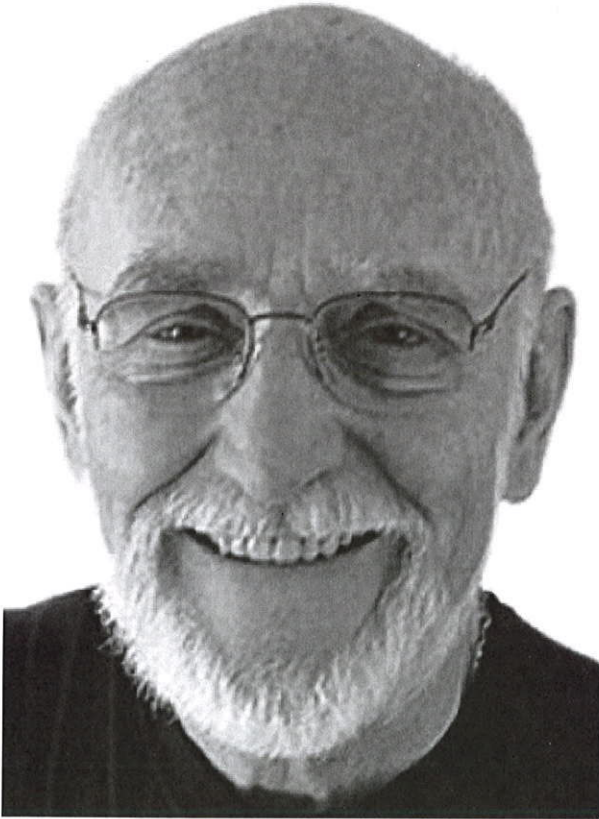


# Commentary Join the pity party for my hair



Tribune/Barry Kough

Author Bill Hall of Lewiston is now the Cat Butler.

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Bill Hall | [0 comments](#)

Your pity is misplaced if you have been hoping that someone will invent a "cure" for baldness. If you want to cure something, cure the abnormal crop of hair on a mature man's skull.

Scientists who condescendingly try to find a "cure" for the non-disease of baldness might as well be developing a potion to make women stop growing breasts. Talk about confusing a normal condition with an ailment.

Speaking of "curing" baldness is like curing handsome. It's like the daffy terminology for depriving an animal of its reproductive possibilities by saying you have had the dog or cat "fixed."

Wrong. What you do in that situation is to have the animal broken. You sever its natural ability to produce offspring and thereby convert it to an unnatural state of reproductive dysfunction.

Consequently, I was not among those shiny-headed men who ran cheering into the street at the recent news that science may actually have found a "cure" for male-pattern baldness - some new goo to rub on a bare head to grow a childish clump of head hair.

Researchers have discovered a protein that is far more plentiful on the scalp of men who go bald. The researchers intend to use some potion that will, in effect, wash away a protein that apparently has been to hair what herbicides are to weeds.

In the hormonal scheme of things, male head hair is a weed. Men exist in two different conditions - hairy-headed and bald. And guess which is more logically the natural way.

That's right, people like me and not people like Mitt Romney, television anchormen or movie stars. When a man becomes a real, adult man, he is flooded with hormones. That triggers several physical changes, changes that literally separate the men from the boys:

In normal adult males, maturity means the voice deepens, the shoulders bulk up, hair begins to grow on the face and body, and hair abandons the top of the head - much like baby teeth fall out.

The hair leaves for several reasons, not the least of which is to help us tell men from women at a distance.

Unfortunately, somewhere back in time, some addled demigod arbitrarily and erroneously declared that bald heads are wrong. Such mistakes have been made throughout history with people in authority declaring that a big nose, for instance, is not as attractive as a small one.

If anything, a large nose is more efficient and therefore more nearly correct than a small one. But declaring some elements of ordinary appearance wrong was an ignorant and socially harmful practice of people in power. For instance, it was a hierarchy of white rulers that declared white skin superior to other colors of skin. But we don't see hardly any attempts anymore to sell people cures for skin color.

Most of the oddballs who originally decided that baldness is freaky and unattractive were puritanical women who considered baldness a form of nudity and therefore embarrassing. That opinion made head hair tolerable among naive men in that earlier era and also to this day.

Today, we almost all have the information to know better. In truth, men with great thickets of head hair have failed to achieve their full quota of the hormones that normally wipe away the embarrassment of head hair.

I don't know enough about the chemistry of the recent new weapon in the war on baldness, but previous attempts at "curing" baldness have involved head goo that tends to defeat some of a man's normal helping of male hormones. In fact, the labels on such products often warn us that use of the goo may cause male breasts to enlarge.

I'm guessing that most men would gladly choose baldness over a chest adorned with a female secondary sexual characteristic. My naked head reveals my decision in making that choice.

But if head hair worship means so much to some portions of the population, then at least let us live with the scientific truth:

Anti-baldness drugs do not "cure" anything.

They are more like a bizarre chemical form of plastic surgery that causes weird things to grow on inappropriate parts of your body. The same men who consider head hair normal would faint if they looked in the mirror and saw hair growing all over their eyelids.

Meanwhile, the male world cries out for a chemical to cure head hair.

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