eugene

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