

opinion

A big welcome

Americans are lucky to have the opportunity to pursue an education in any field of study they choose at any institution of higher learning they wish to enroll in.

Clackamas Community College is an institution of the aforementioned. It has many opportunities. . . vocational and transfer courses are offered as well as sports and social activities.

We would like to welcome you--both new and returning students--to the College with an invitation to enjoy and grow from its offerings.

You can expect to see *The Print* every Wednesday of the academic year. You can also expect to see articles covering campus news and events, student government, the administration and faculty, sports, arts, features and indepth articles. But, we can't do it without your help.

Letters to the editor, guest editorials and articles, and news tips of interest to the College community are more than welcomed.

We also have classes in journalism and photography as well as staff positions for writers, photographers, salespersons, graphic artists and office workers.

The Print is a student newspaper paid for by students with student body funds. So please, feel free to submit your ideas.

Again, welcome, and enjoy the fruits of the land of higher education.



feedback

Debate encouraged

To The Editor:

What should we do with our Court House?

Clackamas County faces that question since our Commissioners decided to move the courts and administrative offices to the Red Soils Center on Warner-Mline Road, Oregon City.

We applaud their decision, taken on advice of a group formed to study the problem. As members of that group we learned the worst, that our Court House is outgrown and located in the wrong place. Parking is impossible. Remaining there costs huge sums of tax money.

It already is hopelessly overcrowded and conditions will only worsen as we add more courts to meet the undeniable needs of justice. Clearly, economy alone justifies the decision to move.

Offices scattered between Gladstone, Marylhurst and Oregon City total more than \$200,000 a year in leases. Needs of a growing population forced expansion; Clackamas had barely 50,000 people when they built the Court

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House in 1936. Now we approach 220,000.

The knotty space problem has developed a million-dollar lawsuit against the County over an ill-starred lease of a Gladstone building. Defense of that case alone will be quite expensive.

Thus, the space crisis generates waste. In addition, it costs far too much in wasted time and travel of employees among these offices--between jail and courts, between assessor and building division, etc. Nobody knows how to curb this expense which is largely hidden, but too obvious to citizens who fritter away their own time when doing business with the sprawled-out set of County offices.

Clackamas has room and facilities at Red Soils. It owns land adequate for decades to come. Our study found no reasonably economical alternative to the Red Soils move.

When the County vacates the old Court House we believe it could serve the community in other ways. We think our citizens have the intelligence and good sense to find worthy answers to that question.

This letter is an effort to initiate public discussion and debate. At least, it will produce a better public understanding of

the Court House issue. We look for a solution that will benefit the taxpayers, citizens throughout this large County, and the communities clustered by the old Court House at historic Willamette Falls.

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Pathetic excuse

One year ago, as a biology student at CCC, I submitted a term paper dealing with several ecological aspects of the "Environmental Learning Center," alias the Exterior Decorators' Showroom. Through it was a pathetic excuse for environmental technology at the time, it nonetheless had, as I pointed out in my paper, a great deal of potential. Last weekend, I revisited the ELC to see what,

if any, changes had been made. The visit proved most enlightening; obviously, the people in charge of the ELC still have a great deal to learn about environmental management, so the name of the facility couldn't be more appropriate.

Currently, the ELC comes off as a sort of cross between Alice in Wonderland and a prime-time situation comedy--grossly overplanted, the garden comes complete with Alice's favorite friend, the domestic white rabbit. And as far as learning about environmental management goes, I believe that one could obtain equally constructive information by watching a couple of reruns of "Gilligan's Island" and noting their set design techniques.

For those who are interested in environmental learning (the real thing), I would recom-

mend the Field Ecology course taught by Dr. Rosenwinkel at Portland State University. It is an intense, observational approach, emphasizing reciprocal interactive processes occurring between organisms and environment in an ecological situation. For those who are presently in charge of the ELC, I would recommend a trip to Disneyland (bring your work history and references--note: your parents don't count as references).

By the way of constructive criticism, I would like to see that the ELC still holds great potential, despite the efforts of the current supervisory staff. There is absolutely nothing wrong with the Center, in my opinion, that a little dynamite and a small bulldozer couldn't take care of. . . .

Sincerely,
Jay Haight
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the print

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Clackamas Community College

