

Old Glory at CCC

A forgotten symbol?

Wednesday, December 10, 1980

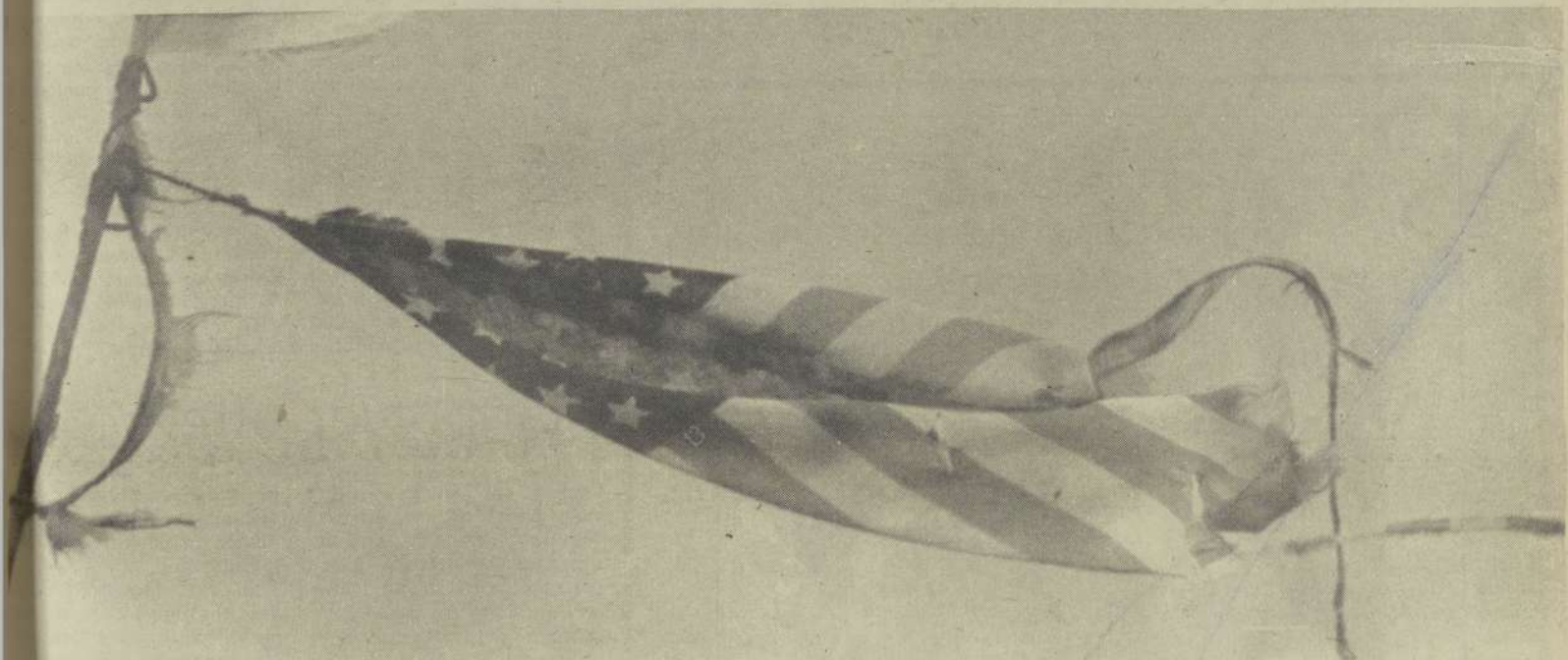
The American flag. What does it stand for? What does it mean? If it is just a number of colors placed on a piece of cloth, why do people give it so much meaning? True, it is just a piece of cloth, but when it is given meaning, it becomes important. A cross of wood could easily be used for kindling. Yet burn one and see the roaring reactions.

If a symbol such as the stars and stripes are used to represent the United States, it does not matter if one believes that it represents free and independent thought, or that it represents a nation that thrives on money. The flag is the symbol of this

nation and regardless of what a citizen thinks of this nation, it should be treated with respect-like any national flag. A symbol of a nation-any nation-is important to those who are concerned with their nation.

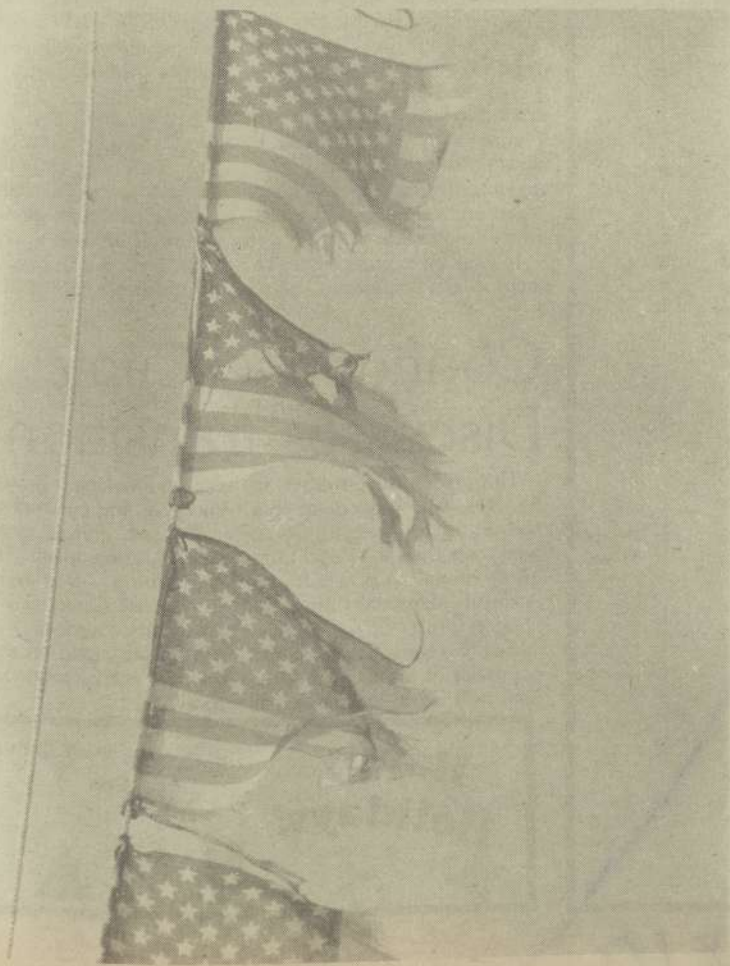
I am not a blind patriot. I know that this country has done things wrong. One is Iran and the handling of the late deposed Shah.

When the 50 flags were put up by the ASG, they were to show honor, concern and support for, the Hostages at the Embassy. To allow these symbols-not only of America but of the honor, concern, and support of the Hostages-to go to waste



Editorial by Thomas A. Rhodes

Photos by Duffy Coffman



to the point that many of them are not even presentable is a negative reflection on the College. Being a student of this campus, it makes me look bad.

When the 50 flags were put up, the ASG also had the responsibility of taking care of those symbols. Forgetting to care for them in the established manner is negligent desecration of the American flag. This is a very poor way to honor and show concern for the Hostages. When the 50 Hostages return home, how can this College send them 41 torn, weatherbeaten, and fading flags and have the gall to say, "We cared about you?"

What would a visitor feel when he looked up and saw 41 American flags which look like they've been through a blender? People died for this flag. Let's show some respect for it. It may just be a piece of cloth, but it represents our country and our concerns for the Hostages. They must either be taken down and burnt with new ones put up to take their places, or just be taken down with the State of Oregon flag and the campus flag put up.

This flag fiasco must be corrected quickly. Let our flags go!

