

opinion

Uninvolved

It is becoming increasingly apparent that student involvement in college activities has hit an all-time low. Only six per cent of the student population bothered to vote in Associated Student Government elections last year and student support of the Clackamas Community College budget was lower than any other age group.

This situation could be likened to the relationship between the average American and the corner gas station. No one cares what happens there until gas prices go up to \$1 a gallon or people have to wait in line beginning at 2 a.m. to get gas. As long as people can drive in, get what they need, and leave they couldn't care less about the energy crisis, the gasoline shortage or anything else.

Everything that goes on at CCC ultimately affects the student, whether it be the curriculum, the faculty, the presence of a football program -- which is paid for partly from student funds -- or the amount of tuition.

Without student input, it is very difficult for administrators to make decisions that best serve the student community. There are those administrators who were most directly involved with students during the 50's "rah-rah sorority-glee club" era who do not realize that we have changed and perhaps outgrown that sort of thing.

Then there are those administrators who have their hands tied by administrative changes that were made during the 60's when students demanded and received a greater say in administrative policies. Now students must be consulted before decisions in certain areas can be made. If there are no students willing to become involved, decisions can't be made.

We realize that most of CCC's students are older and hold down jobs or have families and other outside interests and feel that they just don't have time to get involved. However, many of us who do participate have families and jobs and still manage to find the time.

The youngest member of ASG is 21 with many seniors in their 40's. The ASG president himself is 26 with a family and other responsibilities.

Make a commitment this year to get involved, not only in studies, but in the college community as well.

Closer look

The athletic department, like Bert Lance, would like to have us believe that its only problems are those created by the press and that there really aren't any problems at all.

However, we believe that a program, which spends \$29,000 of students and taxpayer's money per academic year, deserves a closer look. We are glad that a citizens committee has been appointed to do just that.

We feel that the wool has been pulled over our eyes long enough where the athletic department is concerned, with football equipment being purchased out of a vague athletic equipment fund and a football time clock being bought before there was a football field.

These expenditures seem to then justify further expenditures with the explanation that "we already have this-and-so, so there really is no sense in not buying this to go along with it."

"We also feel that seven in-district players out of a team of 61 is not a good showing for district involvement.

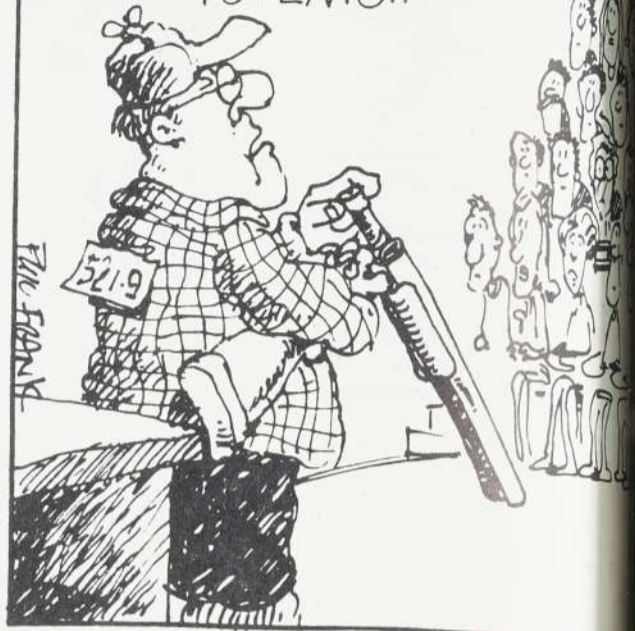
If, as Hakanson says, there are not enough football players in the district to create a football team, then maybe the question of whether or not there should be a football team has an apparent answer.

We fully recognize the importance of athletics and physical education in an academic program. However, we feel there is a tendency to over-emphasize inter-collegiate competitive sports that cost a lot of money and involve few students, over those non-competitive sports that involve each student personally.

FRANKLY SPEAKING

...by phil frank

DUE TO OVERENROLLMENT,
IT WILL BE NECESSARY
TO ELIMINATE SOME
STUDENTS..



feedback

Efforts ignored

To the Editor:

The Board of Education extended thanks to the staff for the efforts expended on the recent operating levy election.

What the board overlooked was that students also expended a great deal of time and effort to see the budget pass.

When I saw the minutes of the Board of Education meeting on Aug. 10, I was surprised that the staff and not the students had been recognized.

Therefore, on behalf of the Board of Education oversight, I would like to take this time to thank Brian Charlson, C.C.O.S.A.C. members, and other concerned students for their efforts on the recent election.

Don Bixler
Vice President, ASG

In recognition

To The Editor:

One of the reasons for the overwhelming success of the Clackamas Community College levy election on August 9 was the commitment of people like Paul Bishop. In searing 90 degree weather, Bishop walked the four miles from Carus to the College thinking that, if he wished to vote on the college levy, he had to do so at the college. To his great disappointment he found that his polling place was back in Carus.

Richard Thompson, Director of Financial Aid at Clackamas Community College, upon hearing the story, took time out from his job to drive Paul back to Carus. Bishop then became one of the 11,200 people to vote for the college levy. I thank Bishop for his effort and the efforts of others like him who felt that Clackamas Community College was worth a little time and energy.

I would also like to thank those who assisted in the campaign. I feel that it is due to their support that Clackamas Community College will be able to open its doors for fall term on September 23.

Michael McCarty
ASG President

