

# opinion

BUT... I COULD BE CALLED UP  
AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE TO  
GO TO AFGHANISTAN...



PHIL FRANK

© COLLEGE MEDIA SERVICES box 4244 Berkeley, CA. 94704

## Cafeteria dilemma now resolved

After all the arguing that has been going on, something will finally be done with the cafeteria that will be both comfortable and tasty.

An expansion of seating and improvements in the service will make the College cafeteria an enjoyable place for dining and get togethers. No more will a student have to search despondently for a place to sit or something to eat.

We think Grambush, Ryan and Weiss—those involved in putting the expansion project together—can all breathe easy. They all seem to agree and we think they can now bury the hatchet. They have conducted themselves well and have put the students of this College first.

They are right in saying that with the rise in enrollment, improvements must be made. They must be made everywhere to make this institution a benefit, not a burden, to the students who attend.

Once again, we thank all who made the expansion possible; it just makes us that much more proud of our school.

## Flag controversy needless waste of time

By Mike Koller  
Of The Print

Well, let me see. If today's Wednesday, that means that Associated Student Government (ASG) has decided to lower the flags that fly so proudly in front of our school, or was it the other way around?

Wait a minute. I can't even remember why those little flags are up there in the first place. Wasn't it to represent some deep political conviction our school had about the Iranian crisis? Oh, well, it doesn't really matter. All I know is, all those flags sure look pretty when the east wind whips through them.

I don't know why anyone would want to take them down. Maybe some people just don't appreciate the ol' red,

white and blue. But for that matter, I don't know why anyone would want to put so many flags up, either. I mean, one or two flags is nice, but my God, 50 flags is mind boggling. Maybe ASG put up 50 flags to represent each state in the union. No, that can't be it—that's what those little stars are for.

I bet my initial hunch was right. They're trying to make some deep statement again. I remember now, they had some big debate because first, the flags were supposed to represent our loyalty to this country and to those hostages over in Iran. Then all of a sudden, some of the more politically oriented members of ASG developed some theory

that maybe we shouldn't support the Iranian crisis because Jimmy Carter wasn't doing a good job of handling the situation.

Up, down. Up, down. Boy, those ASG'ers can really spin your head around with all their philosophies.

Well, anyway, we at this paper came up with a theory of our own, that just maybe our student government could do more meaningful things than debate politics on a national level, maybe even do something that applied to this school. It didn't sound like too bad of an idea, but I guess ASG gets a little touchy when people without the appropriate political background make suggestions to them.

We decided to print an editorial stating some of our views and suggestions over this incident. I mean, we were just trying to be helpful and the next thing you know, we get a couple of mean letters from ASG people. It really hurt my feelings. What ever happened to school spirit?

One letter was from a Mr. MacFarlane, who happens to be the business manager of ASG. His letter was titled, ironically or inappropriately, "Not Too Harsh." Mr. MacFarlane was not only harsh, but downright insulting. I wonder if he remembers last year when this very same publication thought that he would be a damn good candidate for the office he now holds? Those politicians sure forget their friends fast.

In his letter, MacFarlane

suggested that an editorial which appeared March 5 ("ASG Deals in Buffoonery") was "out of order, poorly researched, biased and directly reflects the bigotry of its author, whoever that may be."

I may not know much about the structures of politics, and I don't pretend to, but it's apparent that MacFarlane knows nothing about journalism. An editorial represents the view or opinion of the paper and not just one single author. With that being fact, MacFarlane is in essence saying that "The Print" is prejudiced against student government, a statement I find hard to digest.

A quick glance over the staff box usually found on Page 2 of this paper will show that several members of the school paper have been involved in student government in the past and at the present time. If they are "bigots," then ASG must be leaving, or have left, a bitter taste in their mouths. Basically, what this paper tries to do is inform the student body about what's going on around the campus and the community. ASG is a part of this College and, therefore, we report on what they are accomplishing or not accomplishing. It's that simple.

If we are being unfair, biased or bigoted, then I would like to see documents to prove this accusation. Richard Weiss, ASG vice president, commented in his letter to the editor, "You (The Print) seem to see things one way and react and report, and the real way it is

escapes you." Both letters miss the point that needs to be made.

This whole controversy should have been avoided entirely simply because ASG should have never gotten involved in raising flags in the first place. Who really cares what Clackamas Community College, in Oregon City, Oregon, thinks about the Iranian crisis, especially when student government members aren't sure themselves?

President Carter probably isn't too worried about the Oregon Primary, much less what a suburban community college thinks of his foreign policies.

I noticed that the incident got ASG a little publicity from local television stations. Maybe that indicates something about the motives behind their flag controversy.

If ASG had stuck to trying to solve the problems around campus, the hours wasted over the flags would have been avoided. Sure, everyone has an opinion about Iran, but those opinions should be saved for lunchroom discussions and most certainly kept out of student government.

Let's face it, not many politicians in the United States are really concerned about this school's opinions on Iran. So why involve national issues in school politics? Why waste time arguing national politics, when the price of soft drinks in the cafeteria was just raised by a nickel. Now, that's an event worth fighting about.

Clackamas Community College

## the print

19600 S. Molalla Avenue, Oregon City, Oregon 97045

Office: Trailer B; telephone, 656-2631, ext. 309

editor: Leanne Lally; news editor: Mike Koller  
arts editor: Elena Vancil; feature editor: Kelly Laughlin  
sports editor: Brian Rood; photo editor: Duffy Coffman  
copyeditor: Sandy Carter

staff writers: Tod Bassham

Ramona Isackson, Lee Jeffries, Matt Johnson

James Rhoades, Tom Rhodes

staff photographers: Cathy Gross

Robert Hand, Sue Hanneman, Sally Pollack

advertising manager: Tim Tycer; business manager: Ron Allen

advertising representative: Dan Champie

professional adviser: Suzie Boss

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