

opinion

Women regain rights

The recent decision by Oregon's legislative Emergency Board to provide state funds for a limited number of welfare abortions once again demonstrates its concern with the freedoms of its citizens.

Although its new abortion legislation, which was officially approved last Friday, is only a compromise step, it is a vast improvement over the federal legislation that halted federal funding for abortions, except in cases of rape, incest or danger to maternal health.

This federal legislation effectively discriminated against women of limited income by refusing them the funds necessary to obtain an abortion by a licensed physician.

By once again forcing poor women to seek abortions in back alleys, while at the same time allowing their richer sisters to obtain medically safe abortions, the federal government undoubtedly signed the death warrant of many women. Women who chose not to bring another unloved and unwanted child into this world.

Oregon's legislation, which would provide state funds for one abortion for any women over 18 who was on public assistance when she became pregnant, and two abortions for any women under 18 who was eligible for public assistance when she became pregnant, is a step in the direction of regaining a right over their own bodies that women and legislators have worked hard to obtain in the first place.

If legal abortions are going to be allowed for some, then they should be available to all, regardless of income. It is an injustice to force a woman to have a baby she doesn't want just because she's too poor to afford an abortion.

Although this decision by the legislative Emergency Board will only provide funding for welfare abortions at about half the level provided before federal matching funds were withdrawn, it is considerably better than nothing.

We consider this a positive sign for the future of human rights in this state and feel that it should be an example for the rest of the states to follow.

Sticky fingers

The rising number of petty thefts on this campus is appalling.

In a small community such as this college campus, one would not expect to have to lock one's doors, much less that there would be a need to carry everything of value on one's person.

Even textbooks are not safe.

In one instance, over winter break, every useable textbook was stolen from the bookshelves in two offices. The thief evidently expected to sell the books back to the bookstore for a small amount. As far as we know he was successful.

Even desks in plain sight are not safe. In a short period of time during the college bowl tournaments several desks were gone through and wallets and purses were stolen.

In cold statistics there have been 10 instances of theft reported to campus security in the past two months.

There seems to be nothing anyone can do about these petty thefts except be aware that they are occurring and not leave your valuables unattended.

It's too bad when the paranoia that is sweeping the big cities and other parts of the country spreads to a small rural community like this. We don't like not being able to trust our fellows and we're sure that no one else likes the situation, but we all need to know it exists and protect ourselves.

THE THING I CAN'T
STAND ABOUT HIM
IS HIS
'HORNIER THAN THOU'
ATTITUDE!!



feedback

Immaturity

To the Editor:

Student government members wonder why the students here at CCC do not get involved with student government and their activities.

I take classes here and, believe me, there is no way that I would get involved with student government.

Some of you take a good look at how you act during the day while carrying on student affairs. I have seen some student government members running around the student activities offices yelling and screaming like they had their heads cut off. And try some day to call the student activities area and listen to the noise and carryings-on over the phone, and then the cussing and smart sayings that are said when a student does go into the student activities area. It is like he or she has walked into forbidden land -- 'what do you want or are doing here?'

One particular day I was in the lobby when two students that are involved in student government went running from the front entrance of the Community

Center building, acting like they were vomiting, to the student government offices. There were four of us standing there watching, and all four made the comment at the same time -- "and they want to get students involved in student government."

Remember, student government and senators, you are supposed to represent the whole student body and are you, in the way some of you carry on during the day?

When you start to act your age and grow up, maybe then you will get more students involved.

(Name withheld upon request)

Apology

To the Editor:

I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to make a sincere apology to the College Board of Education and our administration.

In last month's board meeting, I presented a proposal to the board asking them to please consider the reinstatement of

an in-district based football program. I also made the statement that under the Oregon Public Meetings Law, I, as well as others, felt that our rights were violated due to the circumstances surrounding the board's decision to drop football in December. I won't go into it now because it's basically irrelevant to this letter. However, I wanted it to be known that vindictiveness was intended, just wanted to build a foundation for the board to reconsider football.

As it stands now, I realize that this statement backfires. Therefore, I retract my statement in order not to obstruct the issue. Let it be known that I am very sorry about what I said. I in no way desire that the school be damaged by any significant bureaucrat with a whistle around his neck. I please the board and the administration, I no longer feel that my rights were in jeopardy. I would sincerely appreciate the board to make a totally objective decision. I beg of you. Also, please understand I will support the school no matter what the board decides.

Dave Brown
Support Staff

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