

Couples display inordinate amount of affection

PATRICK DOUGLAS

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, some couples are really feeling the love. Even in high school, relationships are fairly common. While this can be an awful lot of fun for those lucky enough to have a girlfriend or boyfriend, relationships sometimes are not pleasant for those around them.

Somehow, the cliché phrase "get a room, you two" just doesn't cut it. When I come to school, the last thing I want to see is two teenagers sucking on each other's faces. I'm not the only one that thinks Public Displays of Affection are gross. The vast majority of people do not want to see others exhibiting this rude and

distasteful behavior. I personally find it sick and vile to kiss in the hallway. Holding hands is okay and may even be "cute" at times, but I don't want to see two people groping each other inappropriately or biting each other's necks or licking each other's lips.

You just have to walk down the hallway at school to know what I'm talking about. Before too long, you'll spot a tall teenage boy who probably has saggy pants, a beanie, and long hair inappropriately caressing some girl. All that mushy gushy affection runs pretty rampant at school.

Love affairs are perfectly alright as long as they aren't sharing it with the entire world, especially at school. If people kept it



Photo by Emily McNabb

Two anonymous lovers meet secretly by the window overlooking the parking lot. Public Display of Affection has become a menace to society.

to themselves, everything could be fine and dandy.

But people don't keep it to themselves. Just because

someone thinks they are in love doesn't mean anyone else is going to have the same hormonal rush that they do. These people have a feted sense of dignity, and need to be taught a lesson.

Valentine's Day is good in theory, but can be awful in practice. One solution could be to shun and disgrace anyone that participates in this kind of activity. Losing your friends would be a high price to pay for inappropriate PDA. I'm not one to promote violence, but there is another option that requires a harsher punishment. We could tar and feather any person that infringes upon our right to not observe what essentially feels like public pornography.

WikiLeaks leaks the truth; government covers lies

MICHELE BONDY

Hundreds of thousands of articles leaked private affairs of the United States government, many of which would never have been released to the public. If officials from the government were outraged by the leak of documents that was published by the non-profit organization Wikileaks, claiming that the release of classified documents endangers soldiers and American society.

Wikileaks is a non-profit media organization whose goal is to bring important news and information to the public that would otherwise be



kept confidential. The organization has grown quickly with volunteers joining from around the world. In 2007, the organization was officially launched and since then has revealed the most top secret stories in the world.

With major stories breaking, publishing the truth doesn't come without criticism and lawsuits. Since being launched, Wikileaks has been sued and verbally attacked by the Pentagon, Russian companies, the former president of Kenya and the Catholic Church. Since its launch, WikiLeaks has broken stories of war, killings, torture,

diplomacy, spying, cults, abuse, violence, corruption, climate, suppression of free speech and internet filtering.

The main director of the site, Julian Assange, has been deemed as a threat to society and a terrorist. Some government officials believe he should be arrested or put to death for exposing classified information and harming national security as the rest of the world now knows America's war plans and

cover ups. Is he really a criminal for letting the public know of all the schemes America has covered up?

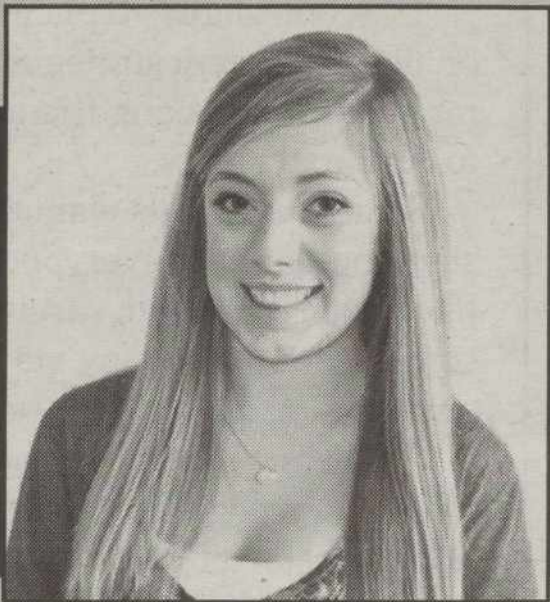
Let's go back 40 years ago to 1971 when the Pentagon Papers were released and the person responsible, Daniel Ellsberg, was deemed a terrorist and arrested.

Wikileaks leaks truth

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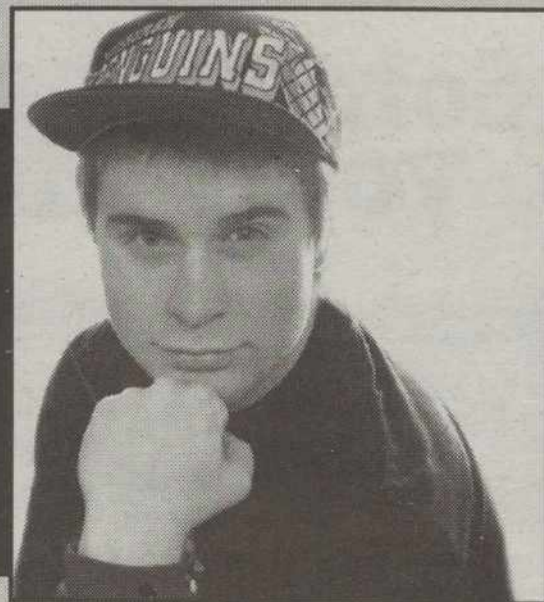
STUDENTS speak out

How do you feel about freshmen being allowed to go to Winter Ball this year?



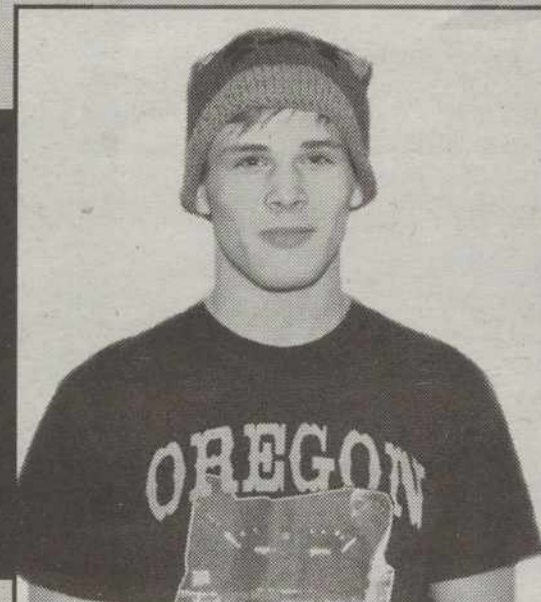
"I don't think many freshmen will go since they don't know they can go, so I'm indifferent about it."

—Emily Steele, freshman



"I didn't know they could, but I think it would be entertaining to see them there."

—Alec Gans, sophomore



"I think it's bothersome that they can go this year because it was nice when we went without them."

—Braden Krellwitz, junior



"Freshman are in high school too, so I think it's fair to let them go. Plus it's fun to dress up!"

—Sooah Jung, senior